

## THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

### TODAY: FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

8:30am Morning Prayer at *St Mary & St Giles*  
**9:30am PARISH MASS at St Mary & St Giles**  
**11:00am FAMILY MASS at All Saints**  
*Intention: Our Parish*

### Monday: Feria

9:30am 'Squeals on Wheels' in the Parish Hall  
 4:30pm Reception of Cyril Brown's Mortal Remains into St Mary & St Giles  
 7:00pm Living Rosary - prayed in our homes  
 8:00pm Bellringing Practice  
*Pray for: the Sick, Housebound & Handicapped*

### Tuesday: Feria

**10:30am Mass + Elevenses at All Saints**  
 2:15pm Funeral Mass: Cyril Brown R.I.P.  
 6:00pm School Charity Meeting  
 7:00pm 'Follow Me - Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of John' DVD Course in the Parish Hall  
*Intention: our commitment to the study of Holy Scripture*

### Wednesday: Feria

12:00n Lent Lunch at All Saints  
 6:30pm Handbell Ringing at SMSG School  
**7:00pm Stations of the Cross at SMSG**  
 7:15pm The Band - Practice at SMSG School  
**7:30pm Mass at St Mary & St Giles**  
*Intention: our commitment to following Jesus*

### Thursday: Feria

9:30am Whalleys Charity Meeting  
**10:30am Mass at St Mary & St Giles**  
 7:00pm Living Rosary - prayed in our homes  
 7:30pm Annual Parochial Church Meeting at All Saints Church  
*Intention: our commitment to prayer, fasting and almsgiving this Lent*

**Friday: Feria**  
**12:00n Mass at St Mary & St Giles**  
 7:30pm Parish Singers Rehearsal  
*Intention: our commitment to dedicated service in Christ's Church & to our neighbour*

### Saturday: Feria

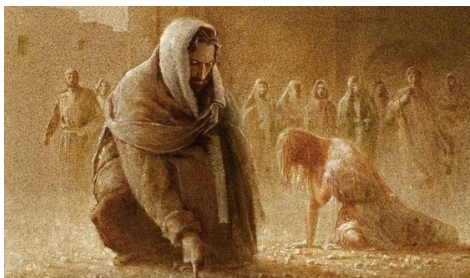
12:00n Lent Lunch in Parish Hall  
 4:00pm Confessions in St Mary & St Giles  
 4:30pm Vespers at St Mary & St Giles  
*Pray for: Visitors to our Parish Churches*

### Next Sunday: PASSION (PALM) SUNDAY

8:30am Morning Prayer at *St Mary & St Giles*  
**9:30am PARISH MASS at St Mary & St Giles**  
**6:00pm Evensong at All Saints**  
*Intention: Our Parish*

### Readings next Sunday: Passion Sunday

Palm Gospel: Luke 19: 28-40  
 1st Reading: Isaiah 50: 4-7  
 Psalm: 22 (part)  
 2nd Reading: Philippians 2: 6-11  
 Passion Gospel: Luke 22: 14 - 23: 56

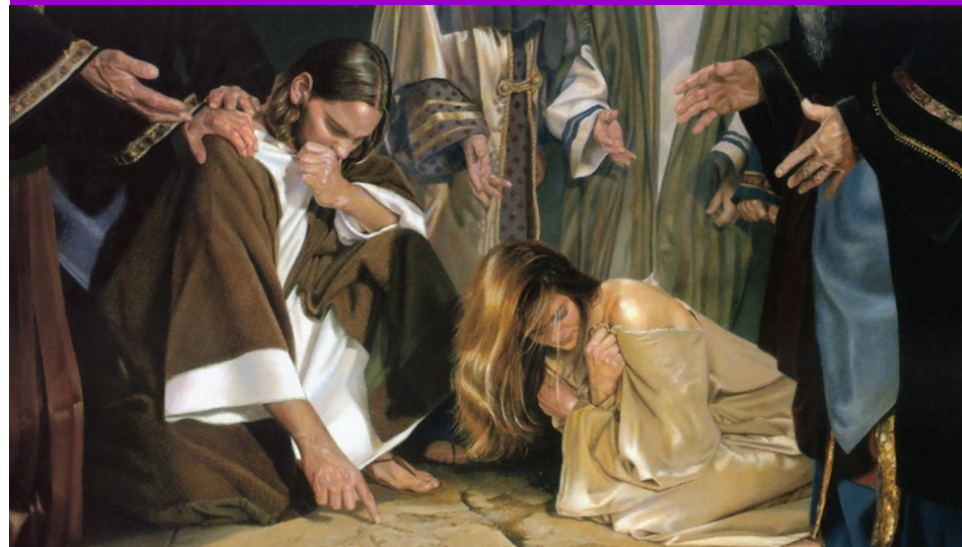


The Parish of  
**STONY STRATFORD**  
 with  
**CALVERTON**

**St Mary & St Giles, Stony Stratford with All Saints, Calverton**

**THE 5th SUNDAY OF LENT**

7th April AD 2019



Welcome to the Parish Church where, after the example of the early church, we celebrate the Eucharist: the "apostles teaching and fellowship, the breaking of bread and the prayers" (Acts 2:42)



**Rector:** Fr Ross Northing SSC - Tel: 01908 562148  
 Email: rector@parishstonystratfordcalverton.com - Mobile: 07484 643542

**Associate Minister:** Fr Tunji Adebisi - Tel: 01525 790954

**Honorary Assistant Priest:** Fr Joseph Loveday SSC - Tel: 01327 351511

**Church Army Officer:** Sister Dr Janet Northing CA - Tel: 01908 562148  
 Email: jf.northing@btinternet.com

**Arrangements for Banns, Holy Matrimony & Baptisms:**  
 May be made by contacting Fr Ross on 01908 562148

**Confessions:** May be made after Masses or by appointment.

**Parish Website:** www.parishstonystratfordcalverton.com

**To Hire the Parish Hall:** 'phone Lesley Salter on 01908 567404



# INFORMATION

**The Order of Mass** is on the laminated card. The references to the Scripture Readings, which may be either listened to or followed in the Bibles provided, along with the Psalm and the Prayer of the Faithful are also included in this Sheet. Hymns are unannounced but are indicated on the boards towards the front of the Nave.

**AA Large Print Orders of Service** are available at St Mary & St Giles. Please ask a Sidesman for a copy.



**A Loop System is in operation at St Mary & St Giles** - please set hearing aids to the "T" position.



**Access for the Disabled at St Mary & St Giles** is via the path on the north side of the church. **At All Saints** it is via the South Porch.



**Gluten-Free Hosts:** if you are on a Gluten-Free diet and would like a Gluten-Free Host when you receive Holy Communion please mention this before Mass to one of the Sidesmen who will arrange this for you. Please make yourself known to the Parish Priest so that he is aware of your need.



**Collections:** for the continuing mission of Christ are taken while the altar and gifts of bread and wine are being prepared. If you are a visitor and a taxpayer and would like to make a donation please use the Gift Aid envelopes provided at the end of each row - please fill in your details. This enables us to reclaim, from the Inland Revenue, 25p for every £1 donated.



**We observe a period of quiet prayer and reflection** before the celebration of Mass, between the end of the Organ Voluntary and the Sacristy Bell being rung, in order that we may be better prepared to worship almighty God.

**Reception of Holy Communion:** All Baptised and Confirmed Christians are encouraged to receive Holy Communion. If you are unwell or uncertain about receiving the Precious Blood please do still receive the Host. Our Chalice Assistants are not authorised to permit the intincting (dipping) of the Host.



Please join us at the back of church for tea or coffee after Mass. A priest will be near the main door, shortly after the end of Mass, should you need to talk with one.

Please take this Service Sheet home with you and use as part of your devotions during the week.

## At St Mary & St Giles this week:

Sidesmen	Team 1
Serving Team:	Team 2
Offertory bearers:	Anna & Rosie Page
Church Gardeners:	Team 3
Church Cleaners	Team 1

**Worshipping Numbers last Sunday:** 128

**Weekday Worshipping Numbers w/e 30/3** 126

## Reflection prior to Mass

As we come nearer to the commemoration of the death and resurrection of the Lord, the Church places before us for our prayerful consideration the theme of new life out of death. Although this is the major theme of this season of the Church year, it is really the focus of every liturgical celebration. We enter into the death of the Lord only to rise to new life. The different aspects of each of the readings call us to see this reality from different perspectives and to appreciate more fully the profound implications of this truth.

## The Collect

Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world: grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD** (SIT)

### The First Reading

Isaiah 43: 16-21

Old Testament Page 613

SMSG Reader: Lydia Jones

All Saints Reader: Diane West

### The Responsorial Psalm (from Psalm 126)

**R/. What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.**

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, it seemed like a dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter, on our lips there were songs. ©

The heathens themselves said:  
'What marvels the Lord worked for them!'  
What marvels the Lord worked for us!  
Indeed we were glad. ©

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage  
as streams in dry land.

Those who are sowing in tears  
will sing when they reap. ©

They go out, they go out, full of tears,  
carrying seed for the sowing:

would like to change your planned giving to Standing Order, then please speak to Bob or pick up a yellow form from near to the west door or call him on 07834902737.

**Flowers in our Parish Churches:** each of our parish churches has a faithful and dedicated group of flower arrangers who do a fantastic job of ensuring that our churches are never without flowers except of course in Advent and Lent - the two Penitential Seasons of the Church's Liturgical Year.

Flowers, understandably cost money and both churches would welcome donations to the flower funds especially at the most important seasons of the year: Easter and Christmas. If anyone would like to make donations towards the cost of Lilies and other flowers at Easter, and towards the Spruce Tree, Poinsettias and other flowers at Christmas, these would be very gratefully received. Simply place any donation in an envelope with the name of which of our two churches you wish to support and add 'Donations for Flower Fund' and hand these into either the Rector or the Treasurer.

**Flower Festival at All Saints:** It has been agreed that a Flower Festival on the theme of 'Saints' will be held at All Saints Church from Thursday 4th to Sunday 7th July this year. Offers of help and or donations for floral arrangements in memory of loved ones would be much appreciated. Please have a word with either: Jill Barby, Diane West, Sue Starr or other members of the flower arrangers. *Thank you.*

**Messy Church at All Saints:** Sister Janet and All Saints Churchwardens have been working together to plan our first 'Messy Church' celebration which will be at 3:00pm on the Monday of Holy Week (15th April) in All Saints Church. Do please invite friends and neighbours who live near you to bring their children along for what promises to be a wonderful opportunity

to prepare for the observances of Holy Week and Easter. In the meantime please do pray for this new initiative within our Parish. Initially we are aiming to hold similar celebrations each term, but if need arises then we will plan them on a more frequent basis.



## **Coffee Mornings at St Mary & St Giles:**

Yesterday saw the start of the six *Gardeners' Delight* Coffee Mornings. All the monies raised will be for our Greater Access Project. We are now half way to our target of around £115k, so all the support you can give us over the next few months will help enormously.

With regard to this project we really do need to start to think of new ideas to raise the remainder of the funds for this first phase of the works for which faculty has been granted. It has been suggested that we consider doing part of this first phase to provide disabled access at the west door and then the gallery extension later. However, the faculty was granted on the basis of this being one complete phase of the project, and the costs would significantly increase if they were separated.

How can you help? Please see Hazel Wallis, the Churchwardens or Fr Ross if you can. *Thank you.*

## **Future Concert Dates:**

Thursday 25th April at 12:30pm - Lunchtime Concert at St Mary & St Giles

Saturday 11th May at 19:30 - MK Sinfonia Concert at St Mary & St Giles

**Confessions:** due to the changes in clergy cover in Holy Week, the Rector will be available before Masses in church this week to hear confessions, or by appointment.

**'Thy Kingdom Come' Prayer Initiative:**

The Archbishops launched this prayer initiative lasting from Ascension Day to Pentecost some years ago, and it has now become a world-wide initiative. Last year we began to join in this initiative. This year the Archbishops have commissioned a booklet containing Morning Prayer, Midday Prayer, Evening Prayer & Night Prayer for the ten days of prayer. This booklet is undated so that it can be used every year during this initiative. The cost per booklet is £1.99 - although if sufficient are ordered then the cost can be reduced to £1.50



If you would like to order a copy then please add your name to the list in either of our Parish Churches.

Further details of events for this initiative in our Parish Churches will be announced after Easter.

**School Academisation:** An 'Academisation Order' has been issued by the Regional Schools' Commissioner (RSC) for the present St Mary & St Giles School, following its distressing OFSTED Inspection results. This means that the school must join a Multi-Academy Trust (MAT) that can quickly support the school to effect rapid improvement. The choice of MAT is determined by RSC following discussion with interested parties, in this case the Diocese and the Local Authority. As a Voluntary Aided Church of England School it has to join a MAT that honours its religious foundation. So the 'Articles of Association,' which is the legal document that accom-

panies conversion to a MAT will have to have regard to that.

This is a very unsettling time for the school staff, as well as for parents and children, and, whilst the Diocese and Local Authority will have particular responsibilities to support the school through this process, I would want to encourage us all to pray for the School (the staff, pupils and parents) which, after 409 years as a Parish School, unfortunately now faces a very different structural and managerial future.

**Confirmation - Young People's Classes:**

resume on: 29th April, 13th May, & 3rd June. The Confirmation Mass is at 7:30pm on Wednesday 5th June in St Mary & St Giles Church. There will be two follow up sessions after the Confirmation on 10th June and 24th June.

**Confirmation Rehearsal:** Fr Ross will hold a rehearsal for the Confirmation immediately after the Parish Mass on Sunday 2nd June in St Mary & St Giles.

**New Green Chasuble & Stole for All Saints Church:**

Last Sunday, a new green chasuble and stole was blessed by Father Ross in memory of Eric Westley.

This was possible because of the kind and generous donations which were made by Eric's family and friends at his funeral in October 2018.

Eric's wife, Ann and their children, Jane, Richard and Elizabeth would like to thank everyone who contributed and made this donation in Eric's memory and honour possible. Your kindness is beyond words, simply thank you.

*Ann Westley and Family*

**Planned Giving:** Envelopes for the new tax year are available in Church. These are for use from now onwards. If you notice that your envelope number has changed, then be assured that this is not a mistake. Our Gift Aid secretary Bob Scarff has completed a reallocation. If you do not currently use Weekly Envelopes and would like to do so or if you

they come back, they come back, full of song, carrying their sheaves. ®

**Second Reading** Philippians 3: 8-11

*New Testament Page 166*

*SMSG Reader:*

**Gospel Acclamation** (STAND)

**Praise to you, O Christ,  
King of eternal glory.**

Even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart,

for I am gracious and merciful.

**Praise to you, O Christ,  
King of eternal glory.**

**The Gospel** John 8: 1-11

*New Testament Pages 86*

**The Prayer of the Faithful**

*(Biddings: The Fiddy Abraham)*

**Priest:** My brothers and sisters our faith is meant to bear fruit at every season of life. In faith let us ask God to help us fulfil our baptismal vocation.

**Intercessor:** When we overlook God's presence in creation, may the Spirit open our eyes to the ordinary spiritual wonders that surround us. We humbly ask:

V/. Lord, have mercy.

R/. **Gracious God, have mercy!**

When tragedies and natural disasters challenge our faith in God's providential care, may the Spirit of Jesus strengthen the weaknesses in our faith. We humbly ask:

When we feel trapped in unhealthy and oppressive situations, may our faith burst forth in confident appeals to God's liberating love. We humbly ask:

When we feel struck down by human weakness, social injustice, or personal sin, may our faith bring forth the fruit of personal conversion. We humbly ask:

When the cries of the poor and oppressed overwhelm us and challenge our carelessness, may our faith reveal

itself in acts of justice for others. We humbly ask:

When the call to discipleship invites us to share in Christ's passion, may our baptismal faith uphold us in peace. Mindful of the sick we pray that their sufferings may be joined to Christ's for the salvation of the world... *Fiddy, Lydia, Cecilia, Joan Carrigan, Sarah Goodall, Rene Hazlewood, Olivia Millar, Marjorie & Ronald Smart, Stacey, Isa, Wendy, Gren...* We humbly ask:

When death takes from our midst those we love, especially... Cyril Brown, Jane Holman, Frank Reed...and for those whose anniversaries of death occur during this week...**7th** David Meakins, Cyril Wood, Albert Wilde, Josephine Worley; **9th** Thomas Bennett, Edward Blow, Lionel Odell, Antoni Zastawney; **10th** Richard Bailey, James Hickman, Edna Rose; **11th** Jean Mitchell; **12th** Robert Read, Ron Jennison (priest), Fredrick Luck; **13th** John Eglesfield... may our faith in God's abounding compassion bring us consolation. We humbly ask:

✠ Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord.

**And let light perpetual shine upon them.**

**Priest:** Lord God of our ancestors, you have revealed your saving deeds to the children of Israel. Sustain us in mercy and increase our faith through Christ, our Redeemer. **Amen.**

**Communion Reflection:**

*We need the saving power of God and the loving support of each other. This liturgy has provided us with the divine help, let us come out from our life of sin, go forth in newness of life and offer the support that we can to others who so desperately need the love of Christ.*

*During Lent the 'Prayer after Communion' is followed by a 'Prayer over the People' and then the usual Blessing:*

Let us pray:

*Silence is observed.*

We pray, almighty God, that we may be always counted among the members of Christ, in whose Body and Blood we have communion. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Bless, O Lord, your people, who long for the gift of your mercy, and grant that what, at your prompting, they desire they may receive by your generous gift. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

May almighty God bless you, the Father, ✠ and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

### **The Dismissal**

Go in peace,  
glorifying the Lord by your life  
**Thanks be to God.**

*During Lent we shall also pray for Angelic protection:*

### **Prayer to St Michael:**

**Holy Michael, the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do you, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who wander through the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.**

*The Recessional Hymn is sung.*



# PARISH NEWS & NOTICES

**From the Rector:** during my spell in hospital in July of last year a further problem with my left leg was diagnosed that requires surgery, and which, it is believed, will relieve a third issue with that leg. I have been waiting since then for the surgery to take place. I recently received the news that the operation is scheduled for Monday 15th April - the Monday of Holy Week! Those of you who have been waiting for surgery will know only too well that asking for a different date can result in a huge delay. The Bishop and Archdeacon are both of the opinion that my health has to come first, that the surgery should not be delayed, and that I should undergo it on the date offered.

For almost a week after surgery I shall not be able to stand still for long periods, nor sit without my leg being up - although I shall have to do lots of walking each day. This means the Holy Week liturgies will need to be covered by other clergy. I am very grateful to Fr Joseph for agreeing to Celebrate the Liturgy on Holy Thursday and to Fr Ian Thomas for agreeing to celebrate the Liturgy on Good Friday morning as well as the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday evening. Sister Janet will lead the Devotional Service at All Saints on Good Friday afternoon. Fr Tunji has kindly agreed to Celebrate the said evening Masses in the earlier part of Holy Week, and Fr Gary Ecclestone will be celebrating the Mass on the Tuesday morning of Holy Week at All Saints.

I am hopeful that I shall be able to Celebrate the Mass of the Resurrection on Easter Day in both our Parish Churches.

During Holy Week there are many things to be done to prepare for each liturgy and I know that John, our Sacristan, and Dick, our Head Server, would be very grateful if offers of help were forthcoming. Naturally, I would be

grateful for your prayers. *Fr Ross*

**This Morning - Vestry Meetings:** I thought it would be useful to clarify the rules regarding the election of Churchwardens prior to these two meetings in our Parish Churches to elect candidates to the Office of Churchwarden.

Nominations in writing on the official form for the election of Churchwardens are to be received by the Incumbent 24 hours before the date of the Meeting of Parishioners (Vestry Meeting). The Incumbent can refuse to accept a nomination, and there are circumstances where certain people would not be permitted to stand for election, for example: where there are Safeguarding concerns, if someone had been declared bankrupt or subject to an IVA. Candidates must:

- (a) be on the church electoral roll
- (b) be actual communicants
- (c) be aged at least 21
- (d) not be disqualified.

It is not the 'congregation' that elects churchwardens but the Parishioners (so in reality every adult in the parish could turn up to vote - hence the Incumbent's right to refuse a nomination).

At the Meeting of Parishioners the Incumbent announces the names of those who have been nominated, as well as who they have been nominated and seconded by; and states if he is prepared to accept their nomination or not.

If he refuses to accept a nomination he does so publicly so that person would be known to be unacceptable by all and sundry. In that, albeit unlikely, scenario the Incumbent announces who he is appointing as his Churchwarden and those present and qualified to vote elect A N Other. Those qualified to vote are those on the Electoral Roll of the Parish Church and those resident in the Parish

If the Incumbent has three or more nominations and he declares them all acceptable, then the Meeting of Parishioners proceeds to a vote. If there are two or less acceptable nominations then the Incumbent declares them elected unopposed.

**Funeral Mass for Cyril Brown R.I.P. :** Cyril's Funeral Mass will be held in St Mary & St Giles Church at 2:15pm on Tuesday 9th April followed by a Committal at the Oak Chapel, Crownhill Crematorium. Cyril's mortal remains will be received into church at 4:30pm on Monday 8th April. Please pray for the repose of his soul, and for Graham and Keith as their mourn the loss of their father. *Jesu, mercy. Mary, pray.*

**Annual Parochial Church Meeting:** this will take place this Thursday at 7:30pm in All Saints Church. Papers for the meeting are available in both Parish Churches.

**Next Sunday - Palm Sunday:** the Liturgy begins with all those who are fit and able meeting at the London Road Car Park at 9:30am for the Procession, by which we commemorate the Lord's Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem, to the Parish Church for the Dramatic Reading of the Passion Gospel and the Parish Mass.

The day will conclude with Evensong being celebrated at 6:00pm in All Saints Church.

**Did you know?** That it is actually more environmentally friendly to send a letter than an email? Hard to believe, I know. However, it is a fact that, due to the amount of heat produced by all the servers required to send an email to an addressee, it contributes more to global warming than does using paper from a sustainable source, and all the manufacture and transport involved! As is often said, 'You learn something new every-day.'