

The Week Ahead

Mon 15th	Easter feria	7.15am, 12.30pm, 6.00pm
Tues 16th	Easter feria	7.15am, 12.30pm, 6.00pm
Wed 17th	Easter feria	7.15am, 12.30pm, 6.00pm
Thu 18th	Easter feria	7.15am, 12.30pm, 6.00pm
Fri 19th	Easter feria	7.15am, 12.30pm, 6.00pm
Sat 20th	S Bernadine of Siena	10.00am 6.00pm (Vigil)
Sun 21st	Sixth Sunday of Easter	8.30am

9.30am [Extraordinary Form]

10.30am [Solemn Latin] Missa Trahe me post te *Victoria*;

Ave Maria a 8 *Victoria*; Gaude Maria virgo *Victoria*

Prelude and Fugue in D (BWV 532) *Bach*

12.00 Noon 2.00pm 4.00pm 7.00pm

The Rosary is prayed

each May weekday evening after the 6 o'clock Mass.

The **Catholic Union** is organising a lecture on "**Martyr & Exiles**" (about Christians and other persecuted minorities in the Middle East) on Thursday **1st June** at Notre Dame University, 1 Suffolk Street, SW1Y 4HG. Free admission – all welcome. For more information email info@catholicunion.org.uk

The **Society of Saint Vincent de Paul** does great work feeding the poor. One of its major fundraising events is the **annual bike ride** which this year will take place on **Sunday 11th June**. Riders and sponsorship are needed for what will be a 30-40 mile ride. Contact Simon Webb for details nixwebb@hoymail.com or 07866 545 123.

The teenagers who have been preparing since last autumn will receive **Confirmation** at Bishops Hudson's hands on **Wednesday 24th May at 7pm**.

The 2017 **Marylebone Service** (an Interfaith Celebration of Life in St. Marylebone, London's International Village) takes place this **Thursday (18th)** at 7pm in **St Marylebone Parish Church** and takes as its theme "**unity through diversity in a changing world**"

This year the feast of **Corpus Christi** is on **Sunday 18th June**. We shall again be celebrating with a Procession from the Assumption Church in Warwick Street (behind Regents Street) back to Saint James's. **Cardinal George Pell** is coming from Rome to preach and preside. Last year 2,000 people walked to testify to their Eucharistic faith – let's try to encourage others to come along with us to make this year's witness even larger. **Peter Allingham is asking for volunteers to help with stewarding – he will make an appeal for help at the 9.30 & 10.30am Masses this Sunday.**

Last weekend's giving £4,066-00

(includes envelopes but not bankers orders, etc)

St James's Roman Catholic Church, Spanish Place
22 George Street, London W1U 3QY

Fifth Sunday of Easter

14th May

2017



Latin Texts
pages 77 &
78 in Parish
Mass Book

TODAY'S LITURGY

[Parish Mass Book page 265]

Acts 6:1-7; 1 Peter 2:4-9; St John 14:1-12

Psalm Response: **May your love be upon us, O Lord,
as we place all our hope in you.**

10.30am Missa in honorem BMV de Loretto *Goller*
Regina caeli a 8 *Philips*; Ardens est cor meum *Victoria*
Finale (Sonata No.4) *Guilmant*

*Everyone is invited to join us in the Social Centre
for refreshments after the 9.30am and Solemn Mass*

The Reverend Christopher G. Colven (Rector)

The Reverend
Nicholas
Kavanagh

The Reverend
David J
Irwin

The Very Reverend
Monsignor
Francis C. Jamieson

Telephone: **020 7935 0943**

Email: spanishplace@sjrcc.org.uk

Web: www.sjrcc.org.uk

The Rector writes

According to Saint John's account of the Passion, at his trial before Pontius Pilate, Jesus stated: "*I came into this world to bear witness to the truth*" to which, famously, his judge responded by posing the question: "*truth - what is that?*" It is a question that seems to have a particular relevance today with the advent of "*fake news*" which, rather than being denigrated, seems to have taken on something of the status of an art form in itself. Until fairly recently there would have been a genuine concern to test the veracity of ideas or facts: philosophically, semantically, scientifically and legally, differing disciplines would have sought to analyse what is being put into the public domain. It is both alarming and disappointing to see how credulous many have become in choosing to accept whatever is presented to them (often through the new technologies) without asking "*what is truth?*" Even more worryingly opinion can be (and is) manipulated through the deliberate misuse of information, while others even argue that "*fake news*" achieves a legitimacy of its own by transmission. The Catechism injects a sense of realism when it argues: "*Lying is destructive of society: it undermines trust and tears apart the fabric of social relationships*", and it goes on to issue a firm directive: "*every offence committed against justice and truth entails the duty of reparation, even if its author has been forgiven!*"

You might well be expecting me to develop these thoughts with reference to the upcoming General Election, but (for this weekend at least) I want to follow another direction. The notion of reparation is a profoundly Catholic intuition, born out of a sense of human solidarity which the Catechism describes as "*an eminently Christian virtue. It practises the sharing of spiritual goods even more than material ones*". We believe that in one single act of loving obedience on Calvary, Jesus made up in his own body the distance that had opened between the Father and his creation. Everything that could be done to achieve human forgiveness and to open the way from death into the life of eternity has been done. The cross has reversed history and is not to be repeated, but as the words of a Eucharistic hymn remind us: "*Once only one and once all his precious life he gave ... one offering single and complete with lips and hearts we say, but what he never can repeat he shows forth day by day*". In the ongoing work of salvation God invites our cooperation and asks us to be co-redeemers with his Son, a process which will continue until the last day.

Saint Paul understands this invitation when he writes to the Colossians: "*it makes me happy to suffer for you, as I am suffering*

now, and in my own body to do what I can to make up all that still to be undergone by Christ for the sake of his body, the Church" (1:24). The consequences of Calvary have to be lived out in every fresh generation and it is the privilege of those who follow Christ to walk with him and play an individual part, as did Simon of Cyrene and Saint Veronica. We do this obviously by combining our prayer to that of the Saviour, by interceding with him and in him, but Saint Paul offers us the insight that everything we are, and most especially everything we suffer, can be turned to the common good. Nothing we consciously unite to Christ will be without its fruit: even the negatives of our lives can be turned into positives by making a gift of them to God. The Letter to the Galatians has the injunction: "*you should carry each other's burdens and so fulfil the law of Christ*" (6:2). Instead of allowing the complexities of this world to overwhelm us, we should realise that, through Christ, each of us can make a difference. Our small offerings of reparation, our acts of devotion, our mortifications, can, and do, make a difference. "*We are intermediaries, and in this sense mediators of grace for each other, and so we shall be held to account before the judgement seat of God, whether, within the measure of our possibilities, in our situation in life, through the gifts and talents we were endowed with, we did for others what we ought to have done, as intermediaries on behalf of our neighbours*" (Karl Rahner SJ).

Christopher Colven

NOTICES

Thank you to those who contributed to last weekend's **WEEF** collection for the training of priests for our diocese. **£2,585** has been raised thus far – there are envelopes at the back of church if you have not yet had the opportunity to make your offering – these should be handed to one of the priests or into the sacristy.

Congratulations to the second group of children who will receive First Holy Communion this Sunday during a Mass at 2pm. Photographs can be found online WWW.allweddingspluskids2 - the folder can be accessed with the password span1. We are especially grateful to Margaret Hulme and her team of catechists who have prepared this year's cohort of nearly seventy children so well. Please pray for **Edward & Teresa**, the grandparents of one of the First Communicants, who died together tragically on Monday.

Very sadly, three Sundays in a row there have been thefts from bags left while their owners have gone to receive Holy Communion. Please keep your valuables with you at all times.