

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

I have risen, and I am with you still, alleluia, You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia. Too wonderful for me, this knowledge, alleluia, alleluia.

COLLECT

O God, who on this day, through your Only Begotten Son, have conquered death and unlocked for us the path to eternity, grant, we pray, that we who keep the solemnity of the Lord's Resurrection may, through the renewal brought by your Spirit, rise up in the light of life. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

FIRST READING**10:34.37-43**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses - we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead - and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM**Ps 117**

Response: **This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad.**

1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.
Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.' (R.)
2. The Lord's right hand has triumphed; his right hand raised me up.
I shall not die, I shall live and recount his deeds. (R.)
3. The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. (R.)

SECOND READING**3:1-4**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed - and he is your life - you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

The word of the Lord.

SEQUENCE

Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise. The sheep are ransomed By the Lamb; and Christ, the undefiled, hath sinners to his Father reconciled. Death with life contended: combat strangely ended! Life's own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign. Tell us, Mary: say what thou didst see upon the way. The tomb the Living did enclose; I saw Christ's glory as he rose! The angels there attesting; shroud with grave-clothes resting. Christ, my hope, has risen: he goes before you into Galilee. That Christ is truly risen: he goes before you into Galilee. That Christ is truly risen from the dead we know. Victorious king, thy mercy show! Amen.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ, our passover, has been sacrificed; let us celebrate the feast then, in the Lord. Alleluia!

GOSPEL**20:1-9**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.' So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

The Gospel of the Lord.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

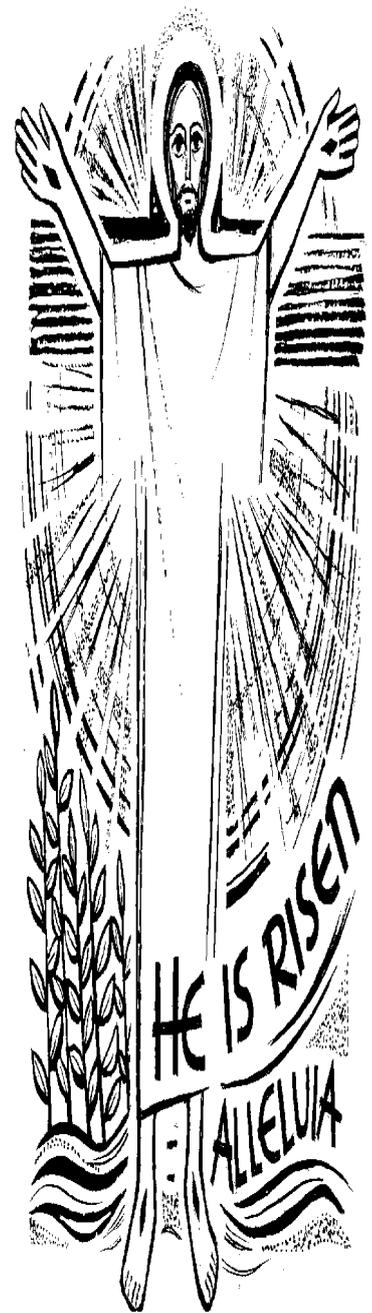
Exultant with paschal gladness, O Lord, we offer the sacrifice by which your Church is wondrously reborn and nourished. Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia; therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread of purity and truth, alleluia, alleluia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Look upon your Church, O God, with unflinching love and favour, so that, renewed by the paschal mysteries, she may come to the glory of the resurrection. Through Christ our Lord.

**Readings – Second Sunday of Easter YrB**

First Reading: Acts 4:32-35

Second Reading: 1 John 5: 1-6

Gospel: John 20:19-31

Homily

4th April 2021 – Easter Sunday

What a difference a year makes. This time last year we were just getting into that first lockdown, we were told to stay at home, protect the NHS and save lives. We were living in very uncertain times, people were living in fear and anxiety, in isolation and of course our church doors were closed so we were unable to come together for any of our Holy Week services or Easter Masses. We celebrated Easter and the Resurrection of Our Lord last year in our own homes, the first time (and hopefully the last) that this has ever happened.

Thank goodness things have been different this year; because of the successful rollout of the vaccination programme and the fact that the infection rate appears to be under control, slowly but surely restrictions are beginning to be lifted and we are able to start doing some things again. I thoroughly enjoyed being able to kick a football up and down the back garden with my 7 year-old nephew the other day, however, I realise that I'm not quite as quick as I used to be!

It has been wonderful this year to be able to celebrate our Holy Week and Easter liturgies together again, albeit in a much simpler and more subdued way.

In the Gospel at the Easter Vigil we hear how the two Mary's went to visit the tomb at sunrise to anoint Jesus, but the entrance stone had been rolled away and when they entered the tomb they found that Jesus was no longer there and we are told that **'they were struck with amazement.'** Mark tells us that there was a young man dressed in white who tells the women not to be alarmed and he goes on to tell them **'he is not here, he has risen'**.

We reflected on Thursday at the invitation from Pope Francis to be amazed this Holy Week. It's interesting to see that the women on finding the stone rolled away and the tomb empty on that first Easter morning experienced that same emotion, they were *'struck with amazement'*.

This Easter morning, we too are invited to be struck with amazement because he has risen, Jesus is no longer dead but alive, he has risen from the dead and brings light and new life into our world. Jesus through his death and resurrection has won that great victory over sin and death. Jesus is the one who brings light and hope into the darkness and despair of our world.

Homily

4th April 2021 – Easter Sunday

Just as we shared in the suffering and passion of Jesus on Good Friday, today we are invited to experience the joy and the happiness of his glorious and amazing resurrection.

For the last few weeks we have not used the word Alleluia until today. We are the Easter people and Alleluia is our song, Alleluia is a word of praise, jubilation and rejoicing because Jesus Christ has risen and lives in each and every one of us. The Risen Lord Jesus is the one who reveals God's love and mercy to us, particularly this Easter time.

As the women in the Gospel and the disciples were called to be the first witnesses to the Resurrection of Jesus, we too are called to be witnesses in our lives to the Resurrection and the new life won for us by Jesus. We are called to bear witness to the living Christ who has been raised from the dead and who brings new life and light to all those who accept it. The Risen Lord Jesus is the one who brings comfort and hope into the confusion and uncertainty of our world.

We praise God our Father with greater joy than ever today and we are filled with that same sense of amazement and great joy that the women felt when they were told that Jesus had risen.

Today we celebrate the Resurrection, Jesus the light of the world who has risen from the dead. Let's rejoice this Easter Day and with the Church throughout the world, as we celebrate God's love, let's join in the great chorus of praise and alleluias to God our Heavenly Father as we celebrate Jesus risen from the dead, Jesus who is the Way, the Truth and the Life.

Wishing you and your families a very happy and holy Easter.

May the Lord fill you with Easter joy, sending love and prayers, **Fr Phil x**

Bidding Prayers and Spiritual Communion

4th April 2021 – Easter Sunday, Year B

On this Easter Day with great joy we proclaim that Christ is risen and through him we offer our prayers to the Father.

For the Church throughout the world; may she always be filled with the Risen Life of Christ and proclaim the love that drives out all fear.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For ourselves; may we always walk in the light and love of the Risen Lord Jesus that dispels all anxiety and fear. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for and all victims of violence and abuse: may all people, be safe to live their lives without the threat of violence or harm.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for all those who are sick, housebound or struggling in any way: that they may experience the healing love and grace of the risen Lord.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for our parish and our local community: that through the grace of God we may hear the urgent cry of the earth and of the poor and be inspired to respond at this crucial time. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for world leaders: that God may grant them wisdom to make just decisions which respect the earth and all that lives in it, especially those who are poorest and most vulnerable. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for all the faithful departed especially **George Dittman, Ronald Garnell, Anne Barry, Canon Brendan Hoban, Deacon Philip White**, those who have died from Covid-19 and all those who have died recently: **“Eternal rest grant unto them...”**

We pray for those who mourn the loss of loved ones; may Christ’s message of hope in eternal life bring them comfort and consolation.

Lord, in your mercy.....

We ask Our Lady and all the Saints to join their prayers with ours as we say: **“Hail Mary...”**

Father,

You have already granted us more than we can ask for in the Resurrection of Christ. As you answer these our prayers, make us ever more faithful to him, who is Lord forever and ever. Amen.

Bidding Prayers and Spiritual Communion

4th April 2021 – Easter Sunday, Year B

Spiritual Communion

Prayer of St Alphonsus

My Jesus,
I believe that you are present in this Holy Sacrament of the altar.
I love you above all things and
I passionately desire to receive you into my soul.
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
come spiritually into my soul
so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever.
Amen.

CAFOD Prayer for Glasgow

Creator God,
We cry out to you
The earth is damaged and in chaos
People in poverty are suffering the most
Greed and consumerism are a disease
And your Church is too often asleep

Merciful Lord,
Protect your people and restore your earth,
Embolden governments to take action,
Awaken Church leaders
Give the youth influence
And guide businesses to change

In the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord
May we unite and be bold
Take heart and find hope in you,
Worship you with our lifestyles
Walk in your truth
and see justice and renewal in the earth

Amen