

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*Give me justice, O God,
and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless.
From the deceitful and cunning rescue me,
for you, O God, are my strength.*

COLLECT

By your help, we beseech you, Lord our God,
may we walk eagerly in that same charity
with which, out of love for the world,
your Son handed himself over to death... **Amen.**

FIRST READING Ezekiel 37:12-14

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel.

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.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 129

RESPONSE: *With the Lord there is mercy
and fullness of redemption.*

1. Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord,
Lord, hear my voice!
O let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my pleading. **R.**
2. If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt,
Lord, who would survive?
But with you is found forgiveness:
for this we revere you. **R.**
3. My soul is waiting for the Lord,
I count on his word.
My soul is longing for the Lord
more than watchman for daybreak.
(Let the watchman count on daybreak
and Israel on the Lord.) **R.**
4. Because with the Lord there is mercy
and fullness of redemption,
Israel indeed he will redeem
from all its iniquity. **R.**

SECOND READING Romans 8:8-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans.

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.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Glory and praise to you, O Christ!
I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord;
whoever believes in me will never die.
Glory and praise to you, O Christ!*

GOSPEL John 11:3-7. 17. 20-27. 33-45

(a longer version may be read: John 11:1-45)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

The sisters Martha and Mary sent this message to Jesus, "Lord, the man you love is ill." On receiving the message, Jesus said, "This sickness will not end 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 learned that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, "Let us go to Judaea."

On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. 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." Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, "Where have you put him?" They 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 out 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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Hear us, almighty God,
and, having instilled in your servants
the teachings of the Christian faith,
graciously purify them
by the working of this sacrifice...

Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

*Everyone who lives and believes in me
will not die for ever, says the Lord.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We pray, almighty God,
that we may always be counted among the members of Christ,
in whose Body and Blood we have communion...

Amen.

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Catholic chaplain to the Ipswich hospitals: Awaiting new appointment.

Please contact either Fr Paul, Fr Luke or one of the other Ipswich priests if you or a family member are going in to hospital.

Please consider setting up a standing order in favour of the parish instead of a weekly cash offering. If you can Gift Aid your donation, please complete a form which you can find in the church porch.

Bank: Barclays **Account Name:** St Mary Magdalen Roman Catholic Parish **Account number:** 70777323 **Sort code:** 20-44-51



Fifth Sunday of Lent – 26th March 2023: Sunday Readings: Liturgical Year A.

This week we gratefully welcome Fr Chris Dobson who is covering all three weekend Masses in Fr Paul's absence

Sunday Hymns: Entrance: No. 610 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross Offertory: No 150 Forty Days and Forty Nights

Communion: No. 79 Christ Be Beside Me Recession: No. 116 Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

Services During the Coming Week

Saturday 25 th March	5:30 pm	Confessions
	6:00 pm	Fifth Sunday of Lent Vigil Mass offered for Fr Francis Leeder RIP. Reader R Cork, offertory Cork family.
Sunday 26 th March	8:00 am	Holy Mass, offered for the Vieira family. Reader F Vieira, offertory Cleary family, Eucharistic Minister C Moore.
	10:00 am	Holy Mass for the people of the parish. Reader A James, offertory M Geisel, Eucharistic Minister J Poll <i>Please join us for tea and coffee in the Garden Room after 10:00 Mass today prepared and served by Dorothy & Molly</i>
Monday 27 th March	Lent Feria	No Mass Today
Tuesday 28 th March	Lent Feria	10:00 am Holy Mass, offered for Mr J Smeads
Wednesday 29 th March	Lent Feria	12 noon Holy Mass, offered for Mary & Thomas Smith
Thursday 30 th March	Lent Feria	10:00 am Holy Mass, offered for Martin Curry RIP (Foundation Mass).
Friday 31 st March	Lent Feria	10:00 am Holy Mass, offered for Mathew Joseph & Lucy Mathew RIP, followed by Stations of the Cross.
Saturday 1 st April	5:30 pm	Confessions
	6:00 pm	Vigil Mass, Palm Sunday offered for Fr Martin Orme RIP. Reader I Suttle, offertory R Hennon

Today's Gospel: Today we hear of the raising of Lazarus and today's reading invites us to reflect upon what it means to call Jesus the Resurrection and the life. The context for the story of the raising of Lazarus is the Jewish leaders' growing animosity toward Jesus who has been in Jerusalem, taking part in the feast of the Dedication. The people have been pressing him to declare plainly whether he is the Messiah. Jesus tells them to look to his works, which testify to his coming from God. Many do not believe Jesus, however, and some try to stone him for blasphemy. Into this scene of confrontation, Mary and Martha, the sisters of Lazarus, send word to Jesus that his friend is ill. Jesus is said to love Mary, Martha, and Lazarus, but he delays his journey for two days which heightens the drama and shows Jesus' obedience to God, who is to be glorified through Lazarus's resurrection. When Jesus finally declares that he will journey to Bethany, his disciples fear for his life. The scene described at Bethany is a sad one. Martha meets Jesus weeping and saying that if Jesus had been there, Lazarus would not have died. Yet she remains confident that God will do whatever Jesus asks. Jesus asks to be brought to Lazarus's tomb where he prays and calls Lazarus out from the tomb and at this sign, many come to believe in Jesus, but others take word of the miracle to the Jewish authorities, who begin their plans for Jesus' death. Many elements of the raising of Lazarus foreshadow the good news of Jesus' own Resurrection. In raising Lazarus, Jesus shows his power over death so that when Jesus himself dies, those who believe in him might remember that and take hope. Just as Jesus calls for the stone to be rolled away from Lazarus's tomb, so too will the disciples find the stone rolled away from Jesus' tomb. The Gospel today calls us to reflect on Baptism as a dying and rising with Jesus. In Baptism we die to sin's power over us, rising as children of God. In Baptism we join ourselves with Christ, who conquered death once and for all so that we who believe in him may have eternal life. With Martha and Mary, we are called to profess our belief that Jesus is indeed the Resurrection and the life. *Courtesy of Loyola Press.*

Gift Aided Offertory Donations: Would all those parishioners who normally make their weekly offering using Giftaid envelopes please note that their new 2023/24 envelopes are now available for collection from the Narthex. If you can't find your envelopes in the box please write your name on the sheet provided for this purpose and they will be made available to you next weekend. **If anyone who has already signed up to giving by Giftaid has changed their address during the last year or did not pay sufficient income or capital gains tax to cover the tax reclaimable on their offerings then please notify either Fr Paul or Chris Croker (Giftaid Co-ordinator).** The tax reclaimable from HMRC is an important source of funds for our parish and currently makes up 9% of our annual income. It is therefore strongly recommended that those of you who pay tax but have not made a Giftaid declaration do so as soon as possible. There is no ongoing commitment and it will boost the value of your offering to the parish by 25% at no cost to yourself. Giftaid and standing order forms are in the Narthex if you would prefer to pay this way. When completed, these should be handed to either Fr. Paul or Chris Croker.

Readers and Offertory: Next Sunday is Palm, or Passion, Sunday and the Passion of Our Lord according to St Matthew will be read at all Masses. We need readers to take part in the dramatic reading at 10:00 Mass, as well as the other Holy Week services. There will be a Passion reading rehearsal in church at 10:00 am Saturday 1st April. Please sign up for this and whatever else you can do over Holy Week.

Parish 150 Club: The final draw of the season will be made Sunday 26th March in the Garden Room after 10:00 Mass.

The Sick of the Parish: We ask your prayers for all our brothers and sisters who are unwell, afflicted, housebound or distressed. Comfort and relieve them according to their needs, and grant them the love and consolation of your Spirit: John Anderson-Hurst, Peggy Barron, Jason Beaumont, Michael Clarke, Sheila Curry, Jo Fox, Fabiana Di Mascio, Patrick Doran, Josephine Kalagira, Jo Kelly, Molly Mc Garry, Yvonne Metcalfe, Robert Mullan, David Nash, Pauline Newton, Mary O'Reilly, Carol Sims and Pippa Williamson.

Our Own Dear Departed: Of your charity, pray for the repose of the souls of the faithful departed and especially for Joseph Lappetito (2010), Linda Kirk (2021), Karen Murphy (1961), Alice Bolt (1974), Clare Moss (1979), William McCarthy (1996), David Bloomfield (2014), Wendy Hall (1995), Anita Thompson (2007), Ruby Shuttleworth (1969), Rose Adams (1987) and Maria Soronenho (2011) whose anniversaries occur about this time. A complete list of parish anniversaries can be found on the web site.

Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them. May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace