



THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF *St Thomas More and St Joseph the Worker*

working in partnership with the Catholic Chaplaincy of Warwick University



St Thomas More

112 Knoll Drive
Stivichall
COVENTRY
CV3 5DE

stm.covty@rcaob.org.uk

Fr Simon J Baker

Parish Priest
024 7641 1900

Deacon Leo Poole

07984 071124 dcn.leo.poole@rcaob.org.uk

Deacon David Palmer

07831 726731 dcn.david.palmer@rcaob.org.uk

Deacon Pat Jeary Retired

St Joseph the Worker

1 De Montfort Way
Cannon Park
COVENTRY
CV4 7DU

stjoseph.covty@rcaob.org.uk

both parishes are part of the Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham Reg Charity No 234216

6th April 2025

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Psalter Week: 1
Weekday Cycle: Year 1
Sunday Year: C

Saturday 5 th	FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT	4.15pm	STM	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions	
		5.00pm	STM	Vigil Mass	Andrew Colby (Anniv)
		9.00am	STM	Mass	Liz and Eddie Parrott (Anniv)
		11.00am	SJW	Mass	Edith Whatling (RIP)
Monday 7 th	Lent Feria			No Mass	
Tuesday 8 th	Lent Feria	10.00am	SJW	Mass followed by Stations of the Cross	Richard Healey (RIP)
Wednesday 9 th	Lent Feria	11.00am	STM	Mass 'n' Mingle followed by Stations of the Cross	James McEwan (RIP)
Thursday 10 th	Lent Feria	10.00am	STM	Mass	Maureen Brennan (RIP)
		2.00pm	STM	Stations of the Cross with STM School	
		6.00pm	STM	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
Friday 11 th	Lent Feria	10.00am	STM	Mass followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Elene Gunn (RIP)
		6.30pm	STM	Stations of the Cross	
Saturday 12 th	Lent Feria	10.00am	SJW	Mass followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions	Patrick Whelan (RIP)
	PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD	4.15pm	STM	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions	
		5.00pm	STM	Vigil Mass	Patrick Maguire (3 rd Anniv)
		9.00am	STM	Mass	Andrew Robinson (RIP)
		11.00am	SJW	Mass	Eileen Connolly (4 th Anniv)
Sunday 13 th		6.00pm	STM	Holy Week Reflections	

*Welcome to Mass today. We extend a special welcome to anybody joining us for the first time.
Please introduce yourself, and if you are able, stay for refreshments after the Mass.*

The Fifth Sunday of Lent invites us to reflect on God's promises, our journey in faith, and the call to forgiveness and change. The readings from Isaiah, Philipians, and the Gospel of John guide us to new beginnings, perseverance, and mercy.

In the First Reading, God speaks through Isaiah, telling His people that He will do something new. He asks them to forget the past and look forward to what He is going to do. God's message is clear: He is making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. This means that even in our hardest times, God is working to bring us hope and renewal. He wants us to trust that He can create new paths and provide for us in unexpected ways.

St Paul reminds us to press on toward our goal in Christ. In the second reading, he speaks about counting everything as loss compared to the greatness of knowing Jesus. Paul shows us that nothing else matters as much as our relationship with Christ. St Paul also tells us that he has not yet reached his goal but keeps striving. This teaches us that our faith journey is ongoing. We must always work to grow closer to Jesus, never feeling we have arrived.

The Gospel calls us to change our hearts. Sometimes, we think our righteousness and the law of God give us the right to judge others; but in the Gospel, Jesus shows us another way. He teaches that the life of a sinner is more important than the law. Both the crowd and the woman have strayed from God's heart and law. We do the same. Like the woman, we might ignore God's commands and do as we please. Or like the crowd, we might use the law to separate 'us' from 'them,' wanting punishment for those who fail. Jesus also shows trust in the crowd. He seems to know that no one will throw a stone. He believes that their goodness will shine through when challenged. We can learn from this in our society.

Let us pray. Lord, help us embrace new beginnings, strive toward our goals in Christ, and show mercy to others. Guide us to trust in Your promises and grow in our faith. Amen.

STM and SJW Website: stmcov.org/wp/

Facebook: Catholic Parishes of St Thomas More and St Joseph the Worker

Livestream webcam: <https://www.youtube.com/@stmandsjtw-cov>

Coventry Catholic Deanery: www.coventry-catholicdeanery.org.uk

OFFERTORIES AND COLLECTIONS

STM: £670.60 | **SJW:** £240.00

Thank you for your continued generosity

IF YOU ARE A VISITOR to our Masses and not a Catholic, or a Catholic unable to receive, you are very welcome to come forward to receive a blessing. As you approach, please have your arm crossed over your chest, so that the minister knows to give a blessing. If you require a celiac host, please let us know before Mass.

ORDER OF MASS CARDS: If you require a card with the Order of Mass text, please ask one of the welcomers for a copy. The readings for Sunday Mass can be found on the back of this newsletter. Please do take them home with you for private prayer and reflection.

WE PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF James McEwan, Jim Etheridge (Requiem Mass at STM on Thursday 17th April), **Fr Dominic Innamorati, Kevin Shakespeare** (Requiem Mass at Christ the King, 12noon on Friday 11th April) **Justina Texeira, Jim Power** and **Val Blaxall** together with all who have died recently. We pray for them and their families at this time. May they rest in peace.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK AND UNWELL: Angie Browne, Judith Cunningham, Peter Cunningham, Frank Cunningham, Elaine Fossett, Margaret Eason, Madge Ward, Heather Walton, Jay Veeman, Pat Farr, Phil Sands, Margaret Kelly, Joanna MacKinnon, Hilary Hanson, Debbie Colby, Monika Tokarska-Hosoi, Joan Theaker, Veronica Hammond, Alice Rowland, John Walker, Pauline Cullinane, Beatrice Upham, Peter Carvell, Sheila Jenkins, Lillian Chapman, Irena Bienek, Josie McElroy, Georgina Brannigan-Smith, Ann Kenny, Rose Warburton, Keelin Treharne, David O'Grady, Joan O'Leary, Thomas Weatherstone, Clare Oliver, Romina Mendieta, Jennifer Bell, Tony Smith and Donal Heffernan

TODAY the statues and crucifixes in church are veiled. This custom is related to the Gospel account in John 8: 46 – 59. As Christ teaches in the Temple and declares he is the Son of God, the Jews attempt to stone Him to death, so he hides Himself as he leaves the Temple. The veiling in church reminds us in a visual way that our faith in all its glory is made possible only through the work of Christ in his suffering and death on the cross. When we cover these holy and sacred images, we are starkly confronted and reminded in a poignant way of all that Christ has won for us. The unveiling before the Easter Vigil is a great reminder of our own life on earth. We live in a 'veiled' world, in exile from our true home. It is only through our own death that the veil is lifted, and we are finally able to see the beauty of everything in our life.

PALM SUNDAY begins Holy Week, the most important and sacred week of the year. All our Masses for Palm Sunday begin with the commemoration of the triumphant entry of Christ into Jerusalem and blessing of palms.

5.00pm Mass will begin outside the main doors of Church

9.00am Mass will begin in the School playground

11.00am Mass will begin by the Crucifixion scene in the Car Park

Those who are attending, and can join the procession, are asked to gather – weather permitting! – in the appropriate places before the Mass begins. Full instructions will be given out before Mass.

HOLY WEEK REFLECTIONS on Sunday 13th April at 6.00pm in STM. A chance to reflect on the week ahead through word and music. During this service Luke will reflect on the upcoming Holy Week. There will be musical reflections sung by Hannah, his sister-in-law. The service will conclude with solemn Benediction. Light 'Lenten' refreshments will be available in the MRR afterwards.

LUKE THEOBALD will be completing his placement with us on Easter Day and will move onto the next stage of his Extended Placement. His time with us has certainly flown by, but it has certainly been a rich and rewarding time. The 'Holy Week Reflections' Service on Palm Sunday evening will in many ways be his leaving service, so if you would like to say farewell to him, please do come along. Most importantly keep Luke, and all the Seminarians of the Archdiocese in your daily prayers.

STM SCHOOL CHILDREN invite parishioners to join them at their Stations of the Cross Prayer Service on Thursday 10th April. Through word and song, the children will lead us through this final journey that Jesus made. The service begins at 2.00pm in church.

EASTER FLOWERS: If you would like to give a donation towards the flowers at Easter in memory of a loved one, there are baskets at the back of STM and SJW. Please print the names of loved ones, in capital letters, on the separate sheet.

PLEASE NOTE there are no Masses on Tuesday morning (6.45am) at STM or on Friday lunchtime (12 noon) at SJW this week.

EASTER CARDS with all the Holy Week, Triduum and Easter times will be available next week to distribute to family, friends and neighbours.

LOOKING AHEAD TO EASTER: Last Easter, we had the luxury of having two priests, which meant that there was provision for the Sacred Triduum to be celebrated in both STM and SJW. Since June, there has been only one priest and between the two parishes, we have had to rethink our daily schedule and patterns of Masses. The new pattern seems to be working well, and it is good to see parishioners from both parishes attending the Masses in both churches.

The Sacred Triduum (Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday), though chronologically three days, are liturgically one day, through which unfolds Christ's Paschal Mystery. This means that the Triduum is one complete liturgy, rather than three separate liturgies that just happen to be celebrated on the appropriate day.

This year, we have two churches but only one priest. Unlike Christmas, Easter is not a time when several Masses and liturgies can be offered at different times and places by one priest. We also need to consider the numbers which regularly attend these liturgies, and of course, the other visitors that come during this time of year. There is also the understanding that a priest can only celebrate the Sacred Triduum once in one day, making 'doubling up' not a possibility, nor an ideal undertaking. Some parishes 'split' the Triduum up between the two parishes, having different days celebrated in each church, and this has been considered.

Taking all these things into consideration, the main liturgies of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday will be celebrated as one community in STM. Then both SJW and STM will have Masses of Easter Day celebrated at the usual times of 9.00am and 11.00am in both churches.

I know this will be a disappointment to many people, but it is a reality that we must face. I hope you appreciate the difficulty that is on the horizon and fully understand the consideration for seating and space that is needed.

It is, however, another opportunity for us to come together as two parishes and to combine all our efforts into making the Sacred Triduum a truly joyful, uplifting and fitting celebration in 2025.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED with the Sacred Triduum.

Lifts to the Liturgies: If you are a parishioner at SJW and will be driving to STM for the liturgies, it would be good to know if you have spare seats that could be offered to those struggling with transport. If you can help, please sign the sheet at the back of SJW.

Holy Thursday Mandatum: Nine volunteers are needed to have their feet washed as part of the Maundy Thursday Mass. If you are willing, please sign the sheets at the back of both SJW and STM.

Watching at the Altar of Repose will continue through the evening until Midnight. It is important that there is always a minimum of two people present with the Lord. At the back of both STM and SJW there is a sign up for people to choose a half an hour slot to sit with the Lord. You are welcome to stay for longer, but it would be good to know that the whole time is covered by people watching with the Lord.

LARGE PRINT NEWSLETTER are available by request from Fr Simon.

JUBILEE STATIONS OF CROSS: The images created for our new Stations of the Cross have now been printed into a set of cards for private devotion and prayer. These are priced at £5 a set and will be available to buy after all Masses this week. A panorama of the Stations is on display in STM, which helps to show the link and continuation of the road through each station. You can also learn more about the insight, thought and consideration which is behind the creation of these beautiful, prayerful and stunning Jubilee Stations.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS will be prayed at SJW on Tuesday mornings after the 10.00am Mass and at STM after the 11.00am Wednesday Mass and on Friday evenings at 6.30pm. Compared to our Sunday Mass numbers, the attendance at the Stations has been rather poor. When we pray the stations, we unite ourselves with the Lord in the last three hours of his life and we witness in our desire to truly follow him in that final journey. Perhaps in the last few weeks of Lent, we can make a special effort to come along.

DEACON DAVID AND JUNE PALMER: David and June have now downsized and moved to Warwick nearer to their grandchildren. They say "We have prayed about this and feel that in the longer term it will be too far to travel to St Joseph's regularly. We will continue to come to Mass at St Joseph's for a while and plan that our last Sunday Mass at St Joseph's will be on Sunday 4th May. Many thanks to everyone who made us so welcome in the parish since our arrival in the dark days of Covid in 2020. We have really enjoyed our time at the University Chaplaincy and St Joseph's and will miss the many friends we have made."

TEARS OF GOLD EXHIBITION at Coventry Cathedral. A series of paintings that show hope in the face of persecution. A group of Christian women from northern Nigeria created self-portraits to process the trauma they've experienced because of violent attacks. The paintings contain tears of gold: a sign of how tragedy can be transformed into hope through the love of God. The exhibition is available to view until 13th April during Cathedral Opening Hours.

WEEKLY GIVING ENVELOPES at STM will be available for collection after Masses this week from the MRR. As the new envelopes are now being circulated at both STM and SJW, it is a good time to explain a little more about giving to our churches and the various ways in which this can be done.

Standing Order: You can set up a standing order either by filling in a standing order form which you can collect from church or download from the website. Alternatively, by arranging to contact the parish for bank details and arranging a standing order directly with the bank. A standing order means that your bank pays the parish directly a set amount each week or month, enabling a secure and direct transfer. By this means, you help the parish to receive a secure and regular income to support the mission of the church locally.

Planned Giving: If you prefer to make your offerings to the parish using cash, it is often helpful to use the planned giving envelopes. This gives you privacy in making your offerings, and you can set aside a particular sum of money each week to place in our envelopes. In this way you support the parish and ensure a regular source of income.

Gift Aid: For those who are taxpayers, making a Gift Aid declaration enables the parish (as part of a recognised charity) to claim back tax that has been paid. This means that for every £1 that you give to the parish, it receives an additional 25p in reclaimed tax. Gift Aid can be applied to donations received from taxpayers contributing in any one of the means of giving listed.

YEAR OF JUBILEE: Pope Francis has declared that 2025 will be a year of Jubilee. The theme is 'Pilgrims of Hope' and is a year of hope for a world suffering the impacts of war, the ongoing effects of COVID-19 pandemic, and a climate crisis. It is a time to re-establish a proper relationship with God, with one another, and with all of creation.

LECTIO DIVINA GROUP will meet this coming week on Wednesday evening in person in the MRR at 6.00pm. This is a reflective time of prayer and contemplation with the Sunday Gospel. All are welcome to come along.

LENTEN SOUP LUNCHESES will be held on Wednesdays at 12noon in the MRR and after the 12noon Mass at SJW on a Friday. During Lent, there will be an opportunity to give a small donation at the lunches, which will be added to the parish charity collection for Mary's Meals.

'ASSIST US TO LIVE' postcards are available at the back of STM and SJW. Simply write the name of your local MP and your own details on the card, affix a standard letter stamp and the pop in the post box. Pastoral Letters from Bishops across England and Wales will be read out at Masses this weekend. Catholics are asked to contact their MPs – even if they have done so already – and urge them to oppose the Bill that seeks to legalise assisted suicide.

THE CHAPEL OF UNITY at Coventry Cathedral is hosting an on-line 20-minute Psalm Reflection at 6.00pm each Monday evening during Lent, on 7th and 14th April. Meeting ID: 864 9505 4646 and Passcode: COUR2025.

COUPLES RETREAT on 6th and 7th May (7.00pm – 9.00pm) in the MRR. A chance to enrich your marriage as you understand God's purpose for your married life. A retreat led by Br Colin Calmiano. £15 per couple. Limited seats so registration is important. Please call 07438 774231 or 07405 889088. Please see poster for more information.

PARISH CHARITY: Our chosen charity for the coming year will be Mary's Meals. The money taken at refreshments after our Saturday and Sunday Masses, together with a voluntary collection once a year, and other small donations will be donated to their work and outreach.

NEWMAN CIRCLE will meet on Tuesday 29th April at 7.30pm in the MRR. Christine Dodd will present a talk on 'Art and the Spiritual Journey'

GOOD NEIGHBOURS COVENTRY'S MEN'S GROUPS are growing. They provide simple unstructured chat and friendship, aimed at men age 50+, but all men are welcome. Let your friends, relatives and neighbours know they can join us on a Tuesday from 2.00pm-3.30pm at ICC Keresley (CV6 2FJ); on a Thursday from 4.30pm-6pm at St Paul's Foleshill (CV6 5AJ) and on Friday from 1.00pm-2.30pm at St Martin's Finham (CV3 6EA).

RED BOXES: Would all those at SJW who support the work of the Missio Appeal (Red Boxes), please bring their boxes to the Sacristy by Sunday 27th April. For more information about supporting the work of Missio, please speak to Joyce Connolly.

KINGDOM OF GOD PRAYER GROUP on Mondays from 7.00pm – 8.45pm in the MRR. All are welcome to come along for a time of prayer, praise, reflection and refreshments.

ROSARY PRAYERS will be held every Friday at 1.40pm in Lent by the statue of Our Lady of Coventry in Priory Gardens, next to Holy Trinity Church, Broadgate. All welcome.

SEVEN DAY CANDLES can be sponsored in both STM and SJW for a donation of £5 per candle. These are lit on a Sunday and burn for the following week. At STM candles are available for Our Lady, St Joseph, Sacred Heart and St Thomas More and at SJW they are available for Our Lady, Sacred Heart, St Anthony, and St Joseph. Please note only one intention per candle can be booked. To sponsor a candle for a particular intention, please bring your donation to the sacristy.

HOUSE VISITS to the sick and housebound are an important part of the life of the church. Those who would like a visit, are asked to contact Fr Simon or Deacons Leo and David. A visit can be arranged by themselves or by the Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.

'LITTLE CHURCH' at STM is the Liturgy of the Word with children, offering an opportunity to listen and respond to the Sunday Gospel at an age-appropriate level during the 9.00am Mass. The Children and a Prayer Leader are called forward at the beginning of Mass and process to their sacred space where the scriptures are explored through reflection, discussion, song and other appropriate activities. An adult may accompany a very young child until they are settled. All return to Mass at the Offertory for the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

PRAYING FOR POPE FRANCIS: Almighty and Eternal God, you are the everlasting health of those who believe in you. Hear our prayers for your sick servant Francis for whom we implore the aid of your tender mercy, through Christ our Lord. Amen. Our Lady of Lourdes, Health of the Sick, pray for him.

DIOCESAN PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS: Heavenly Father, we ask you to send labourers into your harvest. Inspire, in the hearts of your people, vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life. Bless our families with a spirit of generosity, so that those whom you call have the courage to give themselves to your Church in faith. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

MASS INTENTIONS: The Mass is the greatest prayer we can offer as Catholics since it is the 'source and summit' of the Christian Life. Individuals may ask a priest to offer a Mass for several reasons: for example, in thanksgiving, for the intentions of another person or as is most common, for the repose of the soul of someone who has died. Mass offering envelopes are available at the back of both churches. Please fill in the required information and hand it to Fr Simon or push through the Presbytery letterbox. The Mass will then be offered, and you'll see the details on the front page of this sheet. We ask that Masses be booked three months in advance of your required date. Please remember that preferred dates cannot be guaranteed—someone else might have asked for a particular day before you, but the nearest date will be offered.

ARYPT FUNDRAISER with sponsored walk concluding with the 'Mass in the Malverns' on Saturday 14th June 2025. Please email Richard Robinson, arypt2022@gmail.com for sponsor pack details and more information.

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION COURSES are held on the first Saturday of every month in the MRR. To book a place, families are asked to contact Deacon Leo by emailing dcn.leo.poole@rcaob.org.uk

CHEYLESMORE FOODHUB: It is now possible to support the work of the Foodhub through financial donations. It allows for more flexibility for the Trust to purchase foods. The required information is Cheylesmore Food Hub CAF Bank Ltd, Sort Code: 40-52-40 and the Account no: 00034145.

GOING INTO HOSPITAL: Anyone going into hospital, needs to be sure to tell the ward staff they are a Catholic and would like to see the Catholic Chaplain. Please also notify the Parish Clergy, so a visit, either by them or the Chaplain can be arranged.

ONLINE GIVING: If you were unable to give via the Offertory Collection at Sunday Mass, you can give online to either parish by scanning this QR code and following the instructions on the website.



GIFT AID GIVING: If you are a UK Taxpayer and would like to increase you weekly giving, at no extra cost to yourself, please consider Gift Aiding your donation. Through this scheme we are able to claim 25p on every £1 donated. More information available from Tony Curristan at STM and June Palmer at SJW.

SAFEGUARDING: The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies and procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are Amanda Kelly and Claire Rutter at STM and Henry Whitney at SJW. They can be contacted using the emails below or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or email safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concern.

PARISH OFFICE for both parishes is based at STM and is open on a Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 9.30am – 4.00pm. If you have any general enquiries, please do try and call during these hours.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR THIS MONTH: Thomas Norris, John Wooderson, Mary Gavin, Gordon Baker, Isobel Collins, Kevin Price, Joseph Lees, Michael Ward, Jan Zaparaniuk, Monica Watson, Elizabeth Parrott, Margaret Doyle, Jack Garry, Elizabeth Wallace, Sheila O'Driscoll, Patrick O'Brien, Patrick Commins, Samantha Thomas, Beatrice Duffy, Rosemary Maguire, James Harper, Anne Clay, Francis Mullen, Andrew Jarram, Mary Smith, Larry Kelly, John McGeachan, Averil Budden, Andrew 'Happy' Colby, Kevin Mountford, Madge Twigger, Patricia Keating, Shelagh Freeborn, Patrick Maguire, Aubrey Aris, Patricia Phillips, Julietta Cooper, Edith Buckley, Thomas Maxwell, Theresa Brooks, Anne McNulty, Eileen Berry, Ray Cartwright, Bartholomew Brenan, Beatrice Spooner, Tony Leigh, Thomas Rhoden, Audrey Culligan, Maisie Taylor, Patrick Tracey, Thomas Kane, Theresa Poole, Kenneth Pickett, Agnes O'Mahoney, Michael Reilly, Margaret Upham, Margaret McFadden, Mary Crowe, Renato Paolone, Vincent Rutter, Grace Cairns, Joan Boguslawski, John Regan, Barry McElvenney, Frederick Woodward, John Shepherd, Cora Meehan, Cecil Mancini, Mary Baimbridge, Ann Brogan, Christine Donlon, Bernadette Armstrong, Mary Warnock, Helena Shanley, Andrew Robinson, Winifred Moore, Jack O'Neill, Kathleen Ward, Eily O'Connor, Eleanor Collins, Patrick O'Brien, Ethel Morrell, Joe Anderson, Robert Ellis, Annie Louis, Margaret Banks, Terry Brown, Dorothy Adams, Christopher Shaughnessy, Robert Fletcher, Edith Brown, Alice Gould, Kathleen Hickey, Molly Hughes, Michael Mellor, Baby Hannah Evans, Dot Holmest, Laurence O'Neil.

SECOND COLLECTIONS THROUGHOUT APRIL

18th April Holy Places
20th April Easter Offering

READERS FOR APRIL	STM	5 th	5.00pm	Mandy Crilly
		6 th	9.00am	Debbie Middleton
		12 th	5.00pm	Mary Wilson
		13 th	9.00am	Clive Robinson
		19 th	5.00pm	See Easter Triduum Rota
		20 th	9.00am	See Easter Triduum Rota
		26 th	5.00pm	Janet Ward
		27 th	9.00am	Ana Fernandes
	SJW	6 th	11.00am	Alanna
		13 th	11.00am	Val
		20 th	11.00am	Peter
		27 th	11.00am	Claudia

FORTHCOMING DATES FOR APRIL:

9 th April	Lectio Divina Group
10 th April	Stations of the Cross by STM School in Church
6 th – 13 th April	Tears of Gold Exhibition at Cathedral
13 th April	Holy Week Reflections at 6.00pm
16 th April	Penitential Service at STM
21 st April	Easter Monday Mass at St Osburg's
27 th April	Divine Mercy Devotions at St Mary and Benedict's
29 th April	Newman Circle Meeting

READINGS FOR THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

FIRST READING Isaiah 43:16-21
Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, who brings forth chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: 'Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. The wild beasts will honour me, the jackals and the ostriches, for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself that they might declare my praise.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 126(125)
R: What great deeds the Lord worked for us! Indeed, we were glad.

SECOND READING Philippians 3:8-14
Brothers and Sisters: I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith — that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on towards the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION
Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.
Even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, for I am gracious and merciful.
Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

GOSPEL READING John 8:1-11
At that time: Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. Early in the morning he came again to the temple. All the people came to him, and he sat down and taught them. The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery, and placing her in the midst they said to him, 'Teacher, this woman has been caught in the act of adultery. Now in the Law, Moses commanded us to stone such women. So what do you say?' This they said to test him, that they might have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground. And as they continued to ask him, he stood up and said to them, 'Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her.' And once more he bent down and wrote on the ground. But when they heard it, they went away one by one, beginning with the older ones, and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him. Jesus stood up and said to her, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' She said, 'No one, Lord.' And Jesus said, 'Neither do I condemn you; go, and from now on sin no more.'

Parish Administrator and Room Bookings
Amanda Kelly admin.stm.covty@rcaob.org.uk
Safeguarding Representatives
Amanda Kelly and Claire Rutter (STM) sg.stm.covty@rcaob.org.uk
Henry Whitney (SJW) sg.stjoseph.covty@rcaob.org.uk
Giving and Gift Aid
Tony Curristan (STM) ga.stm.covty@rcaob.org.uk
June Palmer (SJW) ga.stjoseph.covty@rcaob.org.uk