

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

20<sup>th</sup> March 2022

**PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, MENDLESHAM  
LENT III of Year C: Welcome to Fr John Thackray, today's Celebrant.**

*Please keep silence from 9.25pm to prepare for Mass*

**Lord's Prayer** etc. P11      **AGNUS DEI:** J. Allen setting.  
Hymns at Holy Communion: 179 (Please join in).  
Hymn at Ablutions: 575.      Post Communion Prayer & Angelus  
Recessional Hymn: 248  
Tea /Coffee in Church after Mass. Please stay.  
Thank you to Fr. John for celebrating Mass today.  
No Masses here until Saturday.

**THEME:** The true, the living God reveals himself to Moses and his chosen people as a God of mercy and love - faithful and gracious. Yet the need to respond to him is urgent and Jesus parable of the fig tree tells his people that time is short yet there is a last chance to repent and be saved.

**Entrance Hymn:** 60 v1 - 4.

**This week – Divine Office – Week 3 of Psalter**

**Mon:** (II kings 5v. 1-15; Luke 4v. 24-30)  
Int: All who suffer from Cancer

**Tues:** (Daniel 3v.25,34-43; Matt 18v.21-35)  
Int: Those we find it hard to forgive

**Wed:** (Deut 4 v 1,5-9; Matt 5 v 17-19)  
Int: Our Communicants

**Thurs:** (Jer 7 v 23-28; Luke 11 v 14-23)  
Int; Christian Unity.

**Fri:** **ANNUNCIATION OF OUR LORD**  
(Is. 7v10-14 8v.10 ; Hebs. 10v. 4-10; Luke 1v. 26-38)  
Int; Walsingham

**Sat:** 5.00 pm: 1<sup>st</sup> Mass of Sunday  
(Joshua 5 v 9-12; 2 Corinthians 5 v 17-21; Luke 15 v 1-3, 11-32)

**Next Sunday – LENT 1V – MOTHERING SUNDAY**

9.30am Parish Mass, Address and Blessing of Candles  
(Joshua 5 v 9-12; 2 Corinthians 5 v 17-21; Luke 15 v 1-3, 11-32)

**NOTICES:**

1. Change clocks next Saturday- 1 hour less in bed.
2. Please note the 1<sup>st</sup> Mass of Sunday will be at 5.00pm on Saturday.
3. Please support Friends of St. Mary's coffee morning on Tuesday (10.30-12.30) and spud bash in U.R.C. Chapel on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> March 12.00-2.00
4. Auntie Jean has asked for draw prizes for the Spud Bash, please.

**PENITENTIAL RITE**

**Celebrant:** Forgive us Lord, when we have been content with the minimum, content just to keep the rules, when we have been inward looking, concerned only with our immediate family, friends, organisations and parish. When we have passed over injustice in the Church or in the world or have taken the easy way of unthinking 'loyalty' and have been afraid to speak out. Lord have mercy.

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

**Celebrant:** Forgive us when we turn away so as not to see the needs of others for fear that we should have to do something about them. Forgive us for our inconstancy; for our past failures and the way we bring forth so little fruit in our lives. Christ have mercy. **People:**(sing) **Christe Eleison**

**Celebrant:** Forgive us Lord, for our anger and prejudice; for all impurity and selfishness, for our lack of love; for our self-centred prayers; for pretending we do not need God. Lord have mercy. **People:** (sing) **Kyrie Eleison**

**OPENING PRAYER:** Let us pray. Father you taught us to overcome our sins by prayer, fasting and works of mercy. When we are discouraged by our weakness, give us confidence in your love.

**LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD**

**1st Reading: Exodus 3 v 1-8; 13-15.** God has noticed the suffering of his people in Egypt and means to deliver them from their bondage. He chooses Moses as his principal agent and reveals his name to him.

Moses was looking after the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law priest of Midian. He led his flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in the shape of a flame of fire, coming from the middle of a bush. Moses looked; there was the bush blazing but it was not being burnt up. 'I must go and look at this strange sight,' Moses said, 'and see why the bush is not burnt.' Now the Lord saw him go forward to look, and God called to him from the middle of the bush. 'Moses, Moses!' he said. 'Here I am,' Moses answered. 'Come no nearer,' he said. 'Take off your shoes, for the place on which you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your fathers,' he said, 'the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.' At this Moses covered his face, afraid to look at God.

And the Lord said, 'I have seen the miserable state of my people in Egypt. I have heard their appeal to be free of their slave-drivers. Yes, I am well aware of their sufferings. I mean to deliver them out of the hands of the Egyptians and bring them up out of that land to a

land rich and broad, a land where milk and honey flow, the home of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites and the Jebusites.'

Then Moses said to God, 'I am to go, then, to the sons of Israel and say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you." But if they ask me what his name is, what am I to tell them?' And God said to Moses, 'I Am who I Am. This' he added 'is what you must say to the sons of Israel: "I Am has sent me to you."' And God also said to Moses, 'You are to say to the sons of Israel: "The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you."' This is my name for all time; by this name I shall be invoked for all generations to come.'

**Responsorial Psalm.     ®     The Lord is compassion and Love.**

My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name.

My soul give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings.®

It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion.®

The Lord does deeds of justice, gives judgement for all who are oppressed.

He made known his ways to Moses and his deeds to Israel's sons.®

The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy.

For as the heavens are high above the earth, so strong is his love for those who fear him.®

**2nd Reading: I Corinthians 10 v 1 - 6; 10-12.** St. Paul warns his Christian community to be vigilant. The good and bad things which happened to old Israel in the desert should be a warning to the new Israel, there is no room for complacency. I want to remind you, brothers, how our fathers were all guided by a cloud above them and how they all passed through the sea. They were all baptised into Moses in this cloud and in this sea; all ate the same spiritual food and all drank the same spiritual drink, since they all drank from the spiritual rock that followed them as they went, and that rock was Christ. In spite of this, most of them failed to please God and their corpses littered the desert. These things all happened as warnings for us, not to have the wicked lusts for forbidden things that they had. You must never complain: some of them did, and they were killed by the Destroyer.

All this happened to them as a warning, and it was written down to be a lesson for us who are living at the end of the age. The man who thinks he is safe must be careful that he does not fall.

**Gospel Hymn:** 60 v. 5.

**Gospel Acclamation (all): Glory to you, O Christ, you are the word of God!**

**Repent, says the Lord, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.**

**Glory to you, O Christ, you are the word of God!**

**Gospel:** Luke 13 v. 1 - 9. Jesus urges his hearers to use the time that is available for repentance. In the parable of the fig tree it is stressed that the time will come for a last chance to bear fruit.

Some people arrived and told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with that of their sacrifices. At this he said to them, 'Do you suppose these Galileans who suffered like that were greater sinners than any other Galileans? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen on whom the

tower at Siloam fell and killed them? Do you suppose that they were more guilty than all the other people living in Jerusalem? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did.'

He told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it but found none. He said to the man who looked after the vineyard, "Look here, for three years now I have been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and finding none. Cut it down: why should it be taking up the ground?" "Sir," the man replied "leave it one more year and give me time to dig round it and manure it: it may bear fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down."'

**Address     Creed.** Apostles' Creed– page 8 hymn book.

**PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL:**

**Celebrant:** The Gospel calls us to conversion, secure in the knowledge that our prayers are answered. Let us pray for the conversion of the world.

**Reader:** Let us pray for the Church, for the people of God, that during this season of Lent, we may be renewed not only in our habits, but in the depths of our hearts.

Let us pray that the Church may continue to be a sign of God's love and peace in the world.

The Father has called us to repent. Let us pray for all who have sinned and who cannot yet forgive themselves; for those who are afraid to use the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Let us pray for all who are oppressed, for those who live without freedom or dignity, especially all suffering in Ukraine; that we will not hide our face from their affliction, but hear the cry of their distress and act upon it.

Let us pray for more vocations to the priesthood so that we may always have shepherds for Christ's flock.

Let us pray for the sick especially Lucy Muskett, Julie Gray, Jan Ross & Joan Hill

Let us pray to the Lord who is rich in mercy that the dead may find a welcome in his presence, especially: Fr Ralph Wallace, Harry Hunt, Olive Bunn, Jim Perry, Cecil Pritchard, Shirley Keeble, Allan Kitchen, Teddy King, Fr. John Head, Joan Seaman, Minnie Old & Freda Hayward, whose anniversaries are this week.

Mary teaches us by her example of faithfulness and self-giving. We seek the help of her prayers as we say together; **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: Hear our prayers, Father, as we turn again to look for your mercy and know your compassion. As you revealed your name to Moses, reveal again your love to us in this Eucharist. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Offertory Hymn: 264 v1

Offertory Prayers: Hymn 264 v 2 & 3

**SANCTUS:** .J. Allen setting.

Mystery of Faith: no 4