



St Thomas à Becket Catholic Church

Parish Priest: Father Alex McAllister SDS
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 Parish Office: 9.30-14.30 Monday to Friday



Fifth Sunday of Lent

7th April 2019

Go away, and do not sin any more

Mass Times

- 6th Sat Feria**
 9.30 Arturo Junjen S.Navarro +
 10.00 Confessions
 17.00 Stations of the Cross
 17.30 Denis Nolan +
- 7th Sun Fifth Sunday of Lent**
 10.00 Arturo Junjen S.Navarro +
 15.00 (Royal Hospital) *People of the Parish*
- 8th Mon Feria**
 9.30 Ged Naughton +
- 9th Tue Feria**
 9.30 Holy Souls
- 10th Wed Feria**
 9.30 Holy Souls
- 11th Thu Feria**
 9.30
- 12th Fri Feria**
 9.30
- 13th Sat Feria**
 9.30
 10.00 Confessions
 17.00 Stations of the Cross
 17.30
- 14th Sun Palm Sunday**
 10.00
 15.00 (Royal Hospital) *People of the Parish*

Confessions:

Saturday 10.15-11.00 and at call

Sunday Readings: Year C **Weekday Readings:** Year 1

Cycle of Prayer, Lent:

Candidates for the Sacraments, The Needy and Hungry of the World, Women's World Day of Prayer, Survivors of Sexual Abuse

Next Week's Liturgy Group: Mark

Baptisms & Marriages: Please contact the Parish Priest



Jesus with the Woman Caught in Adultery, Guercino 1591-1666

Jesus Writes in the Dust

One of the great mysteries of today's Gospel is what did Jesus write in the dust? Some have suggested that Our Lord was writing the Law, others have suggested that he was writing the sins of the mob. It has even been suggested that he was doodling to show contempt for the actions of the the scribes and Pharisees.

This text has often been misused by groups and individuals both inside and outside of the church to justify actions and lifestyles opposed to its teaching. However I always find that citing this passage and using the phrase "What would Jesus do?" is a bit of a cop out. To say that Jesus did not judge the woman is not true. He does judge the woman. He acknowledges her sin but he does not endorse her actions. In fact he tells her not to sin again!

Nevertheless there is a stark contrast between Jesus' judgement and that of of the Pharisees. They are not only quick to condemn this woman but they are also perversely using her and the Law as a means to an end, an opportunity to trick and trap Our Lord.

Jesus does not condemn the woman. He challenges her. He challenges her to a life without sin. He challenges her to strive to live in holiness. Unlike the Pharisees Jesus confronts a bad life, not with condemnation which is always tempting for those who consider themselves pure and holy. Instead, he confronts it with the challenge of a good life in Him.

Jesus gave the woman a choice: she could return to her sins, or she could embark on a life in the holiness of those liberated through God's grace. Jesus challenged her to have a new life in union with Him. This is the challenge that Christ puts before each and everyone of us every moment of the day.

The Stations of the Cross



Saturdays of Lent at 17.00

Sheets and booklets are available so you can make the Stations at any time

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you, because by your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world

Worry

gives little things big shadows

Easter Ceremonies 2019

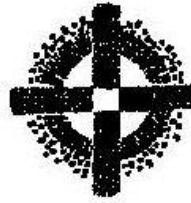
Palm Sunday Vigil	13th	17.30	Mass & Blessing Palms
Palm Sunday	14th	10.00	Mass & Blessing Palms
		15.00	Royal Hospital Mass
Mon of Holy Week	15th	09.30	Mass
Tue of Holy Week	16th	09.30	Mass
Wed of Holy Week	17th	09.30	Mass
		11.15	Chrim Mass at St George's Cathedral
		19.00	Penitential Service at St Mary Magdalen
Maundy Thursday	18th	19.00	Mass
Good Friday	19th	10.00	Children's Stations of the Cross
		15.00	Solemn Celebration of the Lord's Passion
Holy Saturday	20th	10.00	Confessions
		20.00	Easter Vigil
Easter Sunday	21st	10.00	Mass of Easter Day
		15.00	Royal Hospital Mass

If you can't be a good example you'll just have to be a horrible warning

Forthcoming Dates

Penitential Service (East Hill)17th April
Confirmation28th April
First Communion 12th May

Penitential Service



There will be a joint Penitential Service for Lent held together with East Hill Parish at St Mary Magdalen Church at 19.00 on Wednesday of Holy Week, 17th April. There will be several priests available for individual confession.

Lent Talks

The series of talks for Lent continues at Holy Ghost Church, 36 Nightingale Square, Balham in association with the Centre for Catholic Formation. The talks are on Tuesday nights and start at 20.00 lasting an hour, refreshments available.

9th April Pierpaolo Finaldi *The Pascal Mystery*

Easter Duties

Easter Duties which are obligatory for all Catholics who have made their First Communion means going to Confession and receiving Holy Communion at least once between Ash Wednesday and Trinity Sunday. These requirements are not onerous so please do your best to fulfil your Easter Duties.

The time to repair the roof is when the sun is shining

Last Week's Finances

Parish Collection £ 396 Bankers Orders £384

Upcoming Second Collections

Today 17th March CAFOD Lent Fast Day, 24th March The Passage

Rotas

Sunday Welcome & Coffee: F Azevado, M Figueiredo n/w E Chavez. R Martella

Readers: Sat: C Wilkins, E De Souza, H Pall Sun: G Fayers, C McCarthy, n/w Sat: R & S Jackson

M Slade Sun: A Burnett, T Greetham, A Kane Blanes

Eucharistic Ministers: Sat: D McGavin, K Dolan Sun: G Donaldson, S Palmer, R Kuleke, D Lyons n/w Sat: M & S Lee Sun: G D'Monte, V Chima, A Kilcawley, R McMullan

Little Church: A Kane Blanes, C Webb n/w A Kilcawley, M Harrison, A Stacey

Tiny Church: J. Bronicka Anderson n/w E Lueth

Flowers: L Northeast n/w A Robbins

Royal Hospital: Sr Pauline n/w C Kawesi

Maintenance Team: 11.00 Saturday 13th April, 11th May