

THE PARISHES OF S MARY THE VIRGIN, SUNDON & S SAVIOUR, LUTON. 908/439

SUNDAY MARCH 7TH 2021 – 3RD Sunday of Lent

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

9:15am	ASPERGES & SOLEMN MASS	S MARY'S	PRO POPULO
11:15am	SOLEMN MASS	S SAVIOUR'S	PRO POPULO
Mon: S John of God	10:00am: Low Mass	S Mary's	Those rolling out vaccine
	12:00 noon: Funeral Service	S Saviour's	
Tue: S Frances of Rome	10:00am: Low Mass	S Mary's	Driving Instructors
Wed: Feria	10:00am Low Mass	S Mary's	Local Schools
Thu: Feria	10:00am: Low Mass	S Mary's	The Bereaved
Fri: Feria	10:00am Low Mass	S Mary's	The Sick
Sat: Feria	10:00am Low Mass	S Mary's	Retired Clergy
SUN Laetare Sunday	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 We continue to be in a national lockdown, and so we welcome both those who are here in person and those who are worshipping at home on line. Please continue to observe the necessary precautions – sanitise hands on entry and exit, observe social distancing, and all those who are not directly involved in the liturgy need to observe the wearing of face masks.

The congregation are still not permitted to sing, so Fr Yenda will continue to sing the Ordinary of the Mass, Laurence making the sung responses, the congregation making responses quietly to themselves.

On line Masses All masses, both on Sundays and daily in the week are live streamed on St Mary the Virgin Sundon facebook page – this is for both parishes and for anyone who would like to join us. Those who wish to attend Mass in person are also welcome to do so.

Upcoming High Masses: On March 19th – feast of S Joseph, and March 25th – feast of The Annunciation, there will be a **High Mass in the Extraordinary Form at 12 noon at S Mary's**. Do please join us!

The Jab. Congratulations those who've had it – if you're still waiting, do take it when offered! Please!

Lenten Thoughts: Lent is by nature not the most joyful season in the church calendar! It has always been a time when people diet, try to eat less exotic food, pack up drinking or smoking, and – when they are open – go to the gym or the local swimming pool! If you are doing any of these, best of luck!

In church history, last Friday, the church remembered Fr Arthur Tooth. Fr Tooth was a member of the Society of the Holy Cross (the Society for Anglo Catholic priests – and those of us who are affiliated to the Society of the Holy Cross have the letters 'SSC' after our names). The most famous picture of Fr Tooth is of him depicted behind prison bars. When we come to church, or join the Mass online, there are now so many things we take for granted in this day and age, but which in the 1800s were not only non-existent, but were outlawed.

Fr tooth was imprisoned in 1877 – his offences were using candles on the altar, wearing mass vestments, and using incense. We now take these for granted (at least at S Mary's and S Saviour's!) but in those days they caused riots and even imprisonment. Many things we take for granted, not only in church life, but also in many areas – have come about with a great deal of sacrifice from our forefathers.

As we continue through Lent, our sacrifices and our efforts also continue. We stick with them, because we will see the benefits – not only the physical and health benefits – but also in our celebration of Easter itself. Because if we think about Our Lord's suffering in the desert for forty days, and His great suffering on Good Friday, our own efforts may seem small in comparison, but when we come to Easter if we have prepared ourselves, how much greater our experience of Easter will be.

With all good wishes and continued prayers; Fr Yenda

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Note: Other prayers and readings may be used if the Scrutinies are celebrated today.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*My eyes are always on the Lord,
for he rescues my feet from the snare.
Turn to me and have mercy on me,
for I am alone and poor.*

Or

*When I prove my holiness among you,
I will gather you from all the foreign lands;
and I will pour clean water upon you
and cleanse you from all your impurities,
and I will give you a new spirit, says the Lord.*

COLLECT

O God, author of every mercy and of all goodness,
who in fasting, prayer and almsgiving
have shown us a remedy for sin,
look graciously on this confession of our lowliness,
that we, who are bowed down by our conscience,
may always be lifted up by your mercy.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING Exodus 20:1-17

A reading from the book of Exodus.

(for shorter form read between > <)

>God spoke all these words. He said, "I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

"You shall have no gods except me.<

"You shall not make yourself a carved image or any likeness of anything in heaven or on earth beneath or in the waters under the earth; you shall not bow down to them or serve them. For I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God and I punish the father's fault in the sons, the grandsons, and the great-grandsons of those who hate me; but I show kindness to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

>"You shall not utter the name of the Lord your God to misuse it, for the Lord will not leave unpunished the man who utters his name to misuse it.

"Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy.< For six days you shall labour and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath for the Lord your God. You shall do no work that day, neither you nor your son nor your daughter nor your servants, men or women, nor your animals nor the stranger who lives with you. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth and the sea and all that these hold, but on the seventh day he rested; that is why the Lord has blessed the sabbath and made it sacred.

>"Honour your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God has given to you.

"You shall not kill.

"You shall not commit adultery.

"You shall not steal.

"You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

"You shall not covet your neighbour's house. You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his servant, man or woman, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is his."<

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 18

RESPONSE: *You, Lord, have the message of eternal life.*

1. The law of the Lord is perfect,
it revives the soul.
The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,
it gives wisdom to the simple. **R.**
2. The precepts of the Lord are right,
they gladden the heart.
The command of the Lord is clear,
it gives light to the eyes. **R.**

3. The fear of the Lord is holy,
abiding for ever.
The decrees of the Lord are truth
and all of them just. **R.**

4. They are more to be desired than gold,
than the purest of gold
and sweeter are they than honey,
than honey from the comb. **R.**

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 1:22-25

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

While the Jews demand miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, here are we preaching a crucified Christ; to the Jews an obstacle that they cannot get over, to the pagans madness, but to those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, a Christ who is the power and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!
I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord,
whoever believes in me will never die.
Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!*

GOSPEL John 2:13-25

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, "Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market." Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, "What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?" Jesus answered, "Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews replied, "It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said.

During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Be pleased, O Lord, with these sacrificial offerings,
and grant that we who beseech pardon for our own sins,
may take care to forgive our neighbour.
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

*The sparrow finds a home,
and the swallow a nest for her young:
by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
Blessed are they who dwell in your house,
for ever singing your praise.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

As we receive the pledge
of things yet hidden in heaven
and are nourished while still on earth
with the Bread that comes from on high,
we humbly entreat you, O Lord,
that what is being brought about in us in mystery
may come to true completion.
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**