

PARISH OF ST GEORGE

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR: FATHER THADDEUS OPARA

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[www.https://saintgeorgeswhitchurch.org.uk](https://saintgeorgeswhitchurch.org.uk)



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, wars, 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



Mass Times

Saturday 29 March	Souls in Purgatory	6:30pm
Sunday 30 March	Dennis Lloyd Gerard Dolan Alivia's Birthday	9:30am 11:00pm
Monday 31 March	J C	10:00am
Tuesday 01 April	Carmel Bowers	10:00am
Wed. 02 April St. Francis of Paola	Private intentions	10:00am
Thursday 03 April	Sanctification of Priests	10:00am
Friday 04 April St. Isidore	Peace in the world	6:00pm
Saturday 05 April St. Vincent Ferrer	Souls in Purgatory	6:30pm
Sunday 06 April	Parishioners	9:30am 11am

Say your daily rosary for peace in the world



Our Lady says: I promise my special
protection and the greatest graces to all
those who shall recite the Rosary.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Penitential Service —Tuesday - 8th April

**Feast of St. George/Divine Mercy
Sunday 27th April**

Holy Communion 22nd Jun.

**Pilgrimage to Rome 7th to 14th
September**

**Funeral of Gerald Dolan Wednesday 9th
April 12 noon**

**Funeral of Dennis Lloyd Tuesday 15th
April 11am**

Sat 6:30pm	Sun. 9:30am	Sun. 11:00am
Jo Williams	Richard Shrimplin	Roma Ajit

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**

Our Parish Safeguarding representative is Helen Clarke