

St Peter's Church, Phibsborough

Parish Newsletter

Fifth Sunday of Lent: 26 March 2023

LAZARUS, COME OUT!

"Opening graves" normally involves forensic or illicit or ghoulish intent. Ezekiel, a prophet, often speaks of God's action pyrotechnically:

"The Lord says, I am now going to open your graves".

God's intention is benign: "I will put my spirit in you and you will live".

With two weeks until Easter Sunday, God speaks of life and spirit and hope.

God gives his Spirit, beautiful, vibrant and creative. Anyone who opens up to that Spirit, in turn becomes beautiful, vibrant and creative.

The Gospel story of Martha, Mary and Lazarus, and the dead Lazarus' opened grave (at the command of Jesus) tells of God's intention for us all:

I am the resurrection and the life whoever lives and believes in me will never die.

The message of Jesus, called Good News, is a message of hope. We will all die. But, by His Cross and Resurrection, Jesus will open your grave and put His Spirit in you. You will live endlessly in the Mystery of God's embrace.

> O Lord, support us all the day long, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes, the busy world is hushed, the fever of life is over and our work is done; then Lord, in thy mercy, grant us safe lodging, a holy rest, and peace at the last.

> > St John Henry Newman

Fr Padraig Regan CM

IN LOVING MEMORY

Please remember in your prayers all those who died recently especially Marie McNulty (Connaught Street) and Wendy Robinson (N.C.R.).

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. **Amen.**

PARISH RETREAT...

in preparation for Holy Week and Easter Saturday 1st April, 3.00pm - 6.30pm

An opportunity to take time, make space and reflect on the central mystery of our Catholic Faith, the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, our God and Saviour. This will be a silent retreat with a brief introduction at 3.00pm.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, 26 March Maura Moloney (MM) Myra Wall (1st A) Martin Burke (1st A) Patricia Garland (4th A) Sr Gonzaga (A) Con, Lucy, Tony & Dick Collis (A) Maria Carroll (A) Thomas Howard (A) Mary & Mick O'Dwyer (D)

Monday, 27 March Anne Enright (GW) Michael O'Grady (1st A) Mary Grehan (A) Madge & Sean O'Hehir (A) Patrick Moloney (A)

Tuesday, 28 March Michael Acton (A) Margaret Lonergan (RD) Cara O'Sullivan (D)

Wednesday, 29 March Lisa Sinclair (GW) Anne Carmel Martin (A) Joanna Doyle (D)

Thursday, 30 March Maureen McNamara (B) Michael Acton (BR) Bill Twyford (A) Rita Riordan (RD)

Friday, 31 March Florence Costello (MM) Philip Murray (BR) Mary McCann (D) Kathleen, John & David Cullen (D)

Saturday, 1 April

St Ceallach (Celsus), bishop Marion Grehan (SI) Thanksgiving Joanna Doyle (D) Holy Souls

LITURGICAL READINGS FOR: Sunday, 26 March 2023

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of the Prophet Ezekiel

"The Lord says this:

I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people.

And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this – it is the Lord who speaks." The Word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Response: With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord,

Lord, hear my voice! O let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleading.

If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive? But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you.

My soul is waiting for the Lord, I count on his word. My soul is longing for the Lord

more than watchman for daybreak. (Let the watchman count on daybreak and Israel on the Lord.)

Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption, Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you. The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory and praise to you, O Christ! I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord, whoever believes in me will never die. Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

GOSPEL (Shorter form)

A reading from the Gospel according to John

The sisters Martha and Mary sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.' On receiving the message, Jesus said, 'This sickness will not end in death but in God's glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.'

Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he learned that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judaea.'

On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.' 'Your brother' said Jesus to her 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said: 'I am the resurrection and the life. If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this? 'Yes Lord,' she said 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.' Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, 'Where have you put him?' They said, 'See how much he loved him!' But there were some who remarked, 'He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?' Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb; it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.' Martha said to him, 'Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.' Jesus replied, 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said: 'Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer. I knew indeed that you always hear me, but I speak for the sake of all these who stand round me, so that they may believe it was you who sent me.' When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, here! Come out!' The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, let him go free.'

Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

LENTEN SERVICES FOR THIS WEEK

<u>Masses</u>

Monday	-	10.30am & 7.00pm
Tuesday	-	10.30am & 6.00pm
Wednesday	-	10.30am & 6.00pm
Thursday	-	10.30am & 6.00pm
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Friday - 10.30am & 6.00pm

<u>Lenten Prayer</u> immediately after 10.30am Mass on Thursday (for 10 - 15 mins)

<u>Stations of the Cross</u> immediately after the 6.00pm Mass on Friday at 6.30pm approximately

SPRING FORWARD

Did you remember to put your clocks forward 1 hour this morning?



RESPONSES AT MASS

Leaflets are available for those wishing to familiarise themselves with Mass responses in English. Please collect one in the Sacristy.

COLLECTIONS - Sunday 19 March

Parish (1st Collection, incl. Online)	=	€1,058.05			
Envelopes (Online/Easy Payments)	=	€	688.20		
Share (2nd Collection)	=	€	239.29		
Thank you for your support to the parish.					