

“Every day, as long as this ‘today’ lasts,
keep encouraging one another” (Heb 3:13)

Easter Vigil p. 223
Easter Day p. 258
Easter Preface p. 34
3rd Eucharist p. 28

Acts 10:34. 37-43

Peter and his companions have become witnesses to the Lord's resurrection.

1 Corinthians 5:6-8

Christ's resurrection has the power to transform our lives.

St. John 20:1-9

At the empty tomb the disciples finally begin to understand Jesus and his mission.

“John
who had
reached the
tomb first
also went in:
he saw and
he believed.”



It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark...’ So begins today’s Gospel reading, the Gospel we listen to every Easter Sunday. This opening line sets the scene for the events of that first Easter, when first Mary of Magdala, and then Simon Peter and the other disciple, discover the empty tomb and come to the realisation that Jesus has risen from the dead. It is only at this moment that they understand what Jesus had been trying to teach them. Their eyes are opened. They see and they believe.

And what about us, this Easter? What do we believe? Easter is about more than simply recalling or commemorating the resurrection of Jesus. By raising Jesus from the dead, God also opened up for us the way to eternal life. This feast is the reason for our faith and the reason for our hope. Our celebration today raises us up and renews us in faith, hope and love.

**Let us love one another and pray,
 Let us love one another and be faithful,
 Let us love one another and be humble,
 Let us love one another and be filled with the charity of God.**

Let us love one another with God, in God, and for God,

And we shall thus be one with God for all eternity.

(Cornelia Connelly)

Triona Doherty

Today’s Psalm
Psalm 117

This was the last of the Hallel psalms which Jesus would have sung with the disciples at the end of the Passover meal. In the light of the resurrection it acquires a wonderful fulfilment. *His right hand has raised me up.* The resurrection completes the passing of Jesus from this world to the Father.

This day was made by the Lord, we rejoice and are glad.

With the psalmist we rejoice and gives thanks for his goodness which has overcome sin, and for his love which has no end. *I shall live and recount his deeds.* We are called to be witnesses to the resurrection, rising above darkness and sin. The most authentic witness is the testimony of charity in thought, attitude and action. God’s love comes to perfection only when we love one another. That is how *his love has no end.*

May the stones of hard hearts be rolled away by the angels of God’s grace. May the Church in its holiness be a marvel in our eyes.

Fr. Silvester O’Flynn OFM Cap.

St. Mary's Catholic Church, Euxton - Tel: (01257) 262665

Mass Intentions for w/c Easter March 31 2024

Sat:- Easter Vigil 700pm

**Sun:Parish Easter Morning:
ioners 10.30.am: Parishioners**

Mon: Easter Monday

9.30:.am. Mary Lovatt

Tues: Easter Tuesday

9.30.am:: World Peace

Wed.: Easter Wednesday

9.30. Pope Francis

Thurs: No Mass Today

Fri: Easter Friday

7.00.pm. Private Intention

Nex tSun: 2nd Sunday of Easter

8.30.am. Parishioners

10.30.am. Special Intention (MP)

0771 942 7926 (only for emergency use)

Confessions

At your request

On Admittance to Hospital or Nursing Home

Staff need to be made aware by you: that you, or the member of your family, or the person you accompany, are Catholic, and require the services of the Catholic Chaplaincy.

Cemetery

All visitors are asked to help keep the Cemetery tidy and to use the appropriate waste bins.

We pray for all the sick of the parish. including Ryan Troop; Catherine Thompson; Thomas Halligin;; Wiliam(Bill) Drinkwater.

Many thanks to all who helped during the **Holy Week Services**, Readers and Eucharistic Ministers, all who attended, and all those who helped to decorate the Sanctuary for our Easter celebrations.

Urbi et Orb Sunday 31st March 2024 BBC 1 11.00am Live from St Peter's Square in Rome, on the eleventh Easter of his pontificate, Pope Francis gives his Easter message and blessing, Urbi et Orbi, to the city and to the world. Petroc Trelawny sets the scene.

The Easter Season isn't just Easter Sunday. It's fifty days long, and the last of those days is Pentecost (Greek for 'fiftieth') marking the birth of the Church and the coming of the Holy Spirit. In older traditions, it's called 'Whitsunday' because the traditional colour for church clothing and decor on Pentecost is white. On that day the Holy Spirit arrives to be with us, and that Spirit sends a fresh wave of joy. During these fifty days of Easter, while we are singing alleluia to our risen Saviour, we are also listening to the stories of the struggles and hardships of the early followers of Jesus.

Pope Francis Prayer Intention for April 2024 For the Role of Women

Regardless of where you live in the world, gender equality is a fundamental human right. Advancing gender equality is critical to all areas of a healthy society, from reducing poverty to promoting the health, education, protection and the well-being of both girls and boys. There has been progress over the last decades, but there is still lots to do in order to achieve the UN gender equality goal by 2030. Pope Francis invites us to join his prayer intention "... that the dignity and worth of women be recognized in every culture, and for an end to the discrimination they face in various parts of the world.