

V/. Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God.
 R/. **That we may be made worthy
 of the promises of Christ.**

Let us pray.

We beseech thee, O Lord, to pour thy grace into our hearts; that as we have known the Incarnation of thy Son Jesus Christ by the message of an angel, so by his ✠ Cross and Passion, we may be brought unto the glory of his resurrection. Through the same Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Recessional: 'The Majesty of the Divine Humiliation 'King Ever Glorious' - John Stainer

Please remain seated until the Recessional Music has ceased. This is integral to the liturgy of the Organ Mass and therefore applause is not appropriate. Once concluded, leave the Parish Church of St Mary & St Giles via the Parish Hall; and at All Saints via the West (Tower) door. The Priest will be outside in the churchyard.

Reflection after Mass: *Lord Jesus, you come to us in this Blessed Sacrament that sustains us for eternal life. To give us this heavenly food you not only instructed us and left us an example, but you died for us as a sacrificial offering, leaving us your body and blood as a sacrificial meal, a holy communion with you and one another. We thank you for this gift, and conscious of our unworthiness we ask you to say but the word and we shall be healed in body, mind and spirit. Amen.*

THIS WEEK'S PARISH DIARY

**TODAY: THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT
 Laetare Sunday - Mothering Sunday
 PARISH MASS at St Mary & St Giles**
Intention: The Parish

**Tuesday Feria
 10:30am Mass at All Saints**
 7:00pm Lent Course 'Come & See' via Zoom
Intention: Her Majesty the Queen & The Royal Family.

**Wednesday Feria
 6:00pm Stations of the Cross
 6:30pm VIGIL MASS OF THE
 ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD**
*at St Mary & St Giles
 Intention: All Women with Child*

**Friday Feria
 12:00noon Angelus & Mass at St Mary & St Giles**
Intention: Victims of Violence in China, Burma, the Middle East, Ethiopia, Eritrea and The Sudan

**Next Sunday: PASSION (PALM) SUNDAY
 9:30am PARISH MASS at St Mary & St Giles
 6:00pm Evening Prayer at All Saints**
Intention: The Parish

PARISH NOTICES

Parish Appeal: as has been previously announced the Sacristy Roof, rainwaters goods and exterior walls at St Mary & St Giles are in need of urgent repairs projected to cost over £50,000. It is hoped that we will be able to start the works in May this year. The Rector has managed to raise £35,000 by applying for grants, and the PCC has almost £7000 in the Fabric Fund. The Rector has also applied for grants from the 'Bucks Historic Churches Trust' and the 'Francis Coales Charitable Foundation,' but these are likely to be much smaller grants than those achieved so far. Without these essential repairs being undertaken the building is at risk of water ingress causing much more serious and more costly damage. If you know of other charitable trusts that might be willing to make grants, or if you wish to make a donation yourself, please have a word with either the Rector or Bob Scarff, our Treasurer, who will be able to give you further information. Thank you.

Parish Communication: As from Saturday 1st May I shall be closing the Parish WhatsApp Group and have set up a Parish Group on a highly recommended, secure App called 'Signal.' it can be downloaded to any smartphone free. I can send you a link once you have downloaded the App to your 'phone.

Omnia Christus est nobis!

To us Christ is all!



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

**THE FIFTH SUNDAY
 OF LENT**

21st March AD 2021



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)

"away with him, crucify him," & "we have no king but Caesar." Such was the fickleness of human nature then. Unfortunately it has not changed much, if at all, in the two thousand years that have since elapsed. So many are still fickle when it comes to choosing between Christ and the things of this world. Yet he knew all of this, and was still willing to carry the cross for us who are such unworthy mortals!

This very thought should put us all to shame, for what repayment does the very best of us make for the incredible love he has shown for us? We grumble and complain when some small cross is laid on our shoulders; we are full of laments if life is not running smoothly for us; we cannot understand why God should let certain things happen to us, his friends! But see for a moment what the lot of his beloved Son was on earth. Born and reared in extreme poverty; insulted and offended by those he wanted to teach; quickly forgotten by those he benefited by his miracles; hounded by his enemies, betrayed by one who had been his disciple for three years and who had sat at table with him that same night; deserted in his moment of trial by those very ones who had sworn undying allegiance to him. Then followed the torments wished on him by his enemies—those he had come to save; the mock trial and illegal condemnation; the scourging at the pillar; the crowning with thorns; the carrying of the cross and finally the three hours of intense torture and agony while his body hung on the cross! The next time we are tempted to grumble and complain about our sad lot. Let us look thoughtfully at a crucifix for a few moments!

INFORMATION



Safeguarding: Our Parish Churches have adopted and follow the Diocese of Oxford's recommended policies for the safeguarding of children, young people and vulnerable adults. Details of these policies and of our Safeguarding Officers are available on the noticeboards inside each Parish Church. Should you have any safeguarding concerns then please see one of them.

Restrictions During the Current Pandemic:

Unfortunately, we are required to observe the following restrictions:

- ◆ **FACE MASKS: MUST BE WORN** by all attending worship as required by Law, apart from the Priest and any Lay Ministers assisting him. **N.B. IF YOU CANNOT WEAR A MASK FOR MEDICAL REASONS YOU MUST WEAR A FACE SHIELD.**
- ◆ Only 3 or 4 **Church Bells** are permitted to be rung, because ringing chambers are not large enough for distancing requirements when a full team is present. The Tower Captain and Assistant must keep a record of who is present to ring on what dates and ensure that distancing is maintained on the staircase. Bell ringing practice is not permitted.
- ◆ **Entry and exit** to our Parish Churches - entry via the West (Tower) Door and exit via the Parish Hall at St Mary & St Giles - entry via the South Porch and exit via the West (Tower) Door at All Saints
- ◆ There cannot be an **social gathering** in either of our Parish Churches before or after Mass - social intercourse may take place in the churchyards before or after Mass.
- ◆ 'Shared' **Mass cards** are not permitted. Please do not take a copy for someone else - either retain it for your devotions at home, or place it in the bin provided at the exit points in both churches.
- ◆ Until further notice all **communal singing**, singing rehearsals and concerts are prohibited in all places of worship. It is now possible to have a small choir and Organ Music played.
- ◆ **Collections:** Cash donations and envelopes must be placed either in the large plinth donations box at St Mary & St Giles, or in the bowl by the south porch door at All Saints. We are not allowed to pass a collection plate/bag to one another.
- ◆ **'The Peace'** may not be shared physically. We may however join our own hands and bow to each other at The Peace.
- ◆ **When going forward to receive Holy Communion** - at St Mary & St Giles please approach centre of the altar rail in single file via the main aisle, observing a two metre distance, and return to your place via the side aisle. At All Saints: again single file two metres apart but keeping to the south porch side of the main aisle on approaching the altar rail and returning to your place on the vestry side. N.B. in both churches Holy Communion must be received whilst standing and please extend your arms as far as you are able. Textile kneelers and cushions have had to be removed.
- ◆ **'Receiving Holy Communion'** is in one kind, i.e. The Host. This must be received in the palms of our hands - not on the tongue.
- ◆ **Please maintain a two metre distance** from each other on approaching the altar rails and on leaving our churches after Mass.
- ◆ **Lavatory Facilities.** Strict hand-hygiene must be observed and hand-dryers only used. In the lavatory at each church there is a spray sanitiser and single use sanitising wipes for each user to wipe the seat, flush-handle, water taps, sink and door handle. Used wipes should be placed in the waste baskets provided.

All of these restrictions, whilst not what we would wish for, do not detract from the fact that we are able to receive the Lord in his Blessed Sacrament.

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

Reflection before Mass:

In the old liturgical calendar this Sunday would have been 'Passion Sunday' - the one before 'Palm Sunday.' So there are many references to the sufferings and death of Jesus in today's liturgy. Jesus learned to obey through suffering (second reading). In this Mass we ask him to teach us to obey God's will for us in our daily lives, even if the pathway be steep and rugged.

(STAND) THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Organ Introit: 'Solemn Melody' - Henry Walford Davies

As the Sacristy Bell is rung we STAND; and the priest and ministers enter the Sanctuary the Cantor sings the **Antiphon:**

Give sentence with me, O God, and defend my cause against the ungodly people. From the man of deceit and wickedness deliver me: because thou art my own God, and my fortitude.

Ps. O send out thy light and thy truth that they may lead me * and bring me unto thy holy hill, and to thy dwelling.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost * as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

In the name of the Father, ✠ and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The priest greets the people

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

3. His work is honourable and glorious * his justice endureth forever.

Organ Voluntary during the Distribution of Holy Communion: Improvisation - 'All Glory, Laud and Honour'

It is customary to kneel throughout the distribution of Holy Communion except when going forward to receive the Blessed Sacrament and upon returning to your place.

Prayer after Communion (STAND)

Let us pray.

And all pray in silence with the Priest for a while, unless the silence has just been 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.**

All then pray:

**Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

(STAND) THE CONCLUDING RITE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Bow down for the blessing.

For the dismissal, the Priest faces the people and with his hands extended over the people, blesses them using this form:

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.**

Go in the peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

'THE ANGELUS' The Memorial of the Incarnation

V/. The Angel of the Lord brought tidings to Mary;
R/. **And she conceived by the Holy Ghost.**

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. **Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.**

V/. Behold the handmaid of the Lord;
R/. **Be it unto me according to thy word.**

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. **Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.**

V/. And the Word was made flesh;
R/. **And dwelt among us.**

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. **Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.**

**All: When we eat this Bread
and drink this Cup,
we proclaim your Death, O Lord,
until you come again.**

The Eucharistic Prayer continues with the priest interceding for the Church, the world, all those present at this celebration, and the Faithful Departed. At the Doxology at the end of the Eucharistic Prayer all join in the Great Amen.

Priest:for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

THE COMMUNION RITE

The Lord's Prayer

The priest introduces the Lord's Prayer.

(STAND)

**Our Father,
who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.**

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and for ever.

Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles: Peace I leave you, my peace I give you, look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will. Who live and reign for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

The Agnus Dei

(KNEEL)

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.**

The priest shows the consecrated Host to the people, saying:

Behold the Lamb of God,
behold him who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called
to the supper of the Lamb.

**✠ Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

The Communion Antiphon is sung by the Cantor and the people come forward to receive the Blessed Sacrament.

He who serveth me shall follow me, and where I am, there also my servant shall be.

1. I will praise the Lord with my whole heart *
in the assembly of the upright.
2. The works of the Lord are great *
exquisite in all their delight.

And also with you.

Penitential Rite

(STAND)

The priest invites the people to call to mind their sins and repent of them.

**Father eternal, giver of light and grace,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour,
in what we have thought,
in what we have said and done,
through ignorance, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We have wounded your love,
and marred your image in us.
We are sorry and ashamed,
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past;
and lead us out from darkness
to walk as children of light. Amen.**

The priest pronounces the general absolution

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, ✠ pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Kyries:

Kyrie, eleison.

Kyrie, eleison.

Christe, eleison.

Christe, eleison.

Kyrie, eleison.

Kyrie, eleison.

The Gloria in excelsis is omitted during Lent.

The Collect

Let us pray.

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

Jeremiah 31: 31-34

(Old Testament Page 661 in the Bibles) we hear God promise through a prophet that at a future date he would make a new covenant with his people.

The Responsorial Psalm

(from Psalm 51)

R/. A pure heart create for me, O God.

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt
and cleanse me from my sin. ®

A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your holy spirit. ®

Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me,
that I may teach transgressors your ways
and sinners may return to you. ®

The Second Reading

Hebrews 5: 7-9

(New Testament Page 186 in the Bibles) speaks of the pain and anguish Christ had to endure during his life and particu-

larly during his passion. Through them he learned what obedience to the Father's will means for men.

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory! If any one serves me, he must follow me, says the Lord; and where I am, there shall be my servant also. **Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory!**

The Gospel

John 12: 20-33

(New Testament Page 91 in the Bibles) Jesus is telling us that only by dying to what is evil in ourselves can we reach true life.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

As the Gospel is announced the people respond:

✠ ✠ ✠ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

At the conclusion of the Gospel Reading:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The Homily

The Apostles' Creed

(STAND)

**I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand
of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayer of the Faithful

(STAND)

Celebrant: My brothers and sisters, by dying to self, we are born to eternal life. In this spirit of self-denial and penance let us bring our petitions before our heavenly Father..

Intercessor: That all the members of the Church may benefit richly from the Graces which God offers us in this penitential season, that we may be fit to celebrate the Mysteries of the Lord's Passion, Death and Resurrection....

V/. Lord, in your mercy
R/. **Hear our prayer.**

For mercy and justice to be shown amongst and within all nations of the world. We pray particularly for all those people's who are suffering through military conflict in China, Burma, in the Middle East, In Ethiopia, Eritrea and The Sudan....

For the safety of all from those who prey upon the vulnerable; for the safety of all who go about their daily business and lives in our towns and cities. For civility, decency and moral fibre to be restored....

For our Parish and for the strengthening of our common life that during this holy season, we may show true compassion to those in need....

We pray for those who are suffering at this time, especially we are asked to pray for... Malcolm, Shirley, Cecilia, Christel, Joan Carrigan, Margaret DeSousa, Richard Desousa, Ronnie DeSousa, Rene Hazlewood, Fr Joseph, Lilith, Lorna, Sr Janet, James, Peter, Rosie, Susie, Dee, Stacey, Isa, Wendy, Janet, Adam Viard, Eric, Jasmine, Davida Wiseman...and for all those whom we have come here to pray for...

That, through the prayers of the Apostles Philip & Andrew, the departed may indeed see Jesus face to face, especially we are asked to pray for the souls of those who have died recently, amongst them...Jane Bull, Mary Bull, David, Fr Francis Rodriguez-Veglio, Phillip Tomlinson, Roger Whythe... and for those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time...**21st** John Martinez, Alice Styles, Charles Summers, Charles Sherwood, Charles Hazlewood; **22nd** Susanna Poulter, Mary Read, Fred Hearne, Cyril Brown; **23rd** Elizabeth Read, Minnie Roebuck; **24th** Tina Brook; **25th** Mary Taylor, Hugh Rees; **26th** Mary Wallis, Malcolm Bodley; **27th** Charles Britton, Owen Bull, Harry Prendergast, William King... and all) the faithful departed...

✠ Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord.

And let light perpetual shine upon them.

Celebrant: Lord God of all creation, hear the prayers which we unite with the sacrifice which your Son gave us, as his new and eternal covenant. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

*The Gifts of Bread and Wine are placed upon the altar, as the Cantor sings the **Offertory Antiphon:***

I will give thanks to thee, O Lord, with the whole of my heart. O do well unto thy servant, that I may live and be a keeper of thine own word: quicken thou me according to thy word, O Lord.

*Then priest says the Offertory Prayers to which the people respond: **Blessed be God for ever.***

(STAND) Pray brethren that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God the almighty Father.

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

The priest says the Prayer over the Offerings:

Hear us, almighty God, and, having instilled in your servants the teachings of the Christian faith, graciously purify them by the working of this sacrifice. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you

and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The priest sings a Eucharistic Preface appropriate to the celebration, after which all join in the acclamation: (KNEEL)

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The priest continues the Eucharistic Prayer of thanksgiving, recalling the command of Jesus Christ, 'Do this in memory of me.'

Priest: The mystery of faith: