



St Martin de Porres Catholic Church, Luton

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Fifth Sunday of Lent

Easter is 2 weeks away. We enter the most solemn time in the church's year as we prepare to celebrate the Paschal Mystery of Jesus' passion, death and resurrection.

Next Sunday is **Palm Sunday**, so all Masses will begin in the Hall to re-enact the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem - when the people waved palm branches and sang 'Hosanna to the Son of David'.

EASTER FLOWERS COLLECTION - This Sunday, the second collection is for flowers for our Easter celebrations.

EASTER CHURCH CLEANING - A big clean of the Church will take place on Wednesday of Holy Week at 10:30am (**Wednesday 12th April**). Come and help clean your church if you are at all able.

PLEASE TAKE A HOLY WEEK LEAFLET - These are green in colour and include all the times for Mass, Confessions & Stations of the Cross during Holy Week (8th-16th April). **Please note the start time of the Good Friday morning procession has been moved by St Hugh's to 30 minutes later than stated in this leaflet!**

READERS & MINISTERS FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER - please see the rotas on the notice board in the porch.

TEA AND COFFEE ROTA - The new rotas for the Sunday Café may be found in the porch. Thanks to all who help with this.

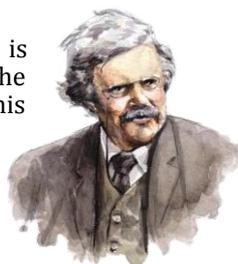
SERVING REHEARSAL - Holy Week is fast approaching, and we need a rehearsal for our servers. This will take at **2:00pm on Saturday 8th April**. Would all altar servers who would like to take part in serving over Holy Week please attend.

LUTON DEANERY RECONCILIATION SERVICE on 10th April at St Joseph's, Gardenia Avenue (Monday of Holy Week) with many priests available.

THIS MONDAY'S DVD at 7:15pm in the Hall

G.K.Chesterton - The Evangelist

How does one engage a culture that is befuddled by Christ and suspicious of the Church? The life and witness of this nineteenth century literary convert shows that the fundamental disposition of effective evangelization is joy, and life in Christ is a day-to-day encounter with an abundant and surprising offer of grace.



On **Sunday 23rd April** (Divine Mercy Sunday), from **2:00pm - 3:30pm**, we will hold a Divine Mercy Holy Hour in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, with a talk and confessions, enthronement of the image, followed by the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy in song - then tea in the Hall.

SUNDAY 2ND APRIL 2017

Sat 6:30pm	Joe & Ellie Sheridan, RIP
9:00am	Tony Devlin, RIP
11.00am	The People of the Parish

Monday - Weekday of Lent

9:00am	Margaret Judd, RIP
7:15pm	DVD: G. K. Chesterton

Tuesday - Weekday of Lent

9:00am	Kristine Calignawan, Int.
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Wednesday - Weekday of Lent

9:00am	John McKenna, RIP
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Thursday - Weekday of Lent

<u>6:30pm</u>	Alice McCann & family
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Friday - Weekday of Lent

9:00am	Mary Raphael Chakkery, RIP
6:30pm	Stations of the Cross

Saturday - Weekday of Lent

<u>10:00am</u>	Maura Maguire
10:30-11:00am	Confessions & Adoration
5:30pm-6:00pm	Confessions

Next Week - Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

Sat 6:30pm	The People of the Parish
9:00am	Albina Prosper, RIP
11:00am	Desi Lynch, RIP

Charismatic Prayer Group: Friday 7:30pm in the Lady Chapel.

Legion of Mary: Friday 7:30pm in the Hall.

Lunch Club: Friday 11:30am in the Hall.

PASCHAL TRIDUUM

MAUNDY THURSDAY 13TH APRIL

11:00am	Chrism Mass (at Northampton Cathedral)
7:30pm	EVENING MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER
	+++ WATCHING AT THE ALTAR OF REPOSE +++
11:45pm	Compline - Night Prayer

GOOD FRIDAY 14TH APRIL

10:20am	Act of Witness starting at St Hugh's...
11:00am	...continuing in Dominic Square...
11:45am	...concluding here at SMDP (with hot cross buns)
3:00pm	SOLEMN LITURGY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD
7:30pm	Stations of the Cross

HOLY SATURDAY 15TH APRIL

NB: there is no 6:30pm Mass on Holy Saturday	
8:30pm	EASTER VIGIL OF THE LORD'S RESURRECTION
	++ FOLLOWED BY REFRESHMENTS IN THE HALL ++

EASTER SUNDAY 16TH APRIL

9:00am	EASTER SUNDAY MASS
11:00am	EASTER SUNDAY MASS

This Sunday's Readings

First Reading - Ezekiel 37:12-14

I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live.

The Lord says this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this – it is the Lord who speaks.

Responsorial Psalm – Psalm 129(130)

With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

Second Reading - Romans 8:8-11

The Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you.

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me will never die.

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

Gospel - John 11:1-45

I am the resurrection and the life.

There was a man named Lazarus who lived in the village of Bethany with the two sisters, Mary and Martha, and he was ill. It was the same Mary, the sister of the sick man Lazarus, who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair. The sisters sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.' On receiving the message, Jesus said, 'This sickness will end not in death but in God's glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.'

Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judaea.' The disciples said, 'Rabbi, it is not long since the Jews wanted to stone you; are you going back again?' Jesus replied:

'Are there not twelve hours in the day? A man can walk in the daytime without stumbling because he has the light of this world to see by; but if he walks at night he stumbles, because there is no light to guide him.'

He said that and then added, 'Our friend Lazarus is resting, I am going to wake him.' The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he is able to rest he is sure to get better.' The phrase Jesus used referred to the death of Lazarus, but they thought that by 'rest' he meant 'sleep', so Jesus put it plainly, 'Lazarus is dead; and for your sake I am glad I was not there because now you will believe. But let us go to him.' Then Thomas – known as the Twin – said to the other disciples, 'Let us go too, and die with him.'

On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. Bethany is only about two miles from Jerusalem, and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to sympathise with them

over their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that, even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.' 'Your brother' said Jesus to her 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said:

'I am the resurrection and the life.

If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?'

'Yes, Lord,' she said 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.'

When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in a low voice, 'The Master is here and wants to see you.' Hearing this, Mary got up quickly and went to him. Jesus had not yet come into the village; he was still at the place where Martha had met him. When the Jews who were in the house sympathising with Mary saw her get up so quickly and go out, they followed her, thinking that she was going to the tomb to weep there.

Mary went to Jesus, and as soon as she saw him she threw herself at his feet, saying, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' At the sight of her tears, and those of the Jews who followed her, Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, 'Where have you put him?' They said, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus wept; and the Jews said, 'See how much he loved him!' But there were some who remarked, 'He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?' Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.' Martha said to him, 'Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.' Jesus replied, 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said:

'Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer. I knew indeed that you always hear me, but I speak for the sake of all these who stand round me, so that they may believe it was you who sent me.'

When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, here! Come out!' The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, let him go free.'

Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in him.

Thank you to our Offertory Counters

This Week: Charlotte & Roy

Next Week: Anne Mead & Diane Casey

Thank you to our Church Cleaners

This Week: Charismatic Prayer Group

Next Week: BIG CLEAN FOR EASTER – WEDS 12 April, 10:30am.

Useful Contact Details

+ Charlotte Seery (Parish Secretary)

secretary@stmartindeporrychurch.org.uk

+ **Parish Hall Bookings:** Contact Maura on 01582 724623
between 6pm-8pm.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR OFFERINGS

1st Collection: Sunday 26th March – **£866.85**

2nd Collection: EVC Uganda Appeal – **£630.19**

'I am the resurrection and the life. If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.'