



PARISH OF ST GEORGE

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SUNDAY 27th March 2022 4th Sunday of Lent, Year C

Reflections

Joshua 5:9, 10-12; II Cor 5:17-21; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

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 rejoicing of a loving and forgiving father who celebrates the return of his prodigal son by throwing a big party in his honour, a banquet celebrating the reconciliation of the son with his father, his family, his community, and his God. At the same time, by presenting a self-righteous elder brother, the parable invites us to avoid self-righteousness and self-justification by imitating the repentant younger brother. Let us admit the truth that we are unworthy before God our Father and now we are ready to receive His forgiveness and experience Jesus' Personal Presence in the Holy Eucharist as our loving and forgiving God.

<u>Readers</u>	Sat 6:30	Sun 09:30	Sun 11:00
	Roland Young	Dennis Lloyd	Anne Carr

If you wish to join the Reader's Rota, please complete the form in the porch.

Mother's Day Happy Mother's Day to all especially those who cannot be with us at this time.

Clocks remember to move your clock forward.

Lenten Lunches The lunch next week will be hosted by St Alkmund's Church at Bargates Hall next Thursday from 12pm until 2pm. You are also invited to join the discussion group at 11am.

Foodbank The Foodbank is continuing to help people who are suffering from food poverty and are experiencing crisis in their lives. We are also anticipating having to support people who will experience fuel poverty in the near future. We are grateful for your continued support and any help you can provide.

Sat 26 Mar	6:30 PM	4th Sunday of Lent (Laetare)	David and Linda Vallance
Sun 27 Mar	9:30 AM		Ken and Evelyn
	11:00 AM		Dilys Evans and Bob
Mon 28 Mar	10:00 AM	Monday in the 4 th Week of Lent	Vocations
Tue 29 Mar	10:00 AM	Tuesday in the 4 th Week of Lent	John Speed RIP 5th Anniversary
Wed 30 Mar	Sacristy	Wednesday in the 4 th Week of Lent	Private intentions
Thu 31 Mar	10:00 AM	Thursday in the 4 th Week of Lent	Peace in the world
Fri 01 Apr	6:00 PM	Friday in the 4 th Week of Lent	Conversions
		First Friday Devotions	
Sat 02 Apr	6:30 PM	5th Sunday of Lent	Peace in the world
Sun 03 Apr	9:30 AM		Peace in the world
	11:00 AM		Maisie & Frederick Bayliss

Quotations from Pope Francis “Lent is a favourable time to seek out – and not to avoid – those in need; to reach out – and not to ignore – those who need a sympathetic ear and a good word; to visit – and not to abandon – those who are lonely. Let us put into practice our call to do good to all, and take time to love the poor and needy, those abandoned and rejected, those discriminated against and marginalized”.

“Think of the many young Ukrainian soldiers; think of the inhabitants, the young people, the boys, and girls.... This is happening close to us. The Gospel only asks us not to look the other way, which is precisely the most pagan attitude of Christians: when Christians become used to looking the other way, they slowly become pagans disguised as Christians.” Pope Francis

Confessions on request either in the Church or the presbytery at any time you prefer.

Weekly Collection We wish to thank you all for your ongoing generosity in the upkeep of the parish.

Sunday	20 March	-	£281.40
Weekly Standing Orders		-	£109.50

It would help greatly with paying in and processing at the bank if any cheques to the church are made payable to: “**St George Whitchurch**” which is the correct name for the parish account.

Weekly Offering envelopes: The envelopes for next year’s tax year are available at the back of church. Please take your box with your name on it – the number on it may not be the same as you had last year. Please do not use your ‘blue’ envelopes until 10th April 2022. If you take a neighbours / friend’s box, please deliver it promptly.

Announcement The ‘Mission Today –Spring 2022’ publication is available at the back of Church. Please take one, until stocks last, whether you are a red box holder or not. There is also a leaflet about Pauline Jaricot’s Beatification. Her vision created the Association for the Propagation of the Faith (APF) which led to the Mill Hill Missionaries.

Whitchurch Charity 10k Run This takes place on Sunday 3rd April. Whilst Claypit Street will not be affected, some roads in the town will be closed. Parishioners leaving the 9.30 Mass or arriving for 11am Mass should note that their usual route to and from home may be affected.

COVID REMINDERS When in church, it is now voluntary to wear a mask. See our web site for latest updates [COVID Guidance | Saint George RC Church Whitchurch \(saintgeorgeswhitchurch.org.uk\)](https://www.saintgeorgeswhitchurch.org.uk)

Our parish safeguarding representative is Helen Clarke.