

# GRIDIRON

The Newsletter of **St Laurence Long Eaton**

***An Ebbsfleet in Erewash Parish***

**May 16th 2021**

**Seventh Sunday of Easter**

**The Parish Mass 9.30am**

## **This Week in our parishes**

Monday 6.30pm Mass *at St Laurence*

Tuesday 9.30am Mass *at Holy Trinity*

Wednesday 10.00am Mass *at St Laurence*

Thursday 7.00pm Mass *at Holy Trinity*

Friday 12noon Mass *at St Laurence*

2.15pm Funeral of the late Alan Smith *at St Laurence*

*Next Sunday 23rd May* **PENTECOST SUNDAY** *Eastertide ends*

**9.30am THE PARISH MASS** *at St Laurence*

**11.15am THE PARISH MASS** *at Holy Trinity, followed by the APCM*

## **Hymns NEH (Green) :**

**Introit: 440 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty\***

**Gradual: 358 Father of heaven, whose love profound**

**Offertory 311 We pray thee heavenly Father**

**Communion 360 Firmly I believe and truly**

**Recessional: 369 Happy are they, they that love God**

**\* omit starred verses**

**(All can be heard sung on Youtube.)**

## **First Reading: Acts 1: 15-17, 20-26**

We hear, as we did last Friday (St Matthias' Day) of the choosing of Matthias to take the place of Judas Iscariot in the period of time between the Ascension and the Day of Pentecost. What is important to note here is that the key factor for becoming an apostle is witnessing to the Resurrection, as relevant today as it was then.

## **Second Reading: 1 John 4: 11-16**

In the previous section of this letter the command was twofold, to believe in Jesus Christ and to love one another. Now it comes in reverse order: if we love one another, God abides in us; and if we acknowledge Jesus as Son of God, God abides in us. The two are inextricably united: if we do not acknowledge that God sent his Son as an atonement, we have not appreciated the depths of God's love. If we do not respond by loving our neighbour, our response shows that we have not grasped the depths and meaning of God's love. Another way of putting it is by the indwelling of God's Spirit: a sign of God's love dwelling in us is the share we have in the Spirit (v. 13). That is, the actual works of the Spirit which we do – so fully described by Paul in 1 Corinthians 12-14 – are the sign of God abiding in us. The abiding presence of God in us is shown to the extent that the works of the Spirit are expressed in love of one another.

## **Gospel: John 17: 11-19**

This middle part of the high priestly prayer of Jesus centres on the separation of the followers of Jesus from the world. Jesus has given them his Word and prays that they may remain uncontaminated by the world and the Evil One. This part justifies the title 'High Priestly Prayer' because the priestly function involves sanctifying others. Here Jesus speaks of sanctifying himself, so that his followers may not only be protected from the Evil One, but also may be sanctified as he is sanctified. There is no mention of Jesus sacrificing himself, and the humiliation of the cross is far from the spirit of this prayer. Indeed, it barely features in the Johannine narrative of the Passion itself, which from start to finish is a glorification of Jesus. It is the Hour of his exaltation for which he and the reader have

been waiting since the marriage-feast at Cana. This emphasis coincides with the stress here on sanctification, an uplifting and noble concept, rather than the humiliation of the Passion so painfully stressed by the Synoptic Gospels.

#### **Collect:**

Graciously hear our supplications, O Lord, so that we, who believe that the saviour of the human race is with you in your glory, may experience, as he promised, until the end of the world, his abiding presence among us. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

#### **Fr David writes:**

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#### **EASTER 7**

#### **SOCIAL DISTANCING ... A REMINDER**

Please remember that **we must still adhere to the guidelines**. You should only mix with others from your household in church, and there should be no social activity either before or after Mass. You should leave church quickly and orderly, avoiding any unnecessary interaction with anyone. Should you need to speak to Father David, for example, please stand aside, socially distanced from others. These instructions may appear difficult but, unlike the previous lockdowns, we are allowed to gather for worship, although many people, understandably, will decide to stay away. **Hand sanitiser** is provided in both churches, but **do feel free to use your own if you would prefer**. At St Laurence there is an automated dispenser for use on entry, but please sign the Track and Trace sheet before use, unless you 'check-in' with the NHS Track and Trace app, available in both churches. **Although we are now in the first stage of the easing of the Lockdown these regulations still apply.**

***Please also remember ...*** that the communion greeting 'The Body of Christ', is said only once, and we all respond together, **Amen**. The instructions are that Holy Communion is then given in silence. **Please do not say anything when the priest gives you the host.**

#### **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Until Covid restrictions are lifted there will be no set times for confession; please contact Father David for socially distanced appointments.

#### **Gluten Intolerance/Coeliac sufferers**

Ecclesiastically- and medically-approved communion hosts are now available in both churches. Please let a sidesperson/churchwarden know if you would like a gluten-free host. They will generally have been consecrated at an earlier Mass and kept securely in the tabernacle in both churches.

Father David's Rest Day this week is Thursday.

#### **Notices:**

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#### **Requests for Prayers**

The lists of the sick and those for whom we have been asked to pray include many names, some of which may no longer be relevant. Please look at the list for each parish and let me know if prayers are still required. If I haven't heard with regard to a name it will be removed from the list at the end of May. And don't forget to let me know of any new names that should be included. Too often someone will assume that someone else has told me if a person is ill or in need of prayers and I don't find out. **Father David**

#### **Annual Meeting - following Mass today**

Please note that the Annual Parish Meeting (for the election of Churchwardens) and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held today this immediately after Mass, so at about 12.15 pm. The appropriate notices have been displayed on the church noticeboard.

## **A spiritual reading for the seventh Sunday of Easter:**

**From a homily on the Song of Songs by Saint Gregory of Nyssa, Bishop**

### **The glory you gave to me, I have given to them**

When love has entirely cast out fear, and fear has been transformed into love, then the unity brought us by our saviour will be fully realised, for all men will be united with one another through their union with the one supreme Good. They will possess the perfection ascribed to the dove, according to our interpretation of the text: *One alone is my dove, my perfect one. She is the only child of her mother, her chosen one.* Our Lord's words in the gospel bring out the meaning of this text more clearly. After having conferred all power on his disciples by his blessing, he obtained many other gifts for them by his prayer to the Father. Among these was included the greatest gift of all, which was that they were no longer to be divided in their judgement of what was right and good, for they were all to be united to the one supreme Good. As the Apostle says, they were to be bound together with the bonds of peace in the unity that comes from the Holy Spirit. They were to be made one body and one spirit by the one hope to which they were all called. We shall do better, however, to quote the sacred words of the gospel itself. *I pray, the Lord says, that they all may be one; that as you, Father, are in me and I am in you, so they also may be one in us.* Now the bond that creates this unity is glory. That the Holy Spirit is called glory no one can deny if he thinks carefully about the Lord's words: *The glory you gave to me, I have given to them.* In fact, he gave this glory to his disciples when he said to them: *Receive the Holy Spirit.* Although he had always possessed it, even before the world existed, he himself received this glory when he put on human nature. Then, when his human nature had been glorified by the Spirit, the glory of the Spirit was passed on to all his kin, beginning with his disciples. This is why he said: *The glory you gave to me, I have given to them, so that they may be one as we are one. With me in them and you in me, I want them to be perfectly one.*

Whoever has grown from infancy to manhood and attained to spiritual maturity possesses the mastery over his passions and the purity that makes it possible for him to receive the glory of the Spirit. He is that perfect dove upon whom the eyes of the bridegroom rest when he says: *One alone is my dove, my perfect one.*

### **Saints for this week:**

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> May**

#### **St Dunstan of Canterbury (909-988)**

St Dunstan was a Benedictine monk, reformer and Archbishop of Canterbury. He was born near Glastonbury and educated at the abbey. He joined the king's household, but was soon expelled from court, accused of being a magician. Later he was ordained priest at Winchester. He returned to Glastonbury briefly but was soon recalled to court. King Edmund took a great interest in Glastonbury, and when the abbacy fell vacant he appointed Dunstan as abbot. Dunstan set about restoring monastic life, which had been almost extinguished under Danish invasions, and this is considered to be one of his greatest achievements. In 995 his fortunes changed again, and through intrigue at court he was exiled to Mont Blandin (Ghent), and he saw for the first time a reformed monastery of the continent. Recalled by King Edgar, he became successively Bishop of Worcester, Bishop of London and Archbishop of Canterbury. He composed the Coronation Rite for King Edgar at Bath, which is the basis of the Coronation Rite still in use. So

began the fruitful collaboration between King and Archbishop which reformed the Church in England, largely through the monastic orders, and was regarded after the Conquest as a 'golden age'. The promulgation of *Regularis Concordia* in about 970 marked the success of the movement Dunstan had started in Glastonbury years before. He collaborated with the king in making laws, administering justice and reforming the Church, and remained active until he died, at Canterbury, on this day in 988. After his death his cult grew rapidly, and under St Anselm's rule it became nationwide. He was one of the most popular Anglo-Saxon saints, and many legends have grown up around him.

### **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> May**

#### **St Christopher Magallanes and his companions**

Cristóbal (Christopher) Magallanes Jara was born in the state of Jalisco in Mexico in 1869. He was ordained priest at the age of 30 and became parish priest of his home town of Totatiche. He took a special interest in the evangelization of the local indigenous Huichol people and founded a mission for them. When government persecution of the Church began and the seminaries were closed, he opened a small local 'auxiliary seminary'. He wrote and preached against armed rebellion but was falsely accused of promoting the Cristero rebellion. He was arrested on 21<sup>st</sup> May 1927 while on the way to celebrate Mass at a farm. He was executed without a trial, but not before giving his remaining possessions to his executioners and giving them absolution. With him are celebrated 24 other Mexican martyrs of the early 20th century.

#### **.Please remember in your prayers:**

Those who are sick, especially: Kath Green, Jean Smith, Peter Wrathall, Syd Warren, Maria Perkins, Grace Fouracres, Emma Gallagher, Dexter, Vanessa Jackson, Jean Jarvis, Keith Hann, Ben, Jemima, and Kes Grant priest with cancer.

Those who have recently died : Those who have recently died, especially Alan Smith, and Paul Toh Maung Priest of Myanmar, and also those whose anniversary of death falls this week Hannah Claye, Ronald Henry Beswick, Matthew Justin Ellis, Ethel Mavis Goy, Audine Codrington, Margaret Elsie Dew.

### **Contacts at St. Laurence**

**Parish Priest Fr David Lawrence-March**, Tel. 0115 946 4060

Email. [fatherdlm@icloud.com](mailto:fatherdlm@icloud.com) (Fr David's preferred means of contact is email if possible).

#### **Churchwardens**

Mr Simon Dew: 07970 397711

Mrs Jennifer Hulls 07971 478765

**Parish Safeguarding Link** Mrs Nicky Bailey 07809 680034, Email: [nickybailey1938@gmail.co](mailto:nickybailey1938@gmail.co)

**Hall Bookings:** Chris Ellis 07984 973983

#### **Website**

For more about St Laurence, visit our website:-[www.st-laurence.net](http://www.st-laurence.net)

Contact us at: [simondew.46@gmail.com](mailto:simondew.46@gmail.com)