

## GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR EASTER SUNDAY



### Life Without End

Belief in the resurrection is essential to our faith, yet the account of Jesus' resurrection, or rather the lack of it, leaves us as confused as the original disciples. We've been left with a puzzle with pieces missing, a story with an important part untold. As Christians we are reminded that religion is ultimately a faith not a science.

Our human search for certainty urges us to try and work out who moved the stone, but at this point all we can do is put the resurrection into the context of the rest of Jesus' life and teachings. We have to trust that everything Jesus has told us is true, and that the resurrection is not just an invention to give a tragic story a happy ending, but the realisation of the promises Jesus made all along. Jesus promised all along that death couldn't contain us, and the empty tomb points to this not necessarily as proof, but as truth.

The empty tomb gives our life purpose. Belief in the resurrection means we can live life boldly and well, looking forward to eternal life. The empty tomb gives us a means to deal with pain and suffering, it means that death is not a meaningless end of life, but the door to the fullness of life with the risen Christ.

### *In Eastertide, we recite REGINA COELI in place of ANGELUS :*

Queen of heaven, rejoice, Alleluia.  
For he, whom you did merit to bear, Alleluia,  
Has risen as he said, Alleluia.  
Pray for us to God, Alleluia.  
Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, Alleluia.  
For the Lord has truly risen, Alleluia.

*Let us pray:*

O God, who gave joy to the world through the resurrection of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, grant we beseech you, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, his mother, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life, through the same Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

**PARISH PRAYER - Father, pour out your Spirit upon our parish. Grant us a new vision of your glory, a new faithfulness to your Word, and a new consecration to your service; that your love might grow among us and your Kingdom come.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen**

Useful links: Diocesan Website: <http://www.rcdea.org.uk>  
Notre Dame High School, Norwich: Website <http://www.ndhs.org.uk>

## PARISH OF THE SACRED HEART AND ST MARGARET MARY

[Reg. Charity 278742]

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### 16 APRIL 2017 - EASTER SUNDAY

#### Sunday Masses – Page 216 (Vigil Mass) or 251 (Mass during the day) of Parish Mass Book

Saturday	8.00 pm	Easter Vigil
Sunday	9.00 am	Donor's Int.
	11.00 am	Int. People of the Parish

Music for Sunday Masses - Setting: Dom Gregory Murray

Entry (9am & 11am only) Hymn 278 – Now the green blade riseth ...

Offertory Hymn 271 – Battle is o'er ...

Communion Instrumental Interlude/Sacred silence ...

Recessional Hymn 267 – Jesus Christ is ris'n today ...

**CONFESSION/RECONCILIATION: Saturday at 5.30pm, or on request / by appointment**

Weekday Mass Times	(Octave of Easter)	[Psalter as for Easter Sunday]
Mon. 10.00 am	Easter Octave – Int. Michael Rownan	
Tues. <b>No Mass today</b>	Easter Octave	
Weds. 10.00 am	Easter Octave – Int. Phyllis Dooley	
Thurs. 10.00 am	Easter Octave – Int. Holy Souls	
Fri. 10.00 am	Easter Octave – Int. Rosemary Oakes	
Sat. 10.30 am	Easter Octave – Donor's Int.	
6.00 pm	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter – Donor's Int.	

The Parish Newsletter (incl. back copies) is available to view on the parish website from Friday onward each week.

**Anniversaries this week:** Enid Whatmore, Bernard Reddington, Edwin Gatt, Margaret Warner, Frederick Hetherington, Tony Lannon, Pamela Clark and William Robertson. *May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.*

**Hospital Visits** – If you or family members are admitted to the Norfolk & Norwich Hospital (NNUH) or Queen Elizabeth II Hospital (QEII), King’s Lynn, and would like a visit from the Roman Catholic Chaplain, please call either St John’s Cathedral, Norwich (01603 624615) for visits to NNUH, or Fr Peter Rollings (01553 772220) for visits to QEII. If you would like to receive the Sacrament of Anointing of the sick before going to hospital, please contact Fr. Brendan on 01362 694066.

**Sick List - Please pray for:** Joan Blakiston, David Peek, Robert Nicol, Shirley Liebenhals, Sarah Chaudri, Anne & Derek Williams, Michelle Smith, Rita Smith, Eileen Brockleby, Pat Howe, Kathleen (Jenny) Rudd, Ellen Flood, Margaret Leggett, Peter Brown, James Maxwell and Robert Anderson.

**Money Matters** – The collection for the parish last weekend amounted to £536.72 and during March £532.00 was given by Standing Order to the parish. Thank you for your generosity. The collection during the Easter Masses is the traditional offering to the Parish Priest.

**Gift Aid** is an important part of the parish income and accounts for approximately 10%. Currently we have about 70 people signed up to the gift aid scheme and last year after the diocesan administration deductions the net income for the parish was £4296, for every pound you give we can claim back 25p and every little helps. Therefore if you are a UK tax payer and do not currently gift aid your weekly offertory please give it some serious thought and get in touch with either Rex Baker on 01362 694801 or [rexbaker27@btinternet.com](mailto:rexbaker27@btinternet.com) or Father Brendan and we can furnish you with a declaration form for completion together with the weekly envelopes.

**130 Club** – There are still two vacant tickets for the 130 Club and if anyone would like to join, application forms with addressed return envelopes are available in the Sacristy. Your promoter will be away over Easter, so the draw for March will not take place until the following weekend.

Diary Dates for this week –	
Tues. 18 Apr.	Please note there is no Queen of Peace Prayer Group this week.
Sat. 22 Apr.	Saturday Club meets - 11.00am in Emmaus Room

**The Mass of Christ** took place on Tuesday evening at St. John’s. It was a splendid occasion and if you would like to see photographs of it, please look up the Diocesan website, [www.rcdea.org.uk](http://www.rcdea.org.uk). I was there, but I don’t appear in the photographs.

**Easter Octave** – Like Christmas, Easter is celebrated for 8 days. It is Easter Day for 8 days and the Season of Easter for 40 days to Ascension, plus 10 days to Pentecost. During the Octave the dismissal at Mass is sung with the double Alleluia.

**I would like to wish everyone a very joyful Easter.** Thank you to everyone who contributed to our celebration. It is fatal to try to write a list of thanks because of the possibility of overlooking someone. So thank you to everyone for all your work.

**Mystagogy** - Can you remember what it's like to start a new job? A new school? A new family? It's exciting to begin, but those first steps can be wobbly. The Easter Season is the time for post-baptismal catechesis or 'mystagogy' with the newly baptised or 'neophytes'. Mystagogy is the period after the rites of initiation into the Catholic Church. It's a time for settling in. It's a time when we help the newly baptized to feel at home.

**Fifty Days of Easter** - Easter Day is certainly the most important day of the church year, but the Easter celebration lasts a full 50 days, until Pentecost. For families with young children, now is a good time to talk about the symbolism of candles, or to dig out, and chat about all those photos of the family Christening. Are the family Christening photos still on your pen drive? Why not print them off and put them on show.

**Bite Size** - “To be always intending to live a new life, but never find time to set about it - this is as if a man should put off eating and drinking from one day to another till he be starved and destroyed.” ~ *Sir Walter Scott, Scottish author & novelist (1771 – 1832)*

**Urbi et Orbi - Easter Sunday, BBC 1 -**  
Pope Francis' Easter message, from Vatican City to the world.  
Multi-camera coverage will join viewers with the hundreds of people crowding St Peter's Square to hear the Pope's words and receive the traditional blessing. The commentator will be Martin Bashir.

