



ST BERNADETTE'S PARISH BULLETIN

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5th Sunday of Lent - 29 March 2020

From the Padre:



For the three years of Our Lord's public ministry, He not only taught clearly, but He worked miracles and healings that were extraordinary. Many people witnessed His miracles, and yet the Pharisees and Saducees still refused to believe. Then He raised His friend Lazarus from death, Lazarus who had been dead for three days, and in that hot climate, was already starting to decay. Rather than be moved by this powerful sign of truth, the enemies of Christ became afraid of the truth and sought definitively to kill Him. We have no reason to doubt Christ, even though His enemies still scoff and deride Him. We live in an age of increased paganism and anti-Christian sentiment. Instead of simply accepting this spirit of anti-Christ, believers are called to have a strong faith and turn to the Lord with all their heart and soul. He has the power to cure all disease and to make all wrongs right. But He demands faith. He asks us the same question He asked the people of His time on earth: "Do you believe?"

READINGS FOR MASS:

Entrance Procession

Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless.
From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

First Reading: Ezekiel 37:12-14

I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live.

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

The Lord says this: I am going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this - it is the Lord who speaks.

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 129

R. With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord,
Lord, hear my voice!
O let your ear be attentive
to the voice of my pleading. R.

If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt,
Lord, who would survive?
But with you is found forgiveness:
for this we revere you. R.

My soul is waiting for the Lord,
I count on his word.
My soul is longing for the Lord

more than watchman for daybreak.
(Let the watchman count on daybreak
and Israel on the Lord.) R.

Because with the Lord there is mercy
and fullness of redemption,
Israel indeed he will redeem
from all its iniquity. R.

Second Reading: Romans 8:8-11

If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he will give life to your own mortal bodies.

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: John 11:25, 26

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord;
whoever believes in me will not die for ever.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel: John 11:1-45

I am the resurrection and the life.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

There was a man named Lazarus who lived in the village of Bethany with the two sisters, Mary and Martha, and he was ill. - It was the same Mary, the sister of the sick man Lazarus, who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair. The sisters sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.' On receiving the message, Jesus said, 'This sickness will end not in death but in God's glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.'

Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judaea.' The disciples said, 'Rabbi, it is not long since the Jews wanted to stone you; are you going back again?' Jesus replied:

'Are there not twelve hours in the day?

A man can walk in the daytime without stumbling because he has the light of this world to see by; but if he walks at night he stumbles, because there is no light to guide him.'

He said that and then added, 'Our friend Lazarus is resting, I am going to wake him.' The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he is able to rest he is sure to get better.' The phrase Jesus used referred to the death of Lazarus, but they thought that by 'rest' he meant 'sleep', so Jesus put it plainly, 'Lazarus is dead; and for your sake I am glad I was not there because now you will believe. But let us go to him.' Then Thomas - known as the Twin - said to the other disciples, 'Let us go too, and die with him.'

On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. Bethany is only about two miles from Jerusalem, and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to sympathise with them over their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that, even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.' 'Your brother' said Jesus to her 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said: 'I am the resurrection and the life. If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.

Do you believe this?'

'Yes, Lord,' she said 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.'

When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in a low voice, 'The Master is here and wants to see you.' Hearing this, Mary got up quickly and went to him. Jesus had not yet come into the village; he was still at the place where Martha had met him. When the Jews who were in the house sympathising with Mary saw her get up so quickly and go out, they followed her, thinking that she was going to the tomb to weep there.

Mary went to Jesus, and as soon as she saw him she threw herself at his feet, saying, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' At the sight of her tears, and those of the Jews who followed her, Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, 'Where have you put him?' They said, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus wept; and the Jews said, 'See how much he loved him!' But there were some who remarked, 'He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?' Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.' Martha said to him, 'Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.' Jesus replied, 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said:

'Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer.

I knew indeed that you always hear me,

but I speak

for the sake of all these who stand round me,

so that they may believe it was you who sent me.'

When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, here! Come out!' The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, let him go free.'

Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Everyone who lives and believes in me will not die for ever, says the Lord.

NOTICES:

- * **Although** we cannot have **public Mass** at this time, the friars are offering Mass every day for our parishioners and offering you to God in prayer.
- * We will **publish our bulletin** each week on our web page (www.friarsofstfrancis.org) and some printed copies will be available in the Church each week as well.
- * **Mass on our webpage:** We are endeavouring to stream Mass each day on our webpage. Our first attempts will be “on demand”. Hopefully, within the week we will have it live-streamed. We encourage the faithful to watch it and pray with us from home. During Holy Communion time, we ask you to make a spiritual communion. An example is as follows:

“My Jesus I believe that you are present in the Most Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this time receive you sacramentally, I pray that you come into my heart spiritually. I embrace you and unite myself wholly to you. never permit me to be separated from you Amen.”
- * **Sacramental programmes** are postponed until the restrictions are lifted.
- * **Office Hours:** please note there will be times where the office is unmanned. Please leave a message on the answering machine.

Parish Priest: Father Christopher Sarah FSF
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Assistant Priest: Father Benedict Mackenzie FSF
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Contributions to Planned Giving:

(Please quote in the reference either your INITIAL & SURNAME or ENVELOPE NUMBER)

Name: St Bernadette’s Catholic Parish
BSB: 067 950
Account: 00000271

ROSTER FOR MINISTRIES: 4-5 April 2020

Altar Society: G 5: Sat. 8am ~ I Cummerford, R Evans, L Cakmakci, C Aquilizan, T Fernandes, J Whelan

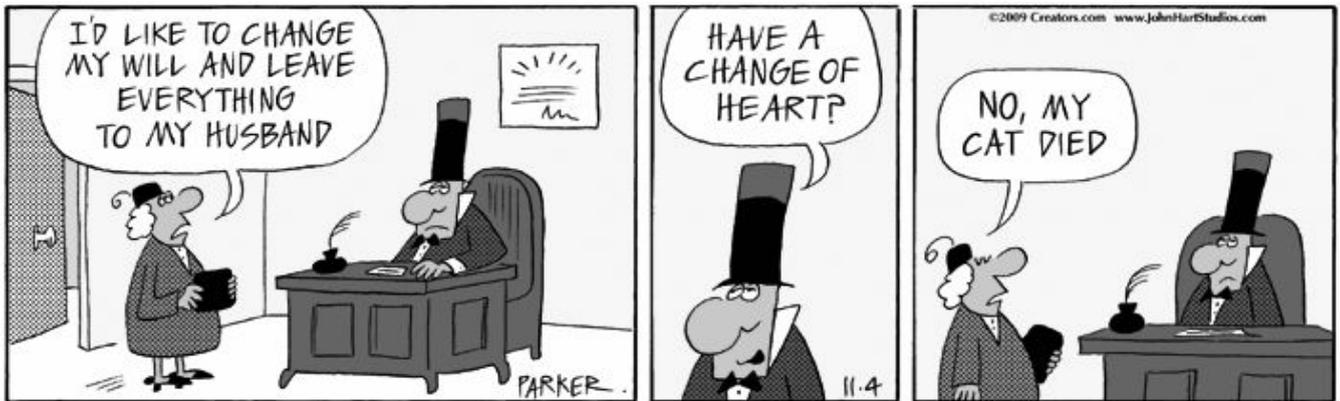
Cleaners: G 1: Thursday 2/4/20 ~ J Nipperess, V Standfort, N Thomas

Let us pray for all our sick relatives, friends and parishioners, especially:

Ellie Egan; Jonathon Joseph Najem; Colin Patten; Kristian Serie; Jean Knaver; and all of our sick parishioners;

Let us pray for our deceased loved ones, especially:

Frieda Piesch; Wanda Riordan; Kamele & John Abikhattar; Sue Evans; Mary O'Maley; Faye Nash; The Holy Souls in Purgatory; **May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.**



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*Saint Michael the Archangel,
 defend us in the battle; be our protection against the malice and snares of the Devil. May God restrain him, we humbly pray, and You, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the divine power cast into Hell Satan and all the other evil spirits who roam through the world seeking the ruin of souls.*
 Amen.

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus: have mercy on us. (3 times)
Immaculate Heart of Mary: pray for us