



Mother of Good Counsel, Clare Priory

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Third Sunday of Easter

18th April 2021

Divine Office: Week 3

Sundays: Year B

Mass times: **Sundays 8 a.m. & 10 a.m. Vigil (on Saturday) 5.30 p.m.**

Reservation of places necessary at the above Masses.

Weekdays: **at 10 a.m.**

10 a.m. Mass live-streamed on Sundays and on weekdays

Prayers for the sick

Father in heaven,
grant our relatives and friends comfort in their suffering.
When they are afraid, give them courage,
when afflicted give them patience,
when dejected, afford them hope,
and when alone, assure them of the support of your holy people.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

(Prayer adapted from the Liturgy of Anointing)

Pray for Paul Smith, George Hopkins and Brian Bethell in hospital; and for Jim Coe awaiting treatment; for Trevor Williams in Devonshire House, and Shirley Kennedy in Nowton Court.

Please reserve your places at Mass in good time

Rest in peace

The 10 o'clock Mass on Tuesday 20th will be the Requiem for **Janet Fitzgerald**.

During the period of the pandemic, numbers attending public services have been limited by government ruling. Such a regulation will evidently apply to Janet's funeral Mass where we shall also have family members, close neighbours and carers. If you wish to attend, please give me your name. We will let you know if there is a place available for you.

Tuesday 20th April. Mass at 10 a.m. Reserved places only.

Friday 23rd April

St George, martyr

Patron of England

Mass at 10 a.m.

Friday abstinence suspended today

Saturday 24th April

Conversion of St Augustine

Today the Augustinian Order celebrates the feast of the **Conversion of St Augustine** in 386. The Conversion is a lovely feast, giving us all the comforting testimony of the persistent nudge of God's grace leading Augustine and us to full acceptance of God's will. Talking to the friars at the General Chapter in August 2013, Pope Francis described Augustine like this: *'He has everything. But in his heart he remains restless as he searches for a deeper meaning to his life.... And in this way he discovers that God was waiting for him. He realises that God has never given up looking for him before he even began looking for God'* (Pope Francis, Feast of St Augustine, 28th August 2013). With Augustine, let us pray that all our restless hearts find the way to God.

Please reserve your places at Mass in good time

Weekend Masses (5.30, 8 & 10)

With the lengthening of days and with the slight lessening of restrictions, our weekend congregations are beginning to grow. I am grateful to those who have been attending with great regularity and who have offered to drop off the list for one or two weekends. This will make it possible to accommodate parishioners who have not been able to attend Mass in person or on-line for such a long time.

You may be tired of my insistence on reserving a place in good time. I am sorry if it has troubled you. But you may be interested to know that we receive a number of requests from people who are far beyond our parish limits. I would not say yes to them until I am satisfied that our own parishioners are accommodated. I take it that if parishioners have not responded by **Thursday midday**, then I can freely offer places to others who may request. Last week, I received one request on Friday and three requests on Saturday, all from parishioners! Their luck was in. This time.

For your convenience, to save you looking for extension numbers, use my direct number to let me know **01787 279443** and e-mail davidmiddleton01@gmail.com

Inviting all young people aged 13+ to the Ignite Festival Online

Join members of the Ignite Team for music, inspiring talks, workshops and prayer. Saturday 1st & Sunday 2nd May 7:00-8:30pm. For more information and to register: visit www.ignitefestival.co.uk

**** John Pridmore** will be sharing his story. Don't miss him.

John Pridmore had a very dark past. The grace of conversion took him by surprise. His story runs from 'gangland to promised land'. Here is his account: 'I felt alone and very depressed and empty...Then I heard what I can only describe as a voice. It was telling me the worst things I had ever done...It was the voice of God, my conscience. The breath was going out of me. It was as if I was dying, and an incredible fear gripped me. I'm going to hell, I thought. I fell to my knees, and tears began to well up in my eyes. 'Give me another chance!' I cried.

Suddenly, I felt as if someone's hands were on my shoulders and I was being lifted up. An incredible warmth overpowered me and the fear immediately evaporated. At that moment I knew — really knew, not just believed — that God was real.Then I did something I had never done before: I prayed, 'God, up to now, all I've done is take from you in my life and now I want to give.... What I can only describe as an awesome feeling of love consumed me. ...Then I knew for the first time in my life that I was loved by God.'

Holy water

In June last year, when churches re-opened for the first time, we were instructed that there should be no holy water in the church stoups. That is still the case.

Many parishioners like to have holy water at home for prayers and blessings. Given that we are still in lockdown and in circumstances where infection is always possible, I suggest that you should bring your own bottle, ready filled, and ask one of the friars to bless it for you. He will not touch it; the bottle remains in your sanitised hands.

Enjoy

Listen

Thank

Ponder

Pray

See

RETREAT FOR A DAY

Wednesday, 21st April, 2021 10.30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Weather permitting, come and enjoy a day to stop, look, listen and ponder on God's wonderful world.

"I wandered lonely as a cloud,
that floats on high o'er vales and hills.
When all at once I saw a crowd,
a host of golden daffodils."

William Wordsworth

Don't "wander lonely". Come away from your "normal" routine and experience the peace and quiet and ever-changing beauty of our wonderful world, while you reflect on your life, enjoy God in his creation, and meet him in his Word.

Dress ... for the weather, and prepared for walking. Bring a packed lunch. The day is free, but donations welcome. Numbers limited to 5 plus leader. Provisional booking with Kathy, please: 01787 277326.

Next Sunday is the World Day of Prayer for Vocations.
There will be a collection for the Diocesan Priests' Training Fund.

Please reserve your places at Mass in good time

A novice receives the white habit

Vocations are really important. There is no time when we do not pray to God to inspire men and women to listen intently to the Call. Our prayers are for young people seeking a way of life, for young and not so young adults who seek something that answers their restlessness, for those already committed by vow or by ordination that they may faithfully follow the Call that they answered years before.

On Monday 14th April, the friars of our province united in prayer on the occasion of the reception of a novice at St Augustine's, Hammersmith. Michael McLaren has already spent a year in the Harborne community with Fr Bernard, getting to know some of the routine and the traditions of Augustinian life. On Monday Michael received the novice's white habit to mark the formal beginning of his life in the Order of St Augustine. We shall pray for Michael in the bustle of West London that he may have a clear path, peace of heart and mind, and the fraternal support of his fellow Augustinians. Vocations are really important.

READERS (5.30, 8 & 10.00) FOR THIS WEEK AND NEXT WEEK

			5.30 p.m.	8 a.m.	10 a.m.
April 17/18 th	3 rd Sunday	First Reading	Peter Sich	Justin Blake-James	Auriol Lamb-Cubitt
		Second Reading	Tim Hedges	Justin Blake-James	Jenny Wayman
April 24/25 th	4 th Sunday	First Reading	Mario Pampanini	Tony de Groot	Frances Massey
		Second Reading	Desmond Crone	Tony de Groot	Helena Bulacz

Readers needed for May 1st/2nd, 8th/9th, 15th/16th.

The list below shows where the gaps are.

Please complete the list on the table in the church.

I invite more young parishioners to help to fill the gaps. Parents, please encourage.

READERS, PLEASE, FOR SUNDAYS 5, 6 & 7 AFTER EASTER (5.30 & 10). FILL IN THE LIST ON THE TABLE IN CHURCH.

			5.30 p.m.	8 a.m.	10 a.m.
May 1 st /2 nd	5 th Sunday	First Reading	?	Jane Midwood	Gerald O'Hare
		Second Reading	Richard Davy	Jane Midwood	?
May 8/9 th	6 th Sunday	First Reading	?	Barbara Potts	?
		Second Reading	Sue Negus	Barbara Potts	Bernard Rushton
May 15/16 th	7 th Sunday	First Reading	?	Philip Smith	Geoff Burling
		Second Reading	Tony Sheppard	Philip Smith	?
PENTECOST			PENTECOST		

**'CHRIST is present in His word,
since it is He Himself who speaks
when the holy scriptures are read in the Church.'**

(Second Vatican Council, Document on the Liturgy)

'Lord Jesus, make our hearts burn within us as you talk to us.'
(Alleluia verse, 3rd Sunday of Easter)