

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

*Give me justice, O God,  
and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless.  
From the deceitful and cunning rescue me,  
for you, O God, are my strength.*

**COLLECT**

By your help, we beseech you, Lord our God,  
may we walk eagerly in that same charity  
with which, out of love for the world,  
your Son handed himself over to death.  
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** Isaiah 43:16-21

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

Thus says the LORD,  
who makes a way in the sea,  
a path in the mighty waters,  
who brings forth chariot and horse,  
army and warrior;  
they lie down, they cannot rise,  
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:  
'Remember not the former things,  
nor consider the things of old.  
Behold, I am doing a new thing;  
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?  
I will make a way in the wilderness  
and rivers in the desert.  
The wild beasts will honour me,  
the jackals and the ostriches,  
for I give water in the wilderness,  
rivers in the desert,  
to give drink to my chosen people,  
the people whom I formed for myself  
that they might declare my praise.'

The word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** Psalm 126(125):1-2b. 2c-3. 4-5. 6. R. 3

*R: What great deeds the LORD worked for us!  
Indeed, we were glad.*

1. When the LORD brought back the exiles of Sion,  
we thought we were dreaming.  
Then was our mouth filled with laughter;  
on our tongues, songs of joy. **R.**
2. Then they said among the nations,  
'What great deeds the LORD worked for them!  
What great deeds the LORD worked for us!  
Indeed, we were glad. **R.**
3. Bring back our exiles, O LORD,  
as streams in the Negeb.  
Those who are sowing in tears  
will sing when they reap. **R.**
4. They go out, they go out, full of tears,  
bearing seed for the sowing;  
they come back, they come back with a song,  
bearing their sheaves. **R.**

**SECOND READING** Philippians 3:8-14

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians.

Brothers and sisters: I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith – that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on towards the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

**ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL** Joel 2:12-13

*R: Glory to you, O Christ, Son of the living God.*

Even now, says the LORD,  
return to me with all your heart,  
for I am gracious and merciful.

*R: Glory to you, O Christ, Son of the living God.*

**GOSPEL** John 8:1-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

At that time: Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. Early in the morning he came again to the temple. All the people came to him, and he sat down and taught them. The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery, and placing her in the midst they said to him, 'Teacher, this woman has been caught in the act of adultery. Now in the Law, Moses commanded us to stone such women. So what do you say?' This they said to test him, that they might have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground. And as they continued to ask him, he stood up and said to them, 'Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her.' And once more he bent down and wrote on the ground. But when they heard it, they went away one by one, beginning with the older ones, and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him. Jesus stood up and said to her, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' She said, 'No one, Lord.' And Jesus said, 'Neither do I condemn you; go, and from now on sin no more.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

Hear us, almighty God,  
and, having instilled in your servants  
the teachings of the Christian faith,  
graciously purify them  
by the working of this sacrifice.  
Through Christ our Lord.

*Amen.*

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

*Has no one condemned you, woman? No one, Lord.  
Neither shall I condemn you. From now on, sin no more.*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

We pray, almighty God,  
that we may always be counted among the members of Christ,  
in whose Body and Blood we have communion.  
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

*Amen.*

## The Parish of St Anselm, Hayes

April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025

The Fifth Sunday of Lent (Passion Sunday)

"Behold, I am doing a new thing," the Lord announces in Isaiah's prophecy in our first reading this morning. And we don't have to wait long before



Jesus gives us a startling example of just such a 'new thing' in the gospel reading. Rather than join in the Pharisees' chorus of condemnation and violence when they find a woman committing adultery, Jesus

responds by challenging them to look at their own lives and behaviour. And when they do that, they inevitably find that they are on shaky ground. Jesus demonstrates his willingness to forgive, even serious sins, if the sinner commits to changing their ways in the future. And St Paul, in the second reading, shares his advice. Whatever we may have done in the past, we must forget what lies behind and strain forwards to what lies ahead.

### Entrance Hymn

126 There is a green hill far away

### Offertory Hymn

124 O Sacred head, sore wounded

### Recessional

125 Sweet the moments, rich in blessing

### THIS WEEK

7<sup>th</sup>: Monday of 5<sup>th</sup> week of Lent. No services in church; Offices said privately.

8<sup>th</sup>: Tuesday of 5<sup>th</sup> week of Lent. Morning Prayer 0945; Mass 1000; **NO BOYS' BRIGADE this week or next**; Lent Course fifth session 1830 at church, or on Zoom.

9<sup>th</sup>: Wednesday of 5<sup>th</sup> week of Lent. Morning Prayer 0945; Mass 1000; No Warm Centre; Evening Prayer 1700

10<sup>th</sup>: Thursday of 5<sup>th</sup> week of Lent. Morning Prayer 0945; Mass 1000; Stations of the Cross 1030; Evening Prayer 1700

11<sup>th</sup>: Friday of 5<sup>th</sup> week of Lent. No services in church; Offices said privately.

12<sup>th</sup>: Saturday of 5<sup>th</sup> week of Lent. Offices said privately.

**NEXT SUNDAY:** Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April: Palm Sunday. Mass at 1000, starting with additional Gospel and Procession. Please be at mass on time!

### 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

6<sup>th</sup>: Charles Force

7<sup>th</sup>: O Griffiths [priest]

8<sup>th</sup>: Edward Baverstock, Joan Neighbour

9<sup>th</sup>: Stanley Colin Newman

11<sup>th</sup>: Annie New

12<sup>th</sup>: Laurie Murray

**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 do sign up! 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. Please talk to one of the clergy or to Susan. We'll be delighted to receive your sponsorship.

### STAFF CONTACT DETAILS

Fr Stephen: [fr.stephen@stanselm.co.uk](mailto:fr.stephen@stanselm.co.uk); 020 4603 7795

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Susan: [susan@stanselm.co.uk](mailto:susan@stanselm.co.uk)

**EASTER CONFESSIONS:** During Holy Week (April 14<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>), Frs Stephen and Josiah will be available to hear confessions, by appointment. Please speak to them or use the contact details above.

Please see the HOLY WEEK services on the notice board at the back of church – or pick up a leaflet.

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