PARISH OF ST GEORGE

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR: FATHER THADDEUS OPARA

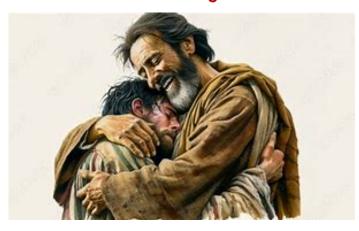
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Fouth Sunday of Lent 30th March 2025

Scripture Readings: Jos 5:9a, 10-12; II Cor 5:17-21; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

The Parable of the Prodigal Son



Traditionally, the Fourth Sunday of Lent is called Laetare Sunday (Rejoice Sunday). Anticipating Easter joy, today's readings invite us to rejoice by being reconciled with God through repentance and the confession of our sins and by celebrating our coming home to be with our loving and forgiving God.

Scripture lessons summarized: In the first reading, the Chosen People of God are portrayed as celebrating, for the first time in their own land, the feast of their freedom, by using wheat that had grown in the Promised Land. In today's Responsorial Psalm (Ps 34), a rejoicing Psalmist invites us, "Glorify the Lord with me; let us together extol His Name!" In the second reading, St. Paul invites the Corinthian Christian community to rejoice because Jesus has reconciled them with God by his suffering and death.

Today's Gospel celebrates the joy of the prodigal son on his "homecoming" where he discovers his father's forgiving and overflowing love. It is also the story of the joy of a loving and forgiving father who celebrates the return of his prodigal son by throwing a big party in his honor, a banquet celebrating the reconciliation of the son with his father, his family, his community, and his God.



At the same time, in his self-righteous elder brother's angry reaction to the prodigal's return, Jesus invites us to avoid self-righteousness and self-justification by imitating the repentant younger brother. Let us admit the truth that we are an assembly of repentant, sinful people, who are now ready to receive God's forgiveness, to experience Jesus' Personal Presence in the Holy Eucharist as our loving and forgiving God and so to love and forgive each other making, generous and lasting peace.

LIFE MESSAGE

Let us return to our Heavenly Father with repentant hearts: As prodigal children, we face spiritual famine all around us in the form of drug and alcohol abuse, fraud and theft in the workplace, murders, abortions and violence, pornography, premarital sex, marital infidelity, and priestly infidelity, as well as in hostility between and among people. All of these evils have proliferated because we have been squandering God's abundant blessings, not only in our country and in our families, but also in our personal lives. Hence, let us repent and return to our Heavenly Father's home.

Prayer to St. Joseph

Oh, St. Joseph, whose protection is so great, so strong, so prompt before the throne of God, I place in you all my interest and desires. Oh, St. Joseph, do assist me by your powerful intercession, and obtain for me from your divine Son all spiritual blessings, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen



Mass in Malpas – -6th April 6pm

Anima Christi:

Soul of Christ, sanctify me.
Body of Christ, save me.
Blood of Christ, embolden me.
Water from the side of Christ, Wash me.
Passion of Christ, Strengthen me.
O Good Jesus, hear me.
Within your wounds hide me.

Permit me not to be separated from you. From the wicked foe, defend me. At the hour of my death, call me and bid me come to you. That with your saints I may praise you For ever and ever. Amen



within your wounds no	de me.				
Mass Times Saturday 29 March	Souls in Purgatory	6:30pm	rosa peace	ur daily ry for e in the	
Sunday 30 March	Dennis Lloyd Gerard Dolan Alivia's Birthday	9:30am 11:00pm	Our Lady says: I promise my special protection and the greatest graces to all those who shall recite the Rosary.		
Monday 31 March	J C	10:00am	ANNOUNCEMENT Penitential ServiceTuesday - 8th April		
Tuesday 01 April	Carmel Bowers	10:00am	Feast of St. George/Divine Mercy Sunday 27th April Holy Communion 22nd Jun.		
Wed. 02 April St. Francis of Paola	Private intentions	10:00am	Pilgrimage to Rome 7th to 14th September Funeral of Gerald Dolan Wednesday 9th April 12 noon		
Thursday 03 April	Sanctification of Priests	10:00am	Funeral of Dennis Lloyd Tuesday 15th April 11am		
Friday 04 April St. Isdore	Peace in the world	6:00pm	Sat 6:30pm	Sun. 9:30am	Sun. 11:00am
Saturday 05 April St. Vincent Ferrer	Souls in Purgatory	6:30pm	Jo Williams	Richard Shrimplin	Roma Ajit
Sunday 06 April	Parishioners	9;30am 11am	Mass Offering for 23 March£296.70 Standing orders—————£112.00 Confession is before and after		

mass or at any convenient time you want. Arrange with the Parish Priest