

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 etc. Agnus Dei.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER . Angelus.

This Week - Divine Office - Week 1

Mon: 9.30am Mass (Daniel 13 v. 1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62; John 8 v. 1-11).
Int: Those falsely accused. *Give 50p to build a rainwater tank in Kagera.*

Tues: 9.30 Mass (Numbers 21 v. 4-9; John 8 v. 21-30)
Int: Int: The Bereaved. *Give £1 in thanks for your electricity supply.*
7.30 pm Bible Study by Zoom

Wed: 9.30am Mass. (Daniel 3v. 14-20, 24-25, 28; John 8v. 31-42)
Int: Queen and Government. *Give 10p for each time you used your washing machine last week.*

Thurs: **Annunciation of our Lord** (Solemnity)
9.30am Mass. (Is. 7 v.1-10 8 v.10 Heb. 10 V.4-10, Luke 1 v. 22-38)
Int. Walsingham. *Give 5p for every saucepan in your house large or small.*

Fri: 9.30am Mass (Jeremiah 20v 10-13; John 10v. 31-42).
Int: Guild of All Souls. *Give 5p for every umbrella in your home.*

Sat: 2.00pm Sacrament of Reconciliation
3.00pm 1st Mass of Sunday. (Is. 50 4-7. Phi. 2 v. 6-11, Mark 14 v. 1-15).
Int: Observance of Holy Week. **CLOCKS GO FORWARD 1HR**
TONIGHT Give 10p for each clock or watch you alter tonight.

Next Sunday – PALM SUNDAY

9.30am Blessing of palms, Mass and Address. (Readings as on Saturday)

6.00pm. Sacrament of Reconciliation

NOTICES

1. Suggestions for Lent giving to Kagera. Please return boxes for blessing at Mass on Maundy Thursday, 1st April. (next week we'll give directions about paying by BACS) See church website 'What's On' about 'Buying a Bishop'
2. Next Sunday is the last for (a) checking electoral roll (b) ordering candles for Easter.
3. Our Vestry Meeting is 11th April for electing Church Wardens. List on table. P.C.C. needs to meet to approve accounts afterwards.
4. Tuesday is the last Bible Study on Luke 15.
5. The Newspaper called "Together" is on the table. Please take a copy.
6. Please vote for St Mary's on Facebook before Wednesday to help win free heating oil and ask all your friends. We need 1,000 votes and so far have just under 800.
7. Prayer for this week based on the Address: "Help us to be like Jesus, Inspire us by his love and guide us by his example."

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, MENDLESHAM

Lent V (Passiontide)

Please keep silence from 9.25 to prepare for Mass

THEME: The Solemn days of Holy Week and Easter are drawing near. May our minds and hearts be ready to receive the great fruit of Christ's death and resurrection – the opportunity to change, to begin afresh, to make something real of our lives.

PENITENTIAL RITE:

Celebrant: Forgive us, Lord, for being blind to all the lovely things in the world.

Lord have mercy.

People: LORD HAVE MERCY.

Celebrant: Forgive us. Lord, when we are blind to the love and kindness other people show us, so we never say "thank you". Christ have mercy.

People: CHRIST HAVE MERCY.

Celebrant: Forgive us, Lord, for our blindness to the needs of others and our blindness to the ways we can help them. Lord have mercy.

People: LORD HAVE MERCY.

CELEBRANT PROCLAIMS GOD'S FORGIVENESS

OPENING PRAYER: *Let us pray for the courage to follow Christ.* Father, help us to be like Christ your Son, who loved the world and died for our salvation. Inspire us by His love, guide us by His example, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD

First Reading – Jeremiah 31v 31-34 At the Last Supper, Jesus took the cup and pronounced the blessing, that here was the blood of the New and Eternal Covenant. This had been foretold by Jeremiah – that God will make a new Covenant with His people and the sins of the past will be forgotten.

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel (and the House of Judah), but not a covenant like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, so I had to show them who was master. It is the Lord who speaks. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive – it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, 'Learn to know the Lord!' No, they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest – it is the Lord who speaks – since I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Psalm 50 ® **A pure heart create for me, O God.**

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt and cleanse me from my sin. ®

A pure heart create for me, O God, put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your holy spirit. ®

Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me
that I may teach transgressors your ways
and sinners may return to you. ®

Second Reading - Hebrews 5v 7-9 If we want eternal salvation, then we must obey him, who learnt to obey through suffering.

During his life on earth, Christ offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

Acclamation: Glory to you O Christ, you are the word of God! If a man serves me, says the Lord, he must follow me; wherever I am, my servant will be there too. Glory and praise to you, O Christ, you are the word of God.

Gospel - John 12v 20-33 Jesus is explaining that the hour has come when he must die in order that others may live. In order to help his listeners understand this paradox he tells about a grain of wheat ~ unless it dies and is buried, it produces nothing

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this request to him, 'Sir, we should like to see Jesus.' Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus. Jesus replied to them:

'Now the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.

I tell you, most solemnly, unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest.

Anyone who loves his life loses it;

anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for the eternal life.

If a man serves me, he must follow me, wherever I am, my servant will be there too.

If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him.

Now my soul is troubled. What shall I say: Father, save me from this hour?

But it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour.

Father, glorify your name!

A voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.' People standing by, who heard this, said it was a clap of thunder; others said, 'It was an angel speaking to him.' Jesus answered, 'It was not for my sake that this voice came, but for yours.

'Now sentence is being passed on this world; now the prince of this world is to be overthrown. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I shall draw all men to myself.' By these words he indicated the kind of death he would die.

Address

Creed - Nicene Creed

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Celebrant: Let us pray that the Church of God may learn to let go of what is less important, grasp what is of real value and so yield a rich harvest.

Reader: Let us pray that Christians may be the first to break down the barriers and replace them with reconciliation and new life.

Let us pray for those who have separated themselves from God, that this Lent may be the time they are reconciled with Him.

Let us pray that Missionaries may be given fresh strength to proclaim the New Covenant to the world - especially for the Church in Kagera that we are supporting.

Let us pray that we may grow in grace and in numbers through the fidelity to the Eucharist in which we renew the covenant.

Let us pray that all the members of our community may offer the hand of friendship to those who feel neglected.

Let us pray that we may never forget that each of us carries within us a divine spark which makes us capable of higher things such as acts of generosity and service.

Let us pray for the sick and suffering and those who care for them. We pray for the work of the Guild of All Souls in this parish. We pray for Doug Hales and Billy Carter.

Let us pray for greater trust and friendship between different nations on our planet; for a universal desire for peace.

Let us pray for those who have died, that they may be given the glorious freedom of the children of God and find eternal happiness. We pray for Jim Perry, Cecil Pritchard, Shirley Keeble, Allan Kitchen, Teddy King, Fr. John Head, Joan Seaman, Minnie Old and Freda Hayward whose anniversaries fall at this time.

Let us ask Mary to pray for us and all mankind – **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.**

SILENCE

All: Father, your son was the grain of wheat that died and bore fruit. Help us to die ourselves so that we too may learn to love without limit, through Christ our Lord. Amen.