

FISHER HOUSE



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

SUNDAY 16 MAY – 7th SUNDAY OF EASTER

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

| | | |
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| SUNDAY 16 | 7 TH SUNDAY OF EASTER 10.30am | Mass Sung English |
| Monday 17 | 8.20am | Mass |
| | 1.05pm | Mass |
| | 5.30–6.00pm | Eucharistic Adoration |
| Tuesday 18 | 8.20am | Mass |
| | 1.05pm | Mass |
| | 5.30–6.00pm | Eucharistic Adoration |
| Wednesday 19 | 8.20am | Mass |
| | 1.05pm | Mass |
| | 5.30–6.00pm | Eucharistic Adoration |
| Thursday 20 | 8.20am | Mass |
| | 1.05pm | Mass |
| | 5.30–6.00pm | Eucharistic Adoration |
| Friday 21 | 8.20am | Mass |
| | 1.05pm | Mass |
| | 5.30–6.00pm | Eucharistic Adoration |
| Saturday 22 | 8.20am | Mass |
| | 1.05pm | Mass |
| | 4.30–5.30pm | Confession |
| | 6.00pm | Mass Sung Latin (Vigil for Pentecost Sunday) |

EVENTS CALENDAR

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|--------------------|------------------|--|
| Sunday 16 | 12.00pm | Fisher Friends Virtual Coffee. Join using this link or Meeting ID 977 0795 2460. |
| | 4.30pm | The Dolphins football team will meet for training at the Chesterton Recreation Ground (CB4 1ED). No experience necessary. Contact Julia (jw735) if you have any questions. |
| Tuesday 18 | 3.00pm | Baking competition. Let Paul know if you would like to enter! |
| | 6.30pm | Benson Club will meet in Fisher House for a translation workshop. Contact Paul if interested. Knowledge of a foreign language not required. |
| Wednesday 19 | 7.00pm | Post-doc Society will meet for Bible study on Zoom. Contact Kotryna Bloznelyte (kb449). |
| Friday 21 | 3.00pm to 5.00pm | Tea on the terrace. An opportunity to relax, take a break from exams and deadlines, and enjoy tea and biscuits at the end of the working week. If anyone would like to help bake some more ambitious refreshments, contact Paul. |
| | 6.30pm | Vespers will be prayed in the chapel, with a short reflection from Charlotte Cummins. |
| | Saturday 22 | 9.00am |
| | 3.00pm | SVP Spiritual Meeting. Join on Zoom with this link . |
| Monday to Saturday | 4.15pm | SVP Soup Run. Please see their website for details and to sign up. |
| Every day | 9.00am to 9.00pm | Chapel open for private prayer. Please leave a kneeler on the floor when you leave, whether or not you have used one, so we know your space needs to be sanitised. |
| | 9.00am to 9.00pm | Library and Fisher Room open for study. Please sign-up in advance for Week 3 (up to Wednesday) and Week 4 (from Thursday). |

NOTICES

GRANTS FOR CATHOLIC WOMEN

The Elizabeth Kolb Memorial Trust welcomes applicants for grants towards the cost of books or equipment, travel (particularly if related to their studies) or medical expenses. Applicants must be practising Roman Catholics who were born in the UK or the Republic of Ireland, and are engaged in any course of studies at the University of Cambridge. Under the terms of the will, preference is to be given to '*Roman Catholic girls whose parents or either of them were born in the Jewish faith whether or not such parents shall have remained in the Jewish faith.*'

Grants are usually given for **up to £500** for well-defined purposes and where a clear break-down of expenses is offered. The great majority of grants are made towards the end of the Easter Term (so that applications can be considered together). Applications for the year 2020–21 must be received by **21 May 2021**, although applications may be considered at other times in exceptional circumstances of hardship.

You can find the application form [here](#), or contact Dr Anne Cobby (aec25).

SVP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Society of St Vincent de Paul is looking for volunteer 'Digital Champions' to help manage safeguarding training Zoom calls. They would not need to deliver any content, but only help to run the chat and break-out rooms. Please contact Teresa Kehoe (teresak@svp.org.uk) for further details.

NEW LAY ASSISTANT

Fisher House is looking for a new lay assistant for the next academic year. This is a full-time role, lasting ten months, from September 2021 to July 2022. If you would like to apply, please send a CV to the current assistant, Paul Norris (pn303), who would be happy to answer any questions about the job. The deadline for applications is Monday 7th June.

REFLECTION

THE ONE WHO CHOSE TO BE LOST

Today's readings are shadowed by the figure of Judas. He is the traitor who refuses the blessings described by John's epistle: refuses to share the Spirit, refuses to live in God, refuses to love. Jesus mentions his betrayer, but omits his name:

not one is lost
except the one who chose to be lost,
and this was to fulfil the scriptures.

Jesus' words provoke a question. How can Judas have *chosen* to be lost, if his action was fulfilling a prophecy, something which must inevitably happen? It is an ambiguity preserved also in Matthew's gospel. Here, Judas asks Christ if he will be his betrayer. Christ's response is the same as that to Pilate and to the high priest when they ask if he is the Messiah, the king of the Jews: *su eipas*, 'You have said so.'

Jesus could simply have said 'Yes' to all three of these questions, from Judas, Pilate and the high priest. His response can seem evasive. Christ's words simply echo what the questioner has asked: they are reflective in the fullest sense, astonishingly reflective for someone approaching such a painful death.

Christ preserves the same ambiguity present in today's gospel, between God's will and human will. His being the messiah, the king of the Jews, depends on Pilate and the high priest condemning him, as he must achieve his glory through his suffering and death. So it truly is because they 'have said so': their words are performative utterances, true because they have said them.

Equally Judas' betrayal of Christ requires his own will. It is not for Jesus to say 'Yes' or 'No' to Judas' question: the choice is his own. Judas' action is overdetermined, driven by fear of punishment and desire for reward, perhaps also by resentment, envy, pride. In the eyes of the world, betrayal was the inevitable decision. But he could have chosen otherwise, if he had accepted Jesus' friendship.

Judas is in the world, buffeted between inner drives and external pressures. His reasons are worldly reasons, his haste is a worldly haste. Jesus shows us another way, a reflective way. Judas' choice seems to be made quickly; it is not really a choice at all. Jesus' decision to accept his Father's will is an agonised one. It takes reflection. Reflection again in the fullest sense, of accepting other people's will for himself rather than insisting on his own.

Judas not only enables God's plan by betraying Jesus, but brings out how radical Jesus' love is: it is a love that exists in the world without being of it, that has no need for earthly reasons, allows us to transcend them. Religion, for St Augustine (in a characteristically inaccurate etymology), does precisely this: it is a binding (*religantes*) and a retracing or rereading (*religitur*). We are bound to Christ through friendship, and by being bound to him we are no longer bound to sin, no longer bound to take the obvious way, the easy way, the unreflective way.

MASS TEXTS

SUNDAY 16 MAY YEAR I — 7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

THE sGLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God,
Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

FIRST READING

Acts 1:15–17, 20–26

One day Peter stood up to speak to the brothers – there were about a hundred and twenty persons in the congregation: ‘Brothers, the passage of scripture had to be fulfilled in which the Holy Spirit, speaking through David, foretells the fate of Judas, who offered himself as a guide to the men who arrested Jesus – after having been one of our number and actually sharing this ministry of ours. Now in the Book of Psalms it says:

Let someone else take his office.

‘We must therefore choose someone who has been with us the whole time that the Lord Jesus was travelling round with us, someone who was with us right from the time when John was baptising until the day when he was taken up from us – and he can act with us as a witness to his resurrection.’

Having nominated two candidates, Joseph known as Barsabbas, whose surname was Justus, and Matthias, they prayed, ‘Lord, you can read everyone’s heart; show us therefore which of these two you have

chosen to take over this ministry and apostolate, which Judas abandoned to go to his proper place.’ They then drew lots for them, and as the lot fell to Matthias, he was listed as one of the twelve apostles.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 97 (98)

℟: The Lord has set his sway in heaven.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings. ℟
2. For as the heavens are high above the earth
so strong is his love for those who fear him.
As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins. ℟
3. The Lord has set his sway in heaven
and his kingdom is ruling over all.
Give thanks to the Lord, all his angels,
mighty in power, fulfilling his word. ℟

SECOND READING

1 John 4:11–16

My dear people,
since God has loved us so much,
we too should love one another.
No one has ever seen God;
but as long as we love one another
God will live in us
and his love will be complete in us.
We can know that we are living in him
and he is living in us

because he lets us share his Spirit.
We ourselves saw and we testify
that the Father sent his Son
as saviour of the world.
If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God,
God lives in him, and he in God.
We ourselves have known and put our faith in
God's love towards ourselves.
God is love
and anyone who lives in love lives in God,
and God lives in him.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord;
I will come back to you,
and your hearts will be full of joy.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:

‘Holy Father,
keep those you have given me true to your name,
so that they may be one like us.
While I was with them,
I kept those you had given me true to your name.
I have watched over them
and not one is lost
except the one who chose to be lost,
and this was to fulfil the scriptures.
But now I am coming to you
and while still in the world I say these things
to share my joy with them to the full.
I passed your word on to them,

and the world hated them,
because they belong to the world
no more than I belong to the world.
I am not asking you to remove them from the world,
but to protect them from the evil one.
They do not belong to the world
any more than I belong to the world.
Consecrate them in the truth;
your word is truth.
As you sent me into the world,
I have sent them into the world,
and for their sake I consecrate myself
so that they too may be consecrated in truth.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

John 14:18

THE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God
from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not
made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were
made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became
man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered
death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance
with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right
hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and
the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has
spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and
apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and
I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world
to come. Amen.

John 17:11–19