

# NEWSLETTER

## Gospel Reflection

Happy Easter - and how is it for you? Did you wake up with the brightest of new dawns and a joyful dawn chorus? Did the bleakness of Lent disappear with the knowledge that the Resurrected Christ is remembered this day?

I have to say that I didn't. Some of the Lenten feeling, which actually preceded Lent, had not gone away. Yet I took part in every step of the journey that the church offered me and, I thought, more besides. I was disappointed – I try not to believe in magic - but I was hoping for some.

Then I heard the morning's Gospel and it came to me. It is not a Resurrection heralded with fireworks or even a multitude of angels; it is not Jesus walking on air into Jerusalem to rebuild the Temple; it is not a mass revolution of faith and belief.

There is such a quietness to the Resurrection; the natural dawn - no special star or eclipse; the stone rolled away - not blasted. The God of the weak, the unwanted, the unclean, the unworthy still will not put himself above us. He is, even more so, where we are. Jesus simply came back as he left - with the humility of a servant - and he went home.

So, if you didn't find him in the pomp and circumstance of the Easter Mass perhaps, like me, you were looking in the wrong place. Perhaps you need to sit quietly and seek him in your home, in your place, in your inner God space. Because, if you ever need him - that's as far as you will need to look.

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“United in conviction and united  
in love, with a common purpose  
and a common mind”  
Philippians 2:2

1ST APRIL 2018 EASTER SUNDAY (CYCLE B) MASS & SERVICE TIMES		
HOLY SATURDAY THE EASTER VIGIL	8:00pm	Hugh Duffy RIP
EASTER SUNDAY	9.30am 11.00am	People of the Parish Paul Martin RIP
Monday 2nd April	Noon	William & Mary Cannon anniversary
Tuesday 3rd April	9:30am	Mary Kennerley RIP
Wednesday 4th April	Noon	Catherine Insley RIP
Thursday 5th April	9:30am	Andrew Bradshaw RIP
Friday 6th April		No service
Saturday 7th April	4:45pm 5:15pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation Maura Flood RIP
Sunday 8th April	9:30am 11:00am	Father Stephen RIP People of the Parish
Monday 9th April	9:30am	Peter Kennerley RIP

If Fr Simon is unobtainable and you urgently need a Priest please phone the parish mobile: **07548 222133** Please use this number for emergencies only i.e. where a priest is needed urgently.

**Coffee morning:** Our next coffee morning is on Tuesday 17th April at 10:30am. There will be tea, coffee, cakes and biscuits – everyone is welcome so please come along and support this event.

**BAPTISM PREPARATION**  
If you wish to make preparations for your child to be Baptised you should telephone Fr Simon to arrange to see him after an 11am Mass on Sunday morning.  
Following this there are Meetings on the first Friday of each month at 7:30pm.that you will need to attend, where you will meet Mrs Gerri Doherty and Deacon Tony Ford.

**200 CLUB DRAW**

Winner: £40 Prize  
This week – Mrs Elaine Birkett

**WHY NOT JOIN THE 200 CLUB  
AND HELP THE PARISH?**

**FLOWERS FOR THE CHURCH**

Thank you to everyone who donated  
towards the flowers this Easter.

**Memorial Plaques:** As you will know, there are plaques on the back of the chairs in church to remember friends and relatives who have died. As the chairs are now all taken up - we have obtained a Memorial Board which will be erected in the church. If you would like to have a plaque placed on the board please can you write the name of the deceased person/people on a note, put it in an envelope marked "Memorial" and hand it to either Fr Simon or Derek. We would ask for a donation of £5 towards the cost of having the plaque engraved.

**New Offertory Envelopes:** Please do not use the new Offertory envelopes until the weekend of the 7th/8th April. The envelopes are marked with the date they should be used so please check the date shown on the envelope. Thank you.

**Catholic Children's Society:** We will be collecting the Catholic Children's Society boxes, now known as Caritas, next weekend and the weekend after. Please bring along your Box for emptying.

**Bingo Night Friday 13th April 7:30pm:** We would be delighted to receive any donations and prizes for the bingo night. Please leave the donations in the sacristy marked "Bingo". See the poster in the porch window for more information.

**PARISH CENTRE BOOKING ENQUIRIES**

If you are interested in hiring the Parish Centre for a function, please contact Phil Martin on 07720 807162

**Prayer for our Parish:**

Father, pour out your Spirit upon the people of this parish  
and grant us a new vision of your glory,  
a new experience of your power, a new faithfulness to your word  
and a new consecration to your service,  
that your love may grow among us and your kingdom come,  
through Christ our Lord.

.....  
St Joseph pray for us

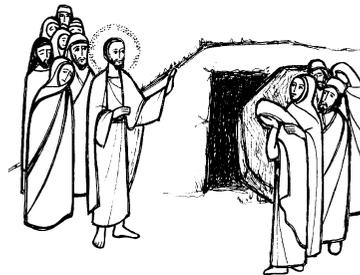
**Gospel Reading Gospel John 20 1 - 9**

Early in the morning on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone was moved away from the entrance.



She ran at once to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, breathlessly panting, "They took the Master from the tomb. We don't know where they've put him."

Peter and the other disciple left immediately for the tomb. They ran, neck and neck. The other disciple got to the tomb first, outrunning Peter. Stooping to look in, he saw the pieces of linen cloth lying there, but he didn't go in. Simon Peter arrived after him, entered the tomb, observed the linen cloths lying there, and the kerchief used to cover his head not lying with the linen cloths but separate, neatly folded by itself.



Then the other disciple, the one who had gotten there first, went into the tomb, took one look at the evidence, and believed. No one yet knew from the Scripture that he had to rise from the dead. The disciples then went back home.

This year marks the 160th anniversary of the apparitions of Our Lady to Bernadette in Lourdes. The Diocesan Pilgrimage will take place from 26 July-3 August overland and 27 July-2 August by air. Brochures and booking forms can be downloaded from the Pilgrimage Website [www.shrewsburypilgrimage.co.uk](http://www.shrewsburypilgrimage.co.uk) or from the Pilgrimage Office: St Alban's, 30 Mill Lane, Wallasey, CH44 5UD. This year flight seats are limited so early booking is recommended.

"Preach the Gospel always, if necessary use words"  
St Francis of Assisi