

GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Finding the Meaning - Were the other disciples really so very different from Doubting Thomas? When they saw Jesus in their midst, they took some convincing that it really was Jesus and not a ghost that had come to visit them. The gospel outlines four pieces of proof that Jesus uses to convince them that he really has risen from the dead. They can look at the marks on his hands and feet, they can touch him to check that he is really flesh and bone, and they can watch him eat a meal that they have prepared. The fourth proof is when Jesus opens their minds so that they can understand the prophecies that were made in the Old Testament, and which he has fulfilled by rising from the dead.



We are not as lucky as the first disciples. Two thousand years down the line we do not have the benefit of their first-hand experience. We cannot look at Jesus, we cannot touch him, or share a meal. The fourth proof though, the prophecies in the Old Testament are still there for us to read. The only trouble is, the Bible isn't always an easy

book to read. We read a passage and fail to understand it. Sometimes we think we understand the literal meaning but the words fail to offer any significance. It would be good if Jesus could open our minds up as he did for those first disciples when they had trouble understanding the meaning of his death and resurrection. One thing is for sure, understanding the Bible isn't going to happen magically, just as it didn't happen overnight for the disciples. We know that everything worthwhile takes effort. Playing a musical instrument takes years of practice. Being good at a sport takes considerable training, learning a language demands a concerted amount of study and hard work. So too, we have to apply ourselves to understanding what we read in the Bible. We have to consider each passage for some time before we can really grasp it ... sometimes a single verse or phrase. Often, we can derive great satisfaction from knowing that those parts we struggled with the longest hold the greatest meaning. The Bible yields up its greatest treasures to those who persevere.



PARISH PRAYER - *Father, pour out your Spirit upon our parish. Grant us a new vision of your glory, a new faithfulness to your Word, and a new consecration to your service; that your love might grow among us and your Kingdom come. Through Christ our Lord. Amen*

Useful links: Diocesan Safeguarding - <https://www.rcdea.org.uk/safeguarding/>
 Diocesan Website: <http://www.rcdea.org.uk>
 Notre Dame High School, Norwich: <http://www.ndhs.org.uk>
 Daily liturgy website: www.universalis.com

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 Parish Music Leader: Michael King – email: michaeljwking@gmail.com
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15TH APRIL 2018 – 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sunday Masses [<i>Parish Mass Book p258</i>]		Intentions
Saturday, 14 th April	6.00 pm	Joan Imelda Plumb
Sunday, 15 th April	9.00 am	Private Int.
	11.00 am	People of the Parish

Music for Sunday Masses - *Setting: New People's Mass (Dom Gregory Murray), incl. Memorial Acclamation A.*
Entry: 6pm – *Regina Caeli (said)*. Hymn 287 – Thine be the glory ...
Offertory: Hymn 644 – Alleluia, sing to Jesus ...
Psalm Response: Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord
Communion: *Instrumental Interlude/Sacred silence ...*
Recessional: 11am – *Regina Caeli (said)*. Hymn 288 – On the journey to Emmaus ...

Confession/Reconciliation: Saturday at 5.30pm - or by request/appointment

Weekday Masses [<i>3rd Week of Easter - Psalter Week 3</i>]			Intentions
Mon.	10.00 am	Easter Feria	Michael Rownan
Tues.	No Mass today	Easter Feria	
Weds.	10.00 am	Easter Feria	Phyllis Dooley
Thurs.	No Mass today	Easter Feria	
Fri.	No Mass today	Easter Feria	Margaret Kirk (Sanderson)
Sat.	No morning Mass	Easter Feria	
	6.00 pm	4 th Sunday of Easter	

The Parish Newsletter (incl. back copies) is available to view on the parish website from Friday onward each week

Anniversaries this week: Christina Duffield, Joan Mary McManus, Enid Whatmore, Bernard Reddington, Edwin Gatt, Margaret Warner, Frederick Hetherington, Tony Lannon and Pamela Clark. *May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.*

Hospital Visits – If you or family members are admitted to the Norfolk & Norwich Hospital (NNUH) or Queen Elizabeth II Hospital (QEII), King’s Lynn, and would like a visit from the Roman Catholic Chaplain, please call either St John’s Cathedral, Norwich (01603 624615) for visits to NNUH, or Fr Peter Rollings (01553 772220) for visits to QEII. If you would like to receive the Sacrament of Anointing of the sick before going to hospital, please contact Fr. Brendan on 01362 694066.

Sick List - Please pray for: David Peek, Robert Nicol, Shirley Liebenhals, Sarah Chaudri, Anne & Derek Williams, Rita Smith, Eileen Brockleby, Kathleen (Jenny) Rudd, Ellen Flood, Margaret Leggett, Robert Anderson, Carole Whitesides, Janet Yardley, Mary Cawley, Ken Summerford, Patrick McKenna, Anna Thompkins, Andre Kanssen, Joan Wells and Francis Buxton.

Money Matters – Thank you for £498.05 in the collection last weekend for day-to-day parish maintenance and also for £154.47 for the Easter Offering. Some of this was overlooked when the Easter Offering was counted; a bag fell on the floor and went unnoticed!

Next Sunday is a World Day of Prayer for Vocations and there will be a retiring collection for the Diocesan Priests’ Training Fund at all Masses on 21st and 22nd April.

Diary Dates for this week –		
Tues. 17 th Apr.	7.30pm	Queen of Peace Prayer Group, in Emmaus Room
Fri. 20 th Apr.	7.15pm	Altar Servers meet in Emmaus Room
Sat. 21 st Apr.	11.00am	Saturday Club resumes, in Emmaus Room

This week - Apologies for so few Masses this week. Tuesday is my day off; on Thursday I will be attending the opening of the new cemetery in Dereham and, on Friday, I will be having my cataract removed in Fakenham. On Saturday morning I will take it a bit easy and get used to putting the drops in my eye. As the wolf said, it will be “All the better to see you ...”

St Bernadette Soubirous, 16th April: Reflection - Millions of people have come to the spring at Lourdes that Bernadette uncovered for healing of body and spirit, but she found no relief from ill health there. Bernadette moved through life, guided only by blind faith in things she did not understand—as we all must do from time to time.

Marriage and Family Celebration Mass - Bishop Alan warmly invites all married and engaged couples to attend a special Mass celebrating marriage and family at the Cathedral of St John the Baptist, Norwich on **Saturday, 16th June 2018, 12 noon**, followed by light refreshments. Certificates will be awarded to those married 1yr, 5yr


and every multiple of 5 years thereafter. For more information, and to RSVP, please contact Kerry Urdzik on 01473 251301, or email mflc@rcdea.org.uk

CAFOD Lent Fast Day Appeal - “Thank you for your support to our Lent Fast Day appeal. Donations to CAFOD until 12 May will be doubled by the UK Government. We have planned a £5 million programme to combat malnutrition - and with it we hope to be able to reach 245,000 people. But we need the full amount of match funding to make it happen. You can help us reach the full amount needed for this crucial programme. We still have some way to go yet! To donate please go to cafod.org.uk/lent “

Newman Lectures 2018 - The 2018 Newman Lectures begin at UEA on Monday April 16th at 6.30pm, with a lecture by Professor Stephen Bullivant on the challenges of secularism for the Catholic Church. Parking at UEA is free from 6pm. Lectures continue on Monday 23rd April with Rowan Williams, and on Monday 30th April with Sr Ann Swailes.

Inviting ALL Young People in Year 8 upwards to the Ignite Festival, May 5th – 6th: Come and experience your faith in a new and dynamic way at the Ignite Festival. The weekend will include powerful talks, passionate prayer, live music, and lots of fun stuff, including sumo suit wrestling! We are particularly pleased to welcome Gabby and Paige from the TV show *Bad Habits, Holy Orders*. Organised by the Diocesan Youth Service. See www.ignitefestival.co.uk for more information.

Bitesize – “Life is a long road on a short journey.” ~ *James Lendall Basford*



Christ is Risen!

In Eastertide, we recite REGINA CÆLI in place of the ANGELUS:

Queen of heaven, rejoice, Alleluia.
 For he, whom you did merit to bear, Alleluia,
 Has risen as he said, Alleluia.
 Pray for us to God, Alleluia.
 Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, Alleluia.
 For the Lord has truly risen, Alleluia.

Let us pray:

O God, who gave joy to the world through the resurrection of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, grant we beseech you, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, his mother, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life, through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.