



# The Blessed Sacrament Chelmsford News



Fifth Sunday of Lent – Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2020

## Today's Readings

### First reading

**Ezekiel 37:12-14**

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

The Lord says this: I am now 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.

### Psalm

**Psalm 129(130)**

*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 ears 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**

The Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you

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.

### Gospel

**John 11:1-45**

I am the resurrection and the life

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.

# Notices

## Corona Virus

The church is now closed until further notice.  
For-up-date news please keep an eye on our parish website: [www.blessedsacramentchelmsford.net](http://www.blessedsacramentchelmsford.net)

Sadly, our church has had to be closed not just to public times of worship but to private times of prayer also.

Please be assured that Fr Paul will continue to celebrate Mass every day and pray every day for you all.

A newsletter will continue to be produced each week with information & the readings for the coming Sunday.

The Sacrament of the Sick will be administered in emergency situations. If someone you know becomes seriously ill, please contact Fr Hugh at Our Lady Immaculate Parish on 01245 352898 or email: [office@chelmsfordcatholic.co.uk](mailto:office@chelmsfordcatholic.co.uk)

Our Parish Office is closed temporarily at the moment so all enquiries should be made via the parish email [chelmsfordbs@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:chelmsfordbs@dioceseofbrentwood.org).

**Pope Francis – Prayer And Eucharistic Adoration Friday March 27th 5.00 PM (UK time).** In order to offer intercession and consolation during this time of exceptional discomfort, the Holy Father will preside over a time of prayer and Eucharistic Adoration in St Peter's Square, without a congregation, on March 27th. During this time Pope Francis will impart the Urbi et Orbi Blessing and will grant a plenary Indulgence to all those who share in this prayer via the media. This will be streamed by Vatican News [www.vaticannews.va/en.html](http://www.vaticannews.va/en.html)

**The rededication of England as Mary's Dowry:** You are invited to join in the rededication which takes place on Sunday 29th March at The Catholic National Shrine of Our Lady, Walsingham at 12 noon. The Mass will be live streamed at <https://www.walsingham.org.uk/live-stream/> and the prayers are available to download from [www.behold2020.com](http://www.behold2020.com)

## The celebration of Sunday and Daily mass

Here at Blessed Sacrament we sadly do not have the facility to live stream Holy Mass. However, a live stream is available from the following sources:-

Our Lady Immaculate Parish YouTube Channel  
[www.youtube.com/channel/UCHkkivPXvddwvUOQzd9itA](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCHkkivPXvddwvUOQzd9itA)

The Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham  
<https://www.ordinariate.org.uk/>

[www.churchservices.tv/timetable/](http://www.churchservices.tv/timetable/)

[www.benedictinemonks.co.uk/webcam/](http://www.benedictinemonks.co.uk/webcam/)

## Other Links that may be useful

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2020/03/No-Mass-A5.pdf> - this is a service provided by the bishops to use if we cannot get to Mass.

<https://www.universalis.com/Europe.England.Westminster/mass.htm> - this gives the readings of the day

[https://www.catholic.org/bible/daily\\_reading/](https://www.catholic.org/bible/daily_reading/) - this allows you to listen to the readings

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/word-of-the-day/2020/03/18.html> - this gives the reading plus a thought from the Pope

And for children:

<https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Children-s-liturgy> - CAFOD are providing a virtual children's liturgy

## Fr Paul's Joke Corner

*Just in case you were missing them!*

*" Shocked at Timpson's closing I was sure they were key workers!" 😂*

## MASS INTENTIONS FR. PAUL WILL BE CELEBRATING PRIVATELY

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2020 (5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent )

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2020

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2020 (Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord)

People of the Parish

Patrick Solomon's Ints. (E. Solomon)

All NHS staff (Fr. Paul & Parish)

Private Int. (Fr. Paul)

Ron Howe RIP (Clare, Fr. Paul & family)

Fr. Niall Harrington's Ints. (Greene family)

Craig Steadman RIP (Alice)

Anne Thornton RIP – 1<sup>st</sup> anniversary (Deirdre & family)

People of the Parish

**Parish Priest: Fr Paul Cracknell**  
116 Melbourne Avenue, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 2DU  
Telephone: 01245 354256  
[www.blessedsacramentchelmsford.net](http://www.blessedsacramentchelmsford.net)

**Parish office is temporarily closed.**  
All enquiries should be made via email to:  
[chelmsfordbs@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:chelmsfordbs@dioceseofbrentwood.org)