

PLEASE NOTE: The best way to contact us is by email. All enquiries and non-urgent matters, including mass intentions, please email the Parish Office, at kingston@rcaos.org.uk In case of an emergency or for a pressing enquiry *only*, please call Fr. Anthony or Fr. Eugene on 020 8546 4633.

FEAST DAYS, MEMORIALS AND MASSES

**SUNDAY 14TH MARCH 2021
FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (B)**

Saturday 13th	
6.30pm	Alan Fraser RIP
Sunday 14th 4th Sunday of Lent - Laetare Sunday	
9am	John Sewter RIP
10.30am	Arthur Lawrence RIP
6.30pm	Jack Roycroft RIP
Monday 15th	
	Wellbeing & Recovery of Colette Patten
Tuesday 16th	
9.30am	Alan Fraser RIP
Wednesday 17th St Patrick, Bishop, Feast	
	Holy Souls
Thursday 18th	
9.30am	Wellbeing of Ophelia (Nomma)
10.30am	Arthur Lawrence Requiem Mass
Friday 19th St Joseph, Solemnity	
	Trevor Davies RIP
Saturday 20th	
6.30pm	Marie, Reginald & Michael Boxall RIP Bridie Crehan RIP

Morning Prayer & Mass: Tuesday & Thursday 09:00 AM

Sunday Mass Times:

Saturday: 18:30, Sunday: 09:00, 10:30, 18:30

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

Please pray for the sick and housebound of our Parish: Christina Ward, Clare Horgan, Keith Fraser, Trish Taylor, Ryan Morrison, Philip Cockle and Melba De Silva. *Please let the Parish Office know in writing if either you or your relatives want to be mentioned on our sick list.*

ANNIVERSARIES

Forbes Stimson, Ann Elizabeth Harding, Agnes Hall, Winifred O'Connor, Timothy Malone, Alphonse Schembri, Gerry Byrne, Herbert Lewis, Thomas Francis Mulcahy, Mary Pickard, Rita Da Silva, Aaron Bennett, Mary Chisholm, Virginio Anghileri, Anne Lally, Frederic Leo Strawson, John McSorley, Robert Thomas Amon Kotei, Patricia Scott, Maria Winifred Taylor, Alfred Shoppee, Charles Kaufman, Mary Letitia Lally, William Kitchen, Joseph William Kilkenny, Valentine Percival Hafner, Patrick Cremin, Bernadette Teresa Clarke, Edith Conlon, Stantey Cook, Peggy McManus, Norman Owen, Bridget (Bridie) Crehan.

+++May they rest in Peace+++

LET US REMEMBER

Let us remember those who have died recently or those whose anniversaries occur at this time, and all their families, with love and affection during this time of grief. May the Lord grant eternal rest to all who have died.

+++ LATELY DEAD +++

++ Please pray for the repose of the soul of Arthur Lawrence who died on Thursday 4th March 2021. His requiem will take place here on Thursday 18th March 2021. Due to the current restrictions for numbers attending funerals, we ask that you contact the family directly regarding attending the service. Our condolences to Kathy and family.

**Please also pray for the repose of the soul of:
++Lily Bradshaw who died recently.
++John Sewter who died recently.**

Our condolences to all their families

Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.'

Easter Spring Clean

This year our dedicated Easter Spring Cleaning morning will be on Saturday 27th March 2021, from 10am. There are a variety of tasks that need to be taken care of and we hope that both male and female parishioners will be willing to give up a few hours of their time to help us. A sign-up sheet will be in the church porch for volunteers to sign up or please email the parish office. (Even if you can only spare an hour or two, Fathers would really appreciate!) Tea, coffee and soup, PPE equipment and all cleaning products will be provided and comply with COVID-19 requirements.

Holy Week and Easter Programme

Please pick up a copy of our Holy Week and Easter Programme available in the church porch or on our website. Please note that we plan to return to our full Mass schedule from Palm Sunday, plus additional masses on Easter Sunday.

MORE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – HELP PLEASE!!!

We Need Your Help



We urgently need volunteers to act as stewards to welcome, meet and greet, and help people keep safe during mass. Without more volunteers we cannot return to our full Mass schedule from Palm Sunday. We appeal today to all of you to consider helping us. If you can help, please send an email to the parish office or John DeQuidt.

A big thank you to all our continuing volunteers—you are doing a great job and without you we could not open our beautiful church.

Baptism Preparation Class and Baptisms

For those who wish to have their child baptised in the coming months, please register for our next class, which will be held virtually on Sunday 11th April 2021 at 2pm, by completing and returning the baptism application form, available on our website, to the parish office.

Parents need to attend a Baptism preparation class before arranging a date for a baptism. Godparents are also encouraged and welcome to attend the class.



Fourth Sunday of Lent, Cycle B
Sunday, March 14, 2021

Gospel Reading

John 3:14-21

Jesus tells Nicodemus that the Son of Man will be raised up so that those who believe in him will have eternal life.

Gospel Reflection

The fourth Sunday of Lent is sometimes called Laetare Sunday. Laetare is a Latin word that means "rejoice." Traditionally, Sundays are named after the first word of the liturgy's opening antiphon. On this Sunday, the antiphon is taken from the book of the prophet Isaiah (Isaiah 66:10-11). Even as we observe our Lenten sacrifices, we rejoice in anticipation of the joy that will be ours at Easter.

Today's Gospel reading is taken from John's Gospel. It consists of two parts. The first part is the final sentence of Jesus' reply to Nicodemus, the Pharisee who approached Jesus at night. Nicodemus acknowledged Jesus as someone who had come from God and seemed to want to be a follower of Jesus. Jesus greeted Nicodemus with the observation that one must be born from above to see the Kingdom of God. The dialogue between Jesus and Nicodemus that followed was about the meaning of this phrase. Nicodemus misunderstood Jesus at every point, but there was no animosity in the questions he posed to Jesus.

In the part of the conversation with Nicodemus in today's Gospel, Jesus referred to an incident reported in the Old Testament. When the Israelites grumbled against the Lord during their sojourn in the desert, God sent venomous serpents to punish them for their complaints. The Israelites repented and asked Moses to pray for them. The Lord heard Moses' prayer and instructed him to make a bronze serpent and mount it on a pole. All who had been bitten by a serpent and then looked upon the bronze serpent were cured. By recalling this story, Jesus alludes to the salvation that would be accomplished through his death and Resurrection.

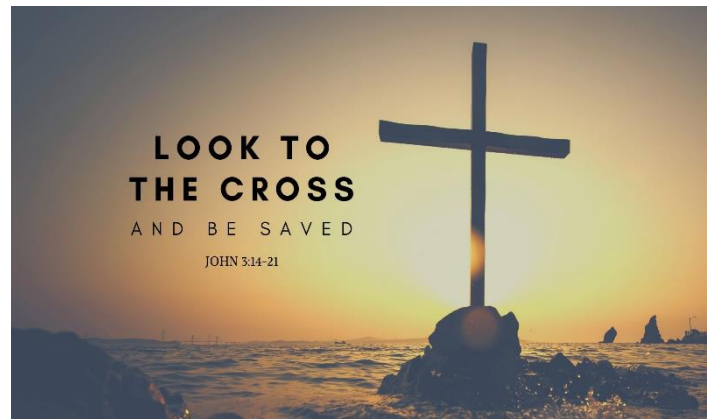
The second part of today's Gospel is a theological reflection on Jesus' words to Nicodemus. The Gospel of John is known for this kind of reflection offered within the narrative. The words of the Evangelist are in continuity with the words of the prologue to John's Gospel. In these reflections, John elaborates on a number of themes that are found in his Gospel: light and darkness, belief and unbelief, good and evil, salvation and condemnation.

In John's reflection, we find an observation about human sinfulness. Jesus is the light that has come into the world, but people preferred the darkness. We wish to keep our sins hidden, even from God. Jesus has come into the world to reveal our sins so that they may be forgiven. This is the Good News; it is the reason for our rejoicing in this season of Lent and throughout our lives.

Family Reflection

Parents whose children are afraid of the dark are struck by John's observation that darkness is preferred to light. Perhaps this is as it should be. God made us to live in the light of his love. But this original friendship with God was corrupted by sin. Our sin causes us to shy away from Christ, the light that has come into the world. During the season of Lent, we try to fight this tendency by remembering God's great mercy and the salvation that we have received through Jesus. We do not fear confessing our sins, knowing that God forgives us, and so, during Lent, we seek out opportunities to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

After your family gathers, sit for a time in darkness, then light a candle. Invite people to talk about what it felt like to be in the darkness and to compare that to their feelings when the candle was lit. What are we able to see by the limited glow of the candlelight that we couldn't see when we were sitting in darkness? Read today's Gospel, John 3:14-21. John's Gospel teaches us that Jesus was the light that came into the world. In this light we know ourselves to be sinners, but we are not condemned. Instead, we have been saved because we have been forgiven through Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. Conclude in prayer together, thanking God for the great gift of forgiveness we have received through Jesus. Pray together the Act of Contrition.



Diocesan Retreat for Lent

Archbishop John and the Diocesan Spirituality Commission are offering a Retreat for Lent, which you can follow in your own home. Using the link below, you can watch a short video reflection each week, download prayer materials and other resources which can help you make the best use of whatever time and opportunity you may have during your week. There are also additional materials for use by parish and other groups, either in person or via Zoom/Teams or similar. If you are looking for a way to deepen your life of prayer this Lent, click on where you can also sign up to receive materials directly to your email.

**Knowing Jesus:
Jesuit Lent Online Retreat 2021**

Walk with the Jesuits through Lent and Easter and really come to understand and love Jesus. They will ponder Gospel stories, reflect on their meaning and see how startlingly relevant Jesus is to living a truly human life in the 21st Century. Follow the retreat online, and sign up to an online group (places limited): <https://www.onlineprayer.net/> Sign up to receive daily emails during Lent and additional resources: <http://eepurl.com/hnIXAn>

Six Bible Studies on the Lenten Sunday Gospels

Six Wednesday evening Bible Study sessions, to break-open each Lenten Sunday Gospel. Experience Sunday Mass in a new way! Mauro Iannicelli will walk you through the forthcoming Sunday Gospel with in-depth teaching and stimulating questions. The sessions are delivered with 'Expository Preaching' teaching method & with 'Life-Application' questions. Wed 17th Feb - Wed 24 Mar, 2021 | 7pm - 8:30pm (Free and Live sessions) Further Information and Registration at: <https://comeandsee.org/lent>



**CAFOD – Daily Walk
Something positive this Lent.**

Could you walk 10000 steps either on one day or everyday this Lent? The walk could be a sign of your solidarity with all those who do not have access to a safe water source and who have to walk for water each day. Find out more or sign up online at cafod.org.uk/walk and go the distance this Lent and help to end water poverty.

