

This week: Divine Office – Psalter Week 2**Mon: ST. DAVID, PATRON OF WALES. (Feast)**

9:30. Mass. (Phil 3v.8-14; Matt 5v.13-16) Int: People of Wales.
Give 10p for every mat or rug in your house.

Tues: 9::30am Mass – Requiem – 1st Anniversary of Anne Herron.

(Wisdom 3v.1-9; Matt 11v.25-30)
Give 10p for every brush in your household.

Wed: 9:30am Mass (Jer.18v.18-20. Matt.20v.17-28)

Int: Persecuted Christians.
Give 10p for every kind of wild animal you have seen recently

Thurs: 9:30 Mass. – World Book Day Int; Christian Aid.

(Jer 17v.5-10; Luke 16v.19-31)
*Give 10p for every book you have read this month,
 50p for every book you buy.*

Fri: 9:30am Mass World Day of Prayer.

(Gen.37 v.3-4, 12-13, 17-28; Matt. 21 v. 33-43, 45-46)
 . Int: Prisoners of conscience.
Make giving part of your prayer today.

Sat: 2.00 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation.

3.00 pm First Mass of Sunday. (Readings as for Lent III)
 Int: Forgiveness and Reconciliation.
 (Exodus 20v.1-17; 1 Cor 1v.22-25; John 2v.13-25)
Give 1p for every year of your life since you learned to read.

Next Sunday – LENT III (B)

9.30 am Parish Mass & Address.
 (Exodus 20v.1-17; 1 Cor 1v.22-25; John 2v.13-25)

NOTICES

1. Electoral Roll Revision takes place on all Saturdays and Sundays in March.
2. Bible Study by Zoom on Tuesday 7:30pm. Email a.f.m.gray@btinternet.com for link, which is also on the email which sent this bulletin.
3. Our Lenten appeal is for Kagera and suggestions for giving are in italics. See the March Newsletter for more information. If you want to 'Buy a Bishop' see the church website or <https://www.cofesuffolk.org/news/snap-up-the-opportunity-to-buy-a-bishop.php>
4. Proposed dates for Vestry meeting and A.P.C.M. are on notice board in Porch.
5. I hope as many as possible can come to the 1st Anniversary Mass of Anne Herron on Tuesday.

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, MENDLESHAM**LENT 2 (B)**

Theme: We gather as God's children around his altar. It is a privilege we often take for granted, but in the readings of today's Mass we hear a lot about God as Father and his only son Jesus. In him we are adopted by our Baptism.

PENITENTIAL RITE:

Celebrant: Forgive us, Lord, when we have not allowed the light of your presence to transform our lives. Help us to open our eyes, blinded by sin, to see your goodness.
 Lord have mercy.

People: **LORD HAVE MERCY.**

Celebrant: Forgive us, Lord, when we have failed to see you as the Father's envoy of reconciliation. Christ have mercy.

People: **CHRIST HAVE MERCY.**

Celebrant: Forgive us, Lord, for the times when we have not allowed the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts and minds with the joy and peace that comes from forgiveness.
 Lord have mercy.

People: **LORD HAVE MERCY.**

Celebrant proclaims God's forgiveness.

No Gloria during Lent.

OPENING PRAYER: *Let us pray for the grace to respond to the Word of God. God our Father, help us to hear your Son. Enlighten us with your Word, that we may find the way to your glory.*

LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD**First Reading – Genesis 22 v. 1-2, 9-13, 15-18:**

As he is called to be ready to sacrifice his only son and heir, born to him in old age, Abraham's faith and obedience did not fail. Israel, however, is not to practice such child sacrifices

God put Abraham to the test. 'Abraham, Abraham' he called. 'Here I am' he replied. 'Take your son,' God said 'your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you.'

When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there, and arranged the wood. Then he bound his son Isaac and put him on the altar on top of the wood. Abraham stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son.

But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven. 'Abraham, Abraham' he said. 'I am here' he replied. 'Do not raise your hand against the boy' the angel said. 'Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.' Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt-offering in place of his son.

The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. 'I swear by my own self – it is the Lord who speaks – because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of their enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.'

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 115

Ⓜ **I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.**

I trusted, even when I said:

'I am sorely afflicted.'

O precious in the eyes of the Lord

is the death of his faithful. Ⓜ

Your servant, Lord, your servant am I;

you have loosened my bonds.

A thanksgiving sacrifice I make:

I will call on the Lord's name. Ⓜ

My vows to the Lord I will fulfil

before all his people,

in the courts of the house of the Lord,

in your midst, O Jerusalem. Ⓜ

Second Reading – Romans 8 v. 31-34: Abraham's sacrifice of Isaac points forward to God's gift of his Son to us. The death of Jesus on the Cross proves that there is no limit to God's love.

. With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us – he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us.

Acclamation: (all) **Glory and praise to you, O Christ! From the bright cloud the Father's voice was heard: 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him'. Glory and praise to you, O Christ!**

Gospel – Mark 9 v. 2-10: The Apostles are allowed a glimpse of the glory to come. Here again the Old and New Covenants are brought together, in contrast. The two traditions of the Old Testament, the Law and the Prophets, are represented in the persons of Moses and Elijah, but it is Jesus alone who is singled out by God to be his Son.

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus: 'Rabbi,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus. As they came down from the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean.

ADDRESS

CREED – Nicene

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Celebrant: St. Paul was so convinced of the power of God's love to overcome

all human failure that we can take courage to ask the Father for our needs.

Reader: We pray that all Christians will have the wisdom to know God's will and the spirit to obey it as faithfully as Abraham.

Let us pray for those who are sorely afflicted and whose endurance is tested to the limit, that they may know the presence and power of God with them.

It is wonderful for us to be here, awaiting the transformation of our gifts by the Spirit into the Body and Blood of Jesus: may we ourselves be ready to be changed by the same Spirit into the likeness of Jesus.

In this Season of Lent, may those who have strayed from their commitment to Christ and all of us sinners be brought to peace and reconciliation.

Let us pray for those imprisoned for their beliefs, that God may comfort them as he consoled Abraham in his moment of trial.

Let us pray for the families who are divided over land, possessions, Misunderstandings, relationships or any other cause: that they might learn the way of forgiveness and reconciliation.

Let us pray for those who are ill: Michael Denny, Doug Hales, Trevor Thorpe and all who are suffering from Covid. For the bereaved and for all who are suffering in our community. Let them understand that God, in making them one with the suffering Christ, will deliver them from their sorrow.

Let us pray for all those who have died: especially Willi and Brenda Thiebes (recently buried – *pause while 2 candles are lit*); for Anne Herron; Eileen Chevallier; Joan Blythe-Brook; Rhoda Perkins; Beryl Clarke; Harold Hubbard; Fr. Arthur Tooth; Ella Lockwood; Alan Froude; John Le Grys; Bishop David Bentley, Phyllis Fraser and Violet Abbott whose anniversaries of death occur this week. Show your love for the dead and let them see the light of your face.

We make our prayer with Mary who suffered the loss of her Son.

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

S I L E N C E

All: God, our Father, we ask you to increase our faith. Give us strength to do your will and remain faithful to you. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

Offertory Prayers

Sanctus.

Mystery of Faith: **Lord, by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free; You are the Saviour of the World!**

Lord's Prayer

Agnus Dei.

Post-Communion Prayer

Angelus

Blessing