

Coffee/tea in church after Mass. All welcome.  
PCC meets for lunch in Church & 1st PCC meeting at 12.00 noon

**This week - Divine Office - Psalter Week 2.**

**Mon:** 9.30am Mass (Daniel 9 v 4-10; Luke 6 v36-38) Int: The Samaritans

**Tues:** 9.30am Requiem Mass, March anniversaries  
(Is 1 v10,16-20; Matt 23 v1-12)  
Bible study by Zoom 7.30pm Church at Philadelphia Rev 3 v7-13  
10.30 - 12.30 Coffee in Church

**Wed:** 9.30am Mass. (Jer. 18 v. 18-20; Matt. 20 v. 17-28)  
Int: All who suffer abuse

**Thurs:** **St. Patrick, Patron of Ireland (Feast)**  
9.00am Mass. (Jer.1 v4-9; Luke 10 v1-12, 17-20)  
Int: People of Ireland

**Fri:** 9.30am Mass. Anticipatory of St Joseph  
(II Sam 7 v4-5,12-14,16; Romans 4 v 13,16-18,22; Matt 1 v 16,18-21,24)  
Int: The dying  
4.00pm Sacrament of Reconciliation.

**Sat** **ST. JOSEPH (Solemnity)**  
10.00am 1st Mass of Sunday Int: All Fathers and Grandfathers  
Readings as tomorrow

**Next Sunday – LENT III, Year C.**

9.30am Parish Mass and Address.  
(Ex. 3 v. 1-8,13-15; 1 Cor. 10 v.1-6,10-12; Luke 13 v. 1-9.)

**NOTICES**

1. Have you taken a Lent Box for Additional Curates Soc?
2. Have you responded to the Emergency Appeal for Ukraine?
3. List in church for ordering Easter Candles for departed loved ones. £9 each. To burn from 16th Apr - 5th June.
4. Friends of St. Mary's are arranging a Spud Bash 12 noon - 2.00pm URC Chapel on Sat 26th March £7 in aid of Church Restoration Funds.

**PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, MENDLESHAM**

**LENT II, Year C**

**THEME:** The biblical readings of today's Mass meet us where we are tempted to give up. They urge us to look ahead, not behind, and never to lose faith.

**Entrance Hymn :** 260 v.1-3

**PENITENTIAL RITE**

**Celebrant:** Forgive us, Lord, when we have not taken time to consider what you want of us; when we have not read and reflected on the Scriptures; when we have not prayed regularly; when we pretend we do not need God. **Lord have mercy.**

**People:** (sing) **Kyrie Eleison** (*Ukraine Kyries*)

**Celebrant:** Forgive us, Lord, when we are inconsiderate of the needs of others; when we fail to help where we see that help is needed; when we have been afraid to stand up for justice and truth. **Christ have mercy.**

**People:** (sing) **Christe Eleison**

**Celebrant:** Forgive us, Lord, when we forget that all are called to share your glory; when we neglect your help in transfiguring our lives, when we fail to stand for Christ in our parish and places of work and recreation. Lord have mercy.

**People:** (sing) **Kyrie Eleison**

**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**

**First Reading: Genesis 15 v. 5 – 12; 17 – 18.** Abram puts his faith in the Lord. God enters into a covenant with him and promises him many descendants.

*Taking Abram outside, the Lord said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can.' 'Such will be your descendants,' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.*

*'I am the Lord' he said to him 'who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldaeans to make you heir to this land.' 'My Lord,' Abram replied 'how am I to know that I shall inherit it?' He said to him, 'Get me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these, cut them in half and put half on one side and half facing it on the other; but the birds he did not cut in half. Birds of prey came down on the carcasses but Abram drove them off.*

*Now as the sun was setting Abram fell into a deep sleep, and terror seized him. When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, there appeared a smoking furnace and a firebrand that went between the halves. That day the Lord made a Covenant with Abram in these terms: 'To your descendants I give this land, from the wadi of Egypt to the Great River.'*

**Responsorial Psalm:** Psalm 26                      ® **The Lord is my light and my help.**

The Lord is my light and my help; whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life; before whom shall I shrink? ®

O Lord, hear my voice when I call; have mercy and answer.  
Of you my heart has spoken; 'Seek his face.' © **The Lord is my light and my help.**

It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face.  
Dismiss not your servant in anger; you have been my help. ©

I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living.  
Hope in him, hold firm and take heart. Hope in the Lord! ©

**Second Reading: Philippians 3 v. 17 – 4 v. 1.** Paul calls on his converts to remain faithful to the Lord and take encouragement from each other. In spite of persecution, the faithful will experience transfiguration.

My brothers, be united in following my rule of life. Take as your models everybody who is already doing this and study them as you used to study us. I have told you often, and I repeat it today with tears, there are many who are behaving as the enemies of the cross of Christ. They are destined to be lost. They make foods into their god and they are proudest of something they ought to think shameful; the things they think important are earthly things. For us, our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes the saviour we are waiting for, the Lord Jesus Christ, and he will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body. He will do that by the same power with which he can subdue the whole universe.

So then, my brothers and dear friends, do not give way but remain faithful in the Lord. I miss you very much, dear friends; you are my joy and my crown.

**Gospel Hymn:** 260 v.4

**Acclamation: 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: Luke 9 v. 28 – 36.** The Gospel tells us of the transfiguration of our Lord. It holds a promise for all who believe in Him.

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up the mountain to pray. As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightning. Suddenly there were two men there talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory, and they were speaking of his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep, but they kept awake and saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As these were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, 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 he was saying. As he spoke, a cloud came and covered them with shadow; and when they went into the cloud the disciples were afraid. And a voice came from the cloud saying, 'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him.' And after the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. The disciples kept silence and, at that time, told no one what they had seen.

**Address Creed (Nicene) Pg. 7**

## **PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL**

**Celebrant:** Heavenly Father, you care for all your people as we journey towards our homeland in heaven, listen to our prayers for the needs of all.

**Reader:** Let us pray for all who are tired and weary, that they may be refreshed by the word of God.

Let us pray for victims of war, particularly from Ukraine, who are forced to flee for protection from ruin and destruction. May the Lord bring healing and hope to their broken hearts.

Lord, bless all associated with charities which help refugees. We pray for our church's appeal for Ukraine.

Let us pray that all Christians in this busy world may set aside time for Jesus, so that we may all learn that it is good for us to be here.

Let us pray for Andrew and Chris, re-elected as Churchwardens and for all members of the PCC, that they may be blessed with insight and compassion as together with their priest, they help the parish to come alive as the presence of Christ in this place.

Let us pray for all anointed at our healing service last Wednesday and all prayed for at shrine prayers. For our parishioners in homes: Billy Carter, Hazel Lockwood, Margaret Maundrell, Trevor Thorpe, Sheila Sanders, Cindy Lind and Judith Hurd. We also pray for Julie Gray and Lucy Muskett.

Lord, may the dead see your mercy and the light of your face, especially Herbert Knock, Malcolm Finbow, Lilian Freeman, Peggy Giraud-Saunders, Ethel Kent, Edith Farmbrough, Josephine Baker, Michael Smith, Cecil Hart, Frederick Charles, Gladys Tye, Mike Foreman, Alice Freeman and Iris Fulcher, whose anniversaries occur at this time.

We ask Mary, who walked with her Son the road to Calvary, to stay with us on our journey. **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 time of our death. Amen.**

S I L E N C E

**All: Almighty God, the Apostles saw your Son transfigured by your glory. May your people be changed into a closer likeness of Him, so that the world may see your glory. Amen.**

**Offertory Hymn:** 623 v.1&2      **Offertory Prayers**      **Hymn** 623 v3 to end  
**Sanctus:** Penitential setting.      **Mystery of Faith no. 4.**(pg 10)

**Blessed and Praised be Jesus Christ, in the most Holy Sacrament.  
Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in excelsis**

**Lord's Prayer.** (Pg 11.)      **Agnes Dei:** Penitential setting

**Hymns at Holy Communion:** 500 & 179 Please join in.

**Hymn at Ablutions:** 257      **Post Communion Prayer**      **Angelus**

**Recessional Hymn:** 609