



## Easter Sunday (A)

### Mass Times and Intentions

#### Divine Office – Psalter Week 1




Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> April <b>Easter Vigil</b>	7.30pm	Private Intention
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> April <b>Easter Sunday</b>	11.00am	People of the Parish
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> April	9.30am	Dominic Tucker
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> April	7.00pm	Sean Montieth
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> April	9.30am	Ron Sharkey
Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup> April	5.30pm	Teresa and Tom McEllin
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> April	11.00am	People of the Parish

### Sunday Liturgy

<b>Proper of the Mass</b>		<b>p. 251</b>
Penitential Rite	Form A	p. 8
Profession of Faith	Apostles'	p. 12
Preface	Easter I	p. 74
Eucharistic Prayer	Prayer 1	p. 18

### The Holy Father's Prayer Intention for April



**For priests in crisis.** Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

**April** is the month of the Holy Spirit. To believe in the Holy Spirit is to profess that the Holy Spirit is one of the persons of the Holy Trinity, consubstantial with the Father and the Son: "with the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified." (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*)



**The Roman Catholic Parish of  
Our Lady Help of Christians**

Portico Lane, Prescott, L34 2QT

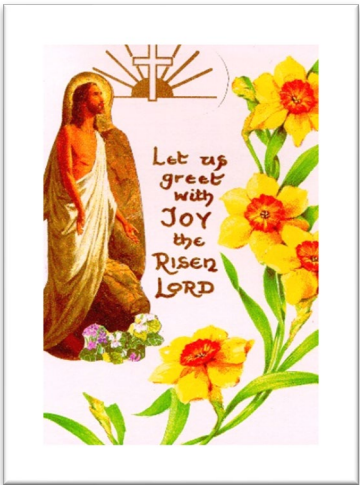
Administrator: Fr Andrew Rowlands VF  
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## Easter Sunday (A)

### 5<sup>th</sup> April 2026



The Church celebrates the entire season of fifty days from Easter to Pentecost as a very special time of great Christian joy. Ceaselessly she proclaims that Christ, by rising from the dead, has conquered sin and death for ever. Death no longer has any hold over us, and Christ, now risen from the dead, can never die again. In the Eucharist, we anticipate the triumphant feast in the world to come. We live in a world redeemed and restored to unity with the Father.

The Apostles rejoiced in the company of the Risen Lord. We do the same as Christ moves amongst us, his presence proclaimed in word and sacrament. The Easter Candle lightens our darkness and proclaims to us all that Christ really has risen as he said. His triumph is the promise of our own redemption, and so we rejoice in hope.

The season of Easter closes with the two great feasts of the Ascension and Pentecost. The Ascension does not mark the beginning of Christ's absence, but rather marks his continuing presence in the Church, of which we are members, as she guides us on our pilgrimage through life. Christ rose, not to ordinary life, but to the glory of the Father. It is through the risen and exalted humanity of Christ that the Holy Spirit is sent upon us. The feast of Pentecost is the climax of a season which continually rejoices in the sending of the Spirit by the Risen Lord. We live today in the age of the Spirit and it is he who is renewing us, the Church, and the whole face of the earth.



## Offertory Collection/Donations

If you do not have any cash you can donate by scanning this QR code with a smart phone.

### Thank You

Many thanks to all those who prepared the Church and the Altar for all the Holy Week and Easter Services . The Church always looks magnificent for these special occasions and it's clear that a huge amount of hard work goes into it. We are very lucky to have such generous and dedicated volunteers.

### Grand Spring Raffle

Thank you so much for a wonderfully generous response to our Spring Raffle, which raised an incredible **£1145.00** for our Parish funds. This is far more than we expected, and at a time when there are so many calls on your generosity. There is a full list of winners in the porch. We do not have any contact details for the winner of the first prize, Joan Marr. If you are the winner, or if you know how to contact her, do please let us know.

### Knitters and Stitchers

Portico Knitters and Stitchers will meet at 1.00pm this coming Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> April, in the Church Hall.

### 50 Plus Group

The next meeting of the 50 Plus Group is at 2.00pm this coming Wednesday, 8th April 2026 in the Parish Church hall. The invitation is open to anyone in the community over the age of 50.

### Minsteracres Retreat/Holiday 2026

Come and enjoy a holiday in a Passionist Retreat House in beautiful Northumberland, Friday 31st July – 6th August 2026. The cost is £625 and includes all meals and travel to and from Northumberland. The coach stays with us, so we can enjoy afternoons out to local villages and places of interest and evenings of family fun. There is a bar. A deposit of £100 secures a place is due by 15th March, the remaining balance is due by the end of June. For more information please ring Karen on 07709603166



## Feast Days This Week

### Monday

**Pope St Celestine I** - The founder of the papal diplomatic service, Pope St. Celestine I was born in the Campania and served as a deacon under Innocent I. Elected pope in 422, Celestine confiscated the property of Novationite churches and restored a basilica in St. Mary Trastevere after it had been damaged in Alaric's sack of Rome. Although Celestine confirmed the appointment of Nestorius to the see of Constantinople, the pope opposed Nestorius' teachings and supported Cyril of Alexandria in the conflict between the two patriarchs. Celestine also combatted Pelagianism and semi-Pelagianism in southern Gaul and in England. He is supposed to have sent Palladius to evangelize Ireland in 431. Celestine died in the following year and was buried in the cemetery of Priscilla.

### Tuesday

**John Baptist de la Salle** – He was born at Rheims in France in 1651, the eldest of ten children from a noble family. He was ordained priest and devoted himself mainly to educating children and founding schools for the poor. He formed his companions into a Religious Congregation, the Institute of the Brothers of Christian Schools, and this caused him many hardships. He was one of the first to establish classroom teaching over individual instruction. He also began teaching in the vernacular instead of Latin. He died at Rouen in 1719, and is the patron saint of teachers.

### Wednesday

**St Julie Billiart** – She was born in France in 1751, the fifth of seven children. She was the co-founder, along with Francoise Blin de Bourdon, of the Sisters of Notre Dame, which had as its object the salvation and education of poor children and the training of religious teachers, who would go anywhere their services were asked for. She was noted for her ardent charity, springing from a lively faith, and of her thirst for suffering. During the French Revolution she offered her home as a hiding place for loyal priests. The motto continually on her lips was “How good the good God is”.

### Thursday

**St Waldetrudis** – She was the daughter of Saints Walbert and Bertilia and the sister of St Aldegusus of Maubeuge. Marrying St Vincent Madelgarius, she became the mother of Saints Landericus, Madalberta, Adeltrudis and Dentelin. When her husband chose to become a monk in the year 643 in the monastery of Hautrmonnt which he had founded she established a convent at Chateaulieu, around which grew the town of Mons, Belgium.

### Friday

**St Stanislaus** - He was born of noble parents in the town of Szczepanow in Poland in about the year 1030. He studied in Gnesen and was ordained to the priesthood, then in the year 1071 he succeeded Lambert Zula as the Bishop of Cracow. He ruled his diocese as a good shepherd, helping the poor and making a visitation of his clergy every year. He fearlessly rebuked the King, Boleslaus, for his cruelties and injustices, especially for kidnapping the beautiful wife of a nobleman. He was murdered by the King while saying Mass in the year 1097.

### Saturday

**St Julius** – The son of a Roman called Rusticus, he was elected Pope on 6th February 337. He was soon involved in the Arian controversy, and was one of the first to claim the primacy of the Bishop of Rome, asserting the authority of the Pope over the Arian Eastern bishops. He is also credited with splitting the birth of Jesus into two distinct celebrations, with the Epiphany staying on the traditional date but the Nativity moving to 25th December. He built several basilicas and churches in Rome and died in 352.

