

THE PARISHES OF S MARY THE VIRGIN, SUNDON & S SAVIOUR, LUTON. 902/433

SUNDAY JANUARY 24th 2021 – 3rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

DAILY MASS – LIVE STREAMED – ST MARY THE VIRGIN SUNDON FACEBOOK PAGE

Sun:	iii Per Annum	9:15am SOLEMN MASS	S MARY'S	PRO POPULO
		11:15am SOLEMN MASS	S SAVIOUR'S	PRO POPULO
Mon:	Conversion of S Paul	10:00am: Low Mass	S Mary's	Churches dedicated to S Paul
Tue:	Ss Timothy & Titus	10:00am: Low Mass	S Mary's	Richborough Clergy
Wed:	S Angela Merici	10:00am: Low Mass	St Mary's	Local Schools
Thu:	S Thomas Aquinas	10:00am: Low Mass	S Mary's	Those affected by inclement weather
Fri:	Feria	10:00am: Low Mass	S Mary's	Those administering Covid vaccine
Sat:	S Charles, K & M	10:00am Low Mass	S Mary's	Churches dedicated to S Charles, M
SUN	iii Per Annum	9:15 SOLEMN MASS	S MARY'S	PRO POPULO
		11:15 SOLEMN MASS	S SAVIOUR'S	PRO POPULO

Welcome to S Mary's and S Saviour's. Please continue to observe hands, face, space. Although the congregation cannot sing, Fr Yenda will continue to sing the Ordinary of the Mass.

Some thoughts as we move from Christmass into Ordinary Time.

As we find ourselves in the 3rd lockdown, again the little circular letters make an appearance. This time it is slightly different because some people are still able to attend church on Sundays, although a number of people are still shielding – both are perfectly fine; what is important is that people remain safe. In church we continue to observe the necessary safety precautions of hand sanitising, mask wearing and social distancing, and mass is live-streamed each day.

I think most people are finding this lockdown perhaps the hardest of the three. The weather is cold, the daylight hours are short and most of all we do not have the weather (or permission!) to see people in our gardens! However, we do have phones, internet, paper and stamps, and we can keep in touch with each other. Keeping in touch is key at this time. It is the isolation which is the hardest part of lockdown for most people, and that phone call one evening, that letter through the letterbox, that email from a friend makes such a big difference.

We have just had the Christmass celebrations (and in church decorations remain up until Candlemass), and probably our gifts of chocolates and sweets will have run out, and our new DVD boxsets will have been watched at least once! We are now in the season of Ordinary Time – when green vestments are used.

The season of Ordinary Time is rather interesting – it's a time when there doesn't seem to be anything special happening, although it doesn't mean there isn't. The use of the colour green in church reminds us of growth; just as the green grass grows on our lawns, so we are continuously growing in our relationship and closeness to God.

Whilst we still cannot see each other, we can still say our prayers, come to Mass on Sundays if we are able, and join the Mass and make a spiritual communion at home on line each day (with the mass on the internet if we have it). As Her Majesty The Queen said last year when the 1st lockdown began, we shall see each other again. Yes it's taking longer than any of us would like...but the vaccine is up and running...and as more and more people are receiving it, we know we will see each other again, and we will do all the things we are missing at this time.

We continue to hold in our prayers all those who work in the NHS, all those who have contracted Covid 19, all essential workers – teachers, school staff, those in retail, those in logistics, and all who are working to help us in anyway. Take care; keep safe; and look after yourselves.

With all good wishes As ever Fr Yenda

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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*O sing a new song to the Lord;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
In his presence are majesty and splendour,
strength and honour in his holy place.*

COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God,
direct our actions according to your good pleasure,
that in the name of your beloved Son
we may abound in good works.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

FIRST READING Jonah 3:1-5. 10

A reading from the prophet Jonah.

The word of the Lord was addressed to Jonah: "Up!" he said "Go to Nineveh, the great city, and preach to them as I told you to." Jonah set out and went to Nineveh in obedience to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was a city great beyond compare: it took three days to cross it. Jonah went on into the city, making a day's journey. He preached in these words, "Only forty days more and Nineveh is going to be destroyed." And the people of Nineveh believed in God; they proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest to the least.

God saw their efforts to renounce their evil behaviour. And God relented: he did not inflict on them the disaster which he had threatened.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 24

RESPONSE: Lord, make me know your ways.

1. Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour. **R.**
2. Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.
In your love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord. **R.**
3. The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path;
he teaches his way to the poor. **R.**

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians.

Brothers: our time is growing short. Those who have wives should live as though they had none, and those who mourn should live as though they had nothing to mourn for; those who are enjoying life should live as though there were nothing to laugh about; those whose life is buying things should live as though they had nothing of their own; and those who have to deal with the world should not become engrossed in it. I say this because the world as we know it is passing away.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!
The kingdom of God is close at hand;
believe the Good News.
Alleluia!*

GOSPEL Mark 1:14-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. "The time has come" he said "and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News."

As he was walking along by the Sea of Galilee he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net in the lake – for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you into fishers of men." And at once they left their nets and followed him.

Going on a little further, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they too were in their boat, mending their nets. He called them at once and, leaving their father Zebedee in the boat with the men he employed, they went after him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Accept our offerings, O Lord, we pray,
and in sanctifying them
grant that they may profit us for salvation.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

*Look toward the Lord and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.*

Or

*I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will not walk in darkness,
but will have the light of life.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Grant, we pray, almighty God,
that, receiving the grace
by which you bring us to new life,
we may always glory in your gift.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

