

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

Or

Receive the joy of your glory, giving thanks to God, who has called you into the heavenly kingdom, alleluia.

COLLECT

God of everlasting mercy,
who, in the very recurrence of the paschal feast
kindle the faith of the people you have made your own,
increase, we pray, the grace you have bestowed,
that all may grasp and rightly understand
in what font they have been washed,
by whose Spirit they have been reborn,
by whose Blood they have been redeemed.
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 Acts 5:12-16

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the Apostles. And they were all together in the Solomon's Portico. None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high esteem. And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, so that they even carried out the sick into the streets and laid them on cots and mats, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. The people also gathered from the towns round Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Psalm 118(117):2-4. 22-24. 25-27a. R. 1

R: Give praise to the Lord for he is good, his mercy endures for ever.

Or **Alleluia.**

1. Let the house of Israel say,
'His mercy endures for ever.'
Let the house of Aaron say,
'His mercy endures for ever.'
Let those who fear the Lord say,
'His mercy endures for ever.' **R.**
2. The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.
By the Lord has this been done,
a marvel in our eyes.
This is the day the Lord has made;
let us rejoice in it and be glad. **R.**
3. We beseech you, O Lord, grant salvation;
we beseech you, O Lord, grant success.
Blest is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
We bless you from the house of the Lord;
the Lord is God, and has given us light. **R.**

SECOND READING Revelation 1:9-11a. 12-13. 17-19

A reading from the Book of Revelation.

I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet saying, 'Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches.'

Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash round his chest. When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, 'Fear not, I am the first and the last, and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive for evermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades. Write therefore the things that you have seen, those that are and those that are to take place after this.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL John 20:29

R: Alleluia, Alleluia.

You believed, Thomas, because you have seen me, says the Lord.

Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.

R: Alleluia.

GOSPEL John 20:19-31

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.' And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.'

Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord'. But he said to them, 'Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.'

Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.'

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Accept, O Lord, we pray,
the oblations of your people
(and of those you have brought to new birth),
that, renewed by confession of your name and by Baptism,
they may attain unending happiness.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

*Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails,
and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Grant, we pray, almighty God,
that our reception of this paschal Sacrament
may have a continuing effect
in our minds and hearts.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Parish of St Anselm, Hayes

April 27th, 2025

Divine Mercy Sunday (Low Sunday)

Today we give thanks for the life and ministry of Pope Francis, who died on Easter Monday and was buried yesterday. "Well done, good and faithful servant...enter thou into the joy of thy lord." (Matthew 25:23)

The 2nd Sunday of Easter has been known as Divine Mercy Sunday since 2000. The Polish nun, St Faustina Kowalska, was canonised in that year, and her special charism was to have received this vision



of Jesus: "Kowalska wrote that on the night of Sunday, 22 February 1931, while she was in her cell in Plock, Jesus appeared wearing a white garment with red and pale rays emanating from his heart." She was unable to paint the image herself, but under her direction the artist Eugeniusz Kazimirowski

did create a now famous painting. St Faustina heard Jesus instruct her that he wanted this Divine Mercy image to be "solemnly blessed on the first Sunday after Easter Sunday; that Sunday is to be the Feast of Mercy."

Entrance Hymn

142 Christ the Lord is risen again!

Offertory Hymn

493 Jesu, my Lord, my God, my all

Recessional

157 The Lord is risen indeed!

THIS WEEK

28th: Solemnity of St George, Martyr. No services in church; Offices said privately.

29th: *St Catherine of Siena, Virgin, Doctor. Morning Prayer 0945; Mass 1000; Boys' Brigade 1700*

30th: Wednesday of 2nd Week of Eastertide.

Morning Prayer 0945; Mass 1000; No Warm Centre; Evening Prayer 1700

1st May: Thursday of 2nd Week of Eastertide.

Morning Prayer 0945; Mass 1000; Evening Prayer 1700

2nd: St Athanasius, Bishop. No services in church; Offices said privately.

3rd: *Feast of SS Philip and James, Apostles. No services in church; Offices said privately.*

NEXT SUNDAY: Sunday 4th May: 3rd Sunday of Easter. Mass at 1000 as usual.

PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS

Kathyan Fenton; Desiree Loderick; Adeline and Leila; Tom Shipman

(If you wish a name to be on the list, please give the details to Susan, Fr Josiah, or Fr Stephen.)

RECENTLY DEPARTED: David Kelly, Eustace Fenton

ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH

27th April: Edith Jemmett, Elizabeth Burton

28th: Annie Elizabeth Rymill

29th: Elise Ernest

30th: Vera Holmes, Edith Buttrum

2nd May: Barbara Botley, John Boughton, Julian Charles

SPECIAL BLESSINGS: Please let one of the sidespeople or a churchwarden know before mass begins if you'd like a special blessing. If you have requested a blessing, please come up to the chancel step after the intercessions.

YOUNG CHILDREN IN CHURCH: Don't worry if they make a noise or move about! Young visitors to the sanctuary are always welcome, so no drama if they go for a walk! We'll have a look at the children's work after mass...

FINANCIAL POSITION: During March 2025, our income was £3,804.46, and our outgoings were £2,105.08. This is a much better result and reflects the delays we experienced in paying cash into the bank in February. But we are still just about breaking even, so please consider if you can increase your contributions to the church, preferably via the Parish Giving Scheme if you don't already use that service.

SPONSORING CANDLES, ETC.: If you would like to help us by sponsoring votive candles, sanctuary lights, incense, or wafers for communion, please talk to one of the clergy or to Susan. A sanctuary light costs £3.50, votive candles (next to the statues of the saints) are £1.00 each, and 100 communion wafers are £1.50. We'd be very grateful for your support.

STAFF CONTACT DETAILS

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THE PCC MEETS AFTER MASS TODAY.

PLEASE JOIN US IN THE HALL AFTER MASS FOR TEA AND COFFEE, AND BISCUITS OR CAKE!