

People of the Word: Moses (part 2)

Last week we heard how God revealed Himself to Moses at the burning bush, and called Moses to free Israel from slavery in Egypt. **Today we continue the story of Moses.**

When Moses led the people of God out of Egypt, Pharaoh changed his mind about releasing them and persued them into the desert. At the Red Sea they feared they would die, but God parted the waters and the people passed through the sea. When Pharaoh's army followed, the waters closed in and they were drowned. Here is a powerful symbol of the defeat of evil, and a sign of our baptism, in which God washes away sin and gives us a new life of freedom.

For the Israelites there followed a period of 40 years in the desert, journeying to the land God had set aside for them – the 'Promised Land'. Moses met God on Mount Sinai, and here God gave him the Ten Commandments. Through these years, the people were often unfaithful to God, but He stayed close to them, feeding them with 'manna' – later described as 'bread from heaven' – which is a sign of the Eucharist. In this sacrament God feeds us with the Body and Blood of Christ, the food we need to journey to the Promised Land of heaven. Moses let the people for these 40 years, but died shortly before they entered the Promised Land.



Questions for reflection:

- God freed the people from slavery in Egypt. From what do I need God to free me? What are my 'slaveries' – possessions, sins, addictions, my own will?
- How much do I value the Eucharist, the Bread from Heaven given by God as I make my journey to the Promised Land of heaven?

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MASSSES THIS WEEK – Mass book page 155

Office: Psalter Week 2; Sundays: Year A; Weekdays: Week 2 of Lent

Date	Time	Occasion	Intention/Details
Saturday 7 th Mar	6pm (vigil)	Second Sunday of Lent	Tom McAuley Sr RIP
	7pm (vigil)		<i>NeoCatechumenal Way</i>
Sunday 8 th March	9:30am		Kathleen Walker RIP
	6pm		Peter Sissons RIP
Monday	9:15am		Holy Souls
	5:15pm		<i>Mass in hospital chapel</i>
Tuesday	7pm		Special Intention (CGP)
Wednesday	9:15am		John George RIP
Thursday	9:15am		Theresa and John Topping RIP
Friday	12noon		Holy Souls
Saturday 14 th	10am	Third Sunday of Lent	Holy Souls
	6pm (vigil)		George Love RIP
	7pm (vigil)		<i>NeoCatechumenal Way</i>
Sunday 15 th March	9:30am		Fr Bernard Woods RIP
	6pm		People of the Parish

LATELY DEAD: Please pray for all who have died recently.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday-Friday 7am-8am; Saturday 10:30am-12noon.

LITURGY OF THE HOURS: Morning Prayer 7:45am Monday-Friday during Lent; sung Vespers and Benediction 3:30pm on Sundays during Lent.

CONFESSIONS: Saturday 11am-12noon and on request.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Sundays 3pm during Lent.

ROSARY: Prayed after 9:15am Mass and before 12noon Mass.

ST ANTHONY: March wall box donations will go to local people in need of help.

ANNIVERSARIES: Jack Farnworth, Elizabeth Duffy, Ted Boulton, Mary Hickson, Joseph Moss, Violet Donnelly, Louise Ross. Constance Ashcroft, Daniel Rainford.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS MARCH: We pray that the Church in China may persevere in its faithfulness to the Gospel and grow in unity.

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE: 23rd-30th October 2021. Details of the trip are available on information sheets in the narthex. Booking forms from the parish office.

ANointing OF THE SICK: Parishioners who are particularly elderly or frail may request the Sacrament of the Sick. Given that coronavirus precautions may make home visits difficult in the coming weeks, please be proactive in requesting this.

LECTIO DIVINA: Each Tuesday during Lent, an opportunity to pray together this form of meditation. A chance to listen to the Word of God using a pattern of prayer taught by St Clare. 7:30-8:15pm in the side chapel. All welcome.

CONFESSION DURING LENT: Regular times are Saturday 11am-12noon, but confession is also available by appointment. There will be a Reconciliation Service with individual confession and absolution on the Monday of Holy Week (6th April).

CENACOLO COLLECTION: Next weekend (14th/15th). Please leave items in the house porchway. **FOOD BANK** collection will be on 21st/22nd March.

CAFOD LENT FAST DAY: Please return your envelopes this week if possible.

LENTEN LUNCHES will begin on this Friday (13th). Soup and a roll after the 12noon Mass, with all donations going to our ACN Iraq appeal.

HOLY WEEK MUSIC PRACTICE: This Wednesday, 6:30pm in the church. Come and help us to celebrate well the mysteries of Holy Week. All welcome.

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING: 21st March at Our Lady and St Edward's, open to all who volunteer in the parish. The parish will be able to fund some places – speak to Fr Andrew. More details from Mike Simpson or Brenda Scales, or see poster.

PILATES: Please note, the Saturday Pilates class is currently full. If you would like to join a waiting list for places, please contact Cathy Greenwood or the parish office.

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE YOUTH: Young people (school year 10 and over) are invited to take part in the diocesan Lourdes pilgrimage, 23rd July-1st August. If you are interested in going on the pilgrimage, please speak to Fr Andrew.

CTS BOOK CLUB: Meeting this Sunday (8th) after the evening Mass. The booklet is *Living Fruitfully: Self-control* by Fr John Hogan. All welcome.

YEAR OF THE WORD: Metanoia's 'The God who speaks' series continues this Thursday, 7:30pm at St Wilfrid's. Poster with full details in the narthex.

POLAND PILGRIMAGE: with St Maria Goretti's parish. 13th-19th September 2020. £550 excluding flights. If interested, contact Fr Pawel Szatlewski on 07970754208.

OLSE LADIES' GROUP: Meeting this Thursday (12th) at OLSE Parish Centre, 8pm. A talk/demonstration by Yvonne Pinder on decorating terracotta pots. Cost £2.

LAST WEEK: At Mass: 495; Collection: £1,009.63. Thank you for your generosity.

Events this week (occasional/one-off events in bold type)

Day	Time	What?	Where?
Sunday 8 th	9:30am	Children's liturgy	At Mass
	10:30am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Parish Hall
	3pm	Stations of the Cross	Church
	3:30pm	Sung Vespers and Benediction	Church
	7pm	Anointed/Sent Groups (years 7-11)	Parish Hall
	7pm	CTS Book Club	Chapel
Monday-Friday	9am	Pre-school	Parish Hall
	3:20pm	After-school club	Parish Hall
Monday	6:15pm	Cubs	Parish Hall
	7:30pm	Fabric and Finance Committee	Presbytery
	7:45pm	Scouts	Parish Hall
Tuesday	7:30pm	Marriage Preparation (8)	Parish Hall
	7:30pm	Lectio Divina	Chapel
Wednesday	9:45am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Narthex
	6pm	Seekers (school years 4-6)	Parish Hall
	6:30pm	Holy Week Music Practice	Church
	7:45pm	NCW Penitential	Parish Hall
Thursday	6:15pm	Beavers	Parish Hall
Friday	12:40pm	Lenten Lunch	Parish Hall
Sat / Sun	At Mass	Cenacolo Collection	House Porch
Sunday 15 th	9:30am	Children's liturgy	At Mass
	10:30am	After-Mass tea/coffee	Parish Hall
	10:30am	Holy Communion preparation (3)	Parish Hall
	3pm	Stations of the Cross	Church
	3:30pm	Sung Vespers and Benediction	Church
	4:30pm	Confirmation preparation (3)	Parish Hall
	7pm	Anointed/Sent Groups (years 7-11)	Parish Hall
	7:15pm	Parish Council	Presbytery

Diary Dates

Thursday 19th March: Solemnity of St Joseph. Mass at 9:15am

Wednesday 25th March: Solemnity of the Annunciation. Mass at 9:15am

Saturday 28th March: Messy Church, 1:30pm

Sunday 29th March: Rededication of England to Our Lady