

THE LITURGICAL CALENDAR THIS WEEK . . .

Tuesday is the **Memorial of the First Martyrs of Rome** – following the burning of Rome, the insane Emperor Nero used the Christians as scapegoats and launched a bloody persecution in the year 64. Many historians now believe the fire was the work of Nero himself – a 'slum clearance' programme that enabled him to clear a vast site for his *Domus Aurea* (Golden House) with its magnificent gardens. Many Christians were tied to posts, daubed with tar and set on fire – lighting the Appian Way from Rome to the coast at Ostia Antica.

Friday is the **Feast of St Thomas, apostle** – famous for his 'doubting' – but also for his great profession of faith: 'My Lord and my God'. According to tradition, Thomas took the gospel to India and is their principal patron saint.

Saturday is the **Memorial of St Elizabeth of Portugal** – both as queen and later as widow, St Elizabeth worked tirelessly for the poor, the sick and the helpless. Faced with family troubles, she gained a reputation as a 'peacemaker'. She died in 1336.

Please remember in your prayers

Tony Grant, a student for the priesthood (he was here on placement in 2018), was ordained Deacon on 17 June. The ordination took place in the chapel of the Beda College in Rome, where Tony is receiving his formation for the priesthood.

On Wednesday we remember a special prayer for Bishop Alan, on the anniversary of his Ordination as a Bishop, which took place in 2014. *Ad multos annos!*

Those who are ill . . .

Neil Abrahams, Isabella Ayres, Mary Brennan, Lesley Carroll, Tom Coddington, Pat and Janet Defreitas, Brenda Duke, Compton Glasgow, Father Tom Jordan, Eddie Margot, Gary Martindill, Maureen Mongan, Helen Murray, Sue Read, Rose Sheridan, Stephen Smithers, Sue Spelling and Mary Treston.

Those whose anniversaries are recalled at this time . . .

27 June – 3 July: Bill McCurry, Nora Togher, Gerard Daniel Bohan, Delia Ginty, James Toye, James Fitzpatrick, Eileen Blunderfield, Helen Austin, Martin Tubby, William Duncan, Sister Gabriel Ryan (*one of the first teachers at St Patrick's*) and Jerry Kingston.

CHAPEL OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES

This week, the light in honour of Our Lady is in memory of Luigi Mormile.

MINISTRY ROTA

This is being re-worked to take account of the changes that need to take place for the coming months – only two Readers will be required and one Communion Minister for each Mass.

CHECKING ROTA

For the timebeing, the Checking Rota is suspended while we work out when counting and recording will be able to take place. Cash collections have to be 'quarantined' for 72 hours before they can be handled.



MASS INTENTIONS

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 4 July : 6.30 pm Members of Our Parish Community
Sunday 5 July : 9.00 am Ed & Margaret Corcoran RIP (Pye family)
11.30 am Humphrey Long RIP (Long family)

Catholic Church of Corpus Christi

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Solemnity of Saints Peter & Paul

27-28 June 2020

This week the church will be open for private prayer at the following times:

Sunday

9.00 am to 12 noon

Monday to Saturday

9.00 am to 12 noon and 3.00 pm to 6.00 pm

Next weekend we re-commence public acts of worship:

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday : 6.30 pm, Sunday : 9.00 am and 11.30 am

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Saturday : 5.30 – 6.30 pm

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday : 6.00-6.30 pm

or any other time on request

This newsletter includes readings from Sunday's Mass, which you might like to use as an aid to prayer and reflection.



PARISH WEBSITE

www.corpuschristicollierrow.org

OPENING THE CHURCH . . .

For Mass and other acts of worship

From next Saturday evening, we are permitted to gather together to celebrate the Eucharist once more. There are a number of rules that have to be followed to limit the possibility of the spread of Coronavirus; these are outlined in an additional leaflet, available in the Newsletter section of the website.

For private prayer

We are grateful to the 48 volunteers who have offered to act as 'church stewards' so that we can be open at other times for private prayer. Do take the opportunity to pay a visit and spend some time in the peace and tranquillity of our church. If the opening times are not convenient, it may be possible to open the church for you at another time of day – please 'phone Father Philip to see if this can be arranged.

Prayers & Readings for the Solemnity of SS Peter & Paul

Sign of the Cross

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

Prayer

O God, who on the Solemnity of the Apostles Peter and Paul give us the noble and holy joy of this day, grant, we pray, that your Church may in all things follow the teaching of those through whom she received the beginnings of right religion.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

First Reading

Acts 12: 1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

King Herod started persecuting certain members of the Church. He beheaded James the brother of John, and when he saw that this pleased the Jews he decided to arrest Peter as well. This was during the days of Unleavened Bread, and he put Peter in prison, assigning four squads of four soldiers each to guard him in turns. Herod meant to try Peter in public after the end of Passover week. All the time Peter was under guard the Church prayed to God for him unremittingly.

On the night before Herod was to try him, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, fastened with double chains, while guards kept watch at the main entrance to the prison. Then suddenly the angel of the Lord stood there, and the cell was filled with light. He tapped Peter on the side and woke him. "Get up!" he said "Hurry!" – and the chains fell from his hands. The angel then said, "Put on your belt and sandals." After he had done this, the angel next said, "Wrap your cloak round you and follow me." Peter followed him, but had no idea that what the angel did was all happening in reality; he thought he was seeing a vision. They passed through two guard posts one after the other, and reached the iron gate leading to the city. This opened of its own accord; they went through it and had walked the whole length of one street when suddenly the angel left him. It was only then that Peter came to himself. "Now I know it is all true," he said. "The Lord really did send his angel and has saved me from Herod and from all that the Jewish people were so certain would happen to me."

Psalms

Psalms 33

I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast. The humble shall hear and be glad.

Glorify the Lord with me. Together let us praise his name.

I sought the Lord and he answered me; from all my terrors he set me free.

Look towards him and be radiant; let your faces not be abashed.

This poor man called; the Lord heard him and rescued him from all his distress

The angel of the Lord is encamped around those who revere him, to rescue them.

Taste and see that the Lord is good. He is happy who seeks refuge in him.

Second Reading

II Tim 4: 6-8, 17-18

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy

My life is already being poured away as a libation, and the time has come for me to be gone. I have fought the good fight to the end; I have run the race to the finish; I have kept the faith; all there is to come now is the crown of righteousness reserved for me, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that Day; and not only to me but to all those who have longed for his Appearing.

The Lord stood by me and gave me power, so that through me the whole message might be proclaimed for all the pagans to hear; and so I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from all evil attempts on me, and bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 16:13-19

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." "But you," he said, "who do you say I am?" Then Simon Peter spoke up, "You are the Christ," he said, "the Son of the living God." Jesus replied, "Simon

son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven."

Prayers of Intercession

That Pope Francis,
bishop of that church whose beginnings were consecrated by the witness of Peter and Paul,
and our new bishop Alan,
may lead us in professing our faith and inspire us in their preaching of the gospel.

Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer.

That the hostile powers of the earth may not prevail against the gospel
and all the nations that long for truth may hear the message fully proclaimed.

Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer.

That the sick and suffering of this community
may find health and healing in the name of Jesus of Nazareth.

Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer.

That all who in life longed for the Lord's appearing
may receive from the Lord the crown of righteousness.

Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer.

Our Father . . .

Spiritual Communion

written by St Alphonsus Ligouri

My Jesus,

I believe that you are present in the Holy Sacrament of the altar.

I love you above all things and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul.

Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,

come spiritually into my soul

so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and for ever. Amen.

Prayer

God of new life,

your grace transformed Peter's denials of the Lord and Paul's persecution of the church
into a mighty witness of bold preaching, faithful serving and sacrificial love even unto death.

On us who give thanks this day for the inheritance of these apostles,

bestow your grace in abundant measure

that we, with them, may fight the good fight, finish the race, keep the faith

and receive at last the crown of righteousness.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sign of the Cross

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

"Only when we experience God's forgiveness do we truly experience rebirth. From there we start over, from forgiveness; there we rediscover who we really are: in the confession of our sins ... Peter denied the Lord, while Paul persecuted the Church of God, Jesus called them by name and changed their lives." – Pope Francis, Feast of SS Peter & Paul, 29 June 2019