



PARISH OF ST GEORGE

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SUNDAY 3rd April 2022 5th Sunday of Lent, Year C

GOSPEL John 8:1–11

In today's Gospel episode of the woman caught in adultery, Jesus gave his verdict: "Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." Jesus confronts the Scribes and the Pharisees in their self-righteousness with a demand that they should first examine their own consciences before they accuse another. Thus, he turned the accusers' attention back on themselves and made them realise that they, too, were sinners. St. Augustine puts Jesus' stand as follows: "Let this woman be punished, but not by sinners; let the law be applied, but not by its transgressors." Thus, Jesus ingeniously escaped from the trap by leaving the judgment to the consciences of the accusers. This reduced the accusers to silence, prompting them to leave in shame.

Life message: The sinful woman's story of sin committed, and sin forgiven in today's Gospel shows the inexhaustible mercy and compassion Jesus grants to sinners. It invites us to recognize and experience in our own lives both God's Justice and His Mercy. We bear witness to the Justice of God by confessing our sinfulness and determining to avoid sin, and we bear witness to God's Mercy by accepting the forgiveness of our sins and by determining to forgive those who have offended us.

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

<u>Readers</u>	Sat 6:30	Sun 09:30	Sun 11:00
	Roland Young	Hazel Spencer	Sylwia Giera

If you wish to join the Reader's Rota, please complete the form in the porch. A new rota has been sent out copies are available at the back of Church

Please find attached to the email the Spring Newsletter from **CARITAS**, copies can be found in the porch.

Lenten Lunches The lunch this week will be held on Thursday 7th April at St John's Church from 12 until 2pm. It will be hosted by the joint churches of Whitchurch Christian Aid committee.

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.

Maundy Thursday We are looking for up to 12 volunteers to participate in the washing of feet if you would like to take part, please email Father.

Sat 02 Apr	6:30 PM	5th Sunday of Lent	Audrey Morris
			Sophie Cook
Sun 03 Apr	9:30 AM		Fr Bernard McGuinness RIP
	11:00 AM		Maisie & Frederick Bayliss
Mon 04 Apr	10:00 AM	Monday in the 5 th Week of Lent	Matthew Hickson
		Saint Isidore, bishop and doctor of the Church	
Tue 05 Apr	10:00 AM	Tuesday in the 5 th Week of Lent	Thomas RIP
		Saint Vincent Ferrer, priest	
Wed 06 Apr	Sacristy	Wednesday in the 5 th Week of Lent	Private intentions
Thu 07 Apr	10:00 AM	Thursday in the 5 th Week of Lent	Richard Petticor Family
		Saint John Baptist de la Salle, priest	
Fri 08 Apr	6:00PM	Friday in the 5 th Week of Lent	Petticor Family
		Holy Hour	
Sat 09 Apr	6:30 PM	Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion	Forcesor Family
Sun 10 Apr	9:30 AM		Parishioners
	11:00 AM		Parishioners

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”.

I was ashamed in recent days, when I read that a group of states has committed to spending two percent of their GDP on the purchase of weapons, as a response to what is happening now. The madness! The real answer is not more weapons, more sanctions, more political-military alliances, but another approach, a different way of governing the now globalized world - not by being menacing, as is the case now - a different way of setting up international relations. The model of care is fortunately already in place, but unfortunately, it is still subservient to that of economic-technocratic-military power.

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

Sunday	27 March	-	£239.57
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.

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 \(saintgeorgeswhitchurch.org.uk\)](#)

Our parish safeguarding representative is Helen Clarke.