



Church of Our Lady Queen of Peace and Blessed Margaret Pole

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Fifth Sunday of Lent

22nd March 2026

I am the Resurrection and the Life

Mass Times

Sat 21st	Lent Weekday	
	12.00	Marc Campbell+
Sun 22nd	Fifth Sunday of Lent	
	9.30	Ann & Jim Ahern+
	11.00	People of the Parish
Mon 23rd	Lent Weekday	
	10.00	Anthony Cantwell+
Tue 24th	Lent Weekday	
	10.00	Doreen Murphy+
Wed 25th	Annunciation of the Lord	
	10.00	Funeral of Anita Goddard
Thu 26th	Lent Weekday	
	No Mass	
Fri 27th	Lent Weekday	
	10.00	Marcelino Leiro & Maria Leiro+
	18.30	Stations of the Cross
	19.00	Penitential Service Corpus Christi
Sat 28th	Lent Weekday	
	12.00	Ann Cremin Shafi+
Sun 29th	Palm Sunday	
	9.30	Catherine & Gerald Welch
	11.00	People of the Parish



Giotto di Bondone, The Raising of Lazarus 1305

Tea & Coffee in the Parish Hallafter Sunday masses
 Children's Liturgy (Sign in required)..... Sunday 9.30
 Holy Hourafter Wednesday morning mass
 Confessions.....during Holy Hour Wednesday & at call
 Choir Practice..... 18.00 Monday in Church
 Sunday Readings:..... Year A
 Weekday Readings:..... Year 2
 Baptisms.....Contact the Deacon
 Marriages:Contact the Parish Priest
 Mother's Prayer Group..... 2nd & 4th Fridays 10.30
 Rosary Group....Fridays 10.30 when no Mother's Prayers
 Friendship Club..... 14.00 Fridays
 Safeguarding & Data Protection Officer
 Mary Basing 07969 120264

Cycle of Prayer: Lent

Candidates for the Sacraments, The Needy and Hungry of the World, Women's World Day of Prayer, Survivors of Sexual Abuse, Penitents and Wanderers

Fifth Sunday of Lent

In these final weeks of Lent, we journey closer to the Cross and the empty tomb. Today's Gospel presents Jesus' greatest 'sign' before His own Passion: He weeps with Martha and Mary, confronts the reality of death and yet boldly commands, 'Take away the stone' and 'Lazarus, come out!'

Lazarus emerges bound in burial clothes. Jesus turns to the community: 'Untie him and let him go.' This is not just a miracle of physical resurrection; it's a call to freedom. Jesus invites us to participate in unbinding one another from whatever entombs us: sin, grief, fear, despair, or injustice.

As we approach Holy Week let us reflect on these questions: Where in my life do I feel 'dead' or bound? How is Jesus calling me forth? Whom can I help 'unbind' through mercy, forgiveness, or support?

Jesus says to Martha —and to us— 'I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live.' In Baptism, we were already raised with Christ. Lent invites us to live that reality more fully, shedding old ways and stepping into Easter hope.



First Communion

We recently had a meeting for parents and children who wish to make their First Communion in 2026

Dates for the remaining classes are:

22nd March, 19th & 26th April, 10th & 17th May. The rehearsal will be on Friday 5th June with the First Confession on 9th May and the First Communion itself on Saturday 6th June at 12.00. For information contact Angie on fhcteam.olqp@gmail.com.

**Feed your faith
and your doubts will starve to death**

Knights of St Columba

The local council of the Knights of St Columba will be celebrating their centenary at the 11.00 mass on Sunday 26th April. Refreshments in the Hall afterwards.

Cafod's Big Lent Walk

Are you ready for a challenge this Lent? Walk anytime, anywhere 200 Kms in 40 days and raise funds for life-saving water. Step up this Lent to help our neighbours. Go to cafod.org.uk/biglentwalk and sign up today or contact Jackie on 07948516854 or more information.

**The Holy Scriptures were not given to us
that we should enclose them in books,
but that we should
engrave them upon our hearts**

St John Chrysostom

Funeral

The funeral of **Anita Goddard** will take place at Our Lady Queen of Peace on Wednesday 25th March at 10.00 followed by burial in Christchurch Cemetery.

Feast of the Annunciation

Wednesday 25th March is the Feast of the Annunciation. It is a good day on which to say the Rosary and invoke the protection of Our Blessed Lady.

The Portrait

A travelling portrait painter passed through a small town, set up his easel but could get no custom. The main street was practically empty. A drunk was thrown out of a pub and collapsed in the gutter. The painter moved his easel over and began to paint the drunk. After a while the drunk came round got to his feet and took a look at the painting. He was amazed at the picture, it was him but cleanly shaven, better looking, smartly dressed and looking prosperous. 'That's not me.' he shouted. 'No', came the reply, 'but it's the man you could be!'



Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross will be at 18.30 on the Fridays of Lent. Booklets are available so you can make the Stations of the Cross at any time.

*We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you,
because by your Holy Cross,
you have redeemed the world.*

The Easter Ceremonies

Maundy Thursday..... The Lord's Supper 19.00
Good Friday The Passion of the Lord 15.00
..... Taizé Evening 19.30
Holy Saturday..... The Easter Vigil 20.00

A Prayer for the Fifth Sunday of Lent

God of life, on this Fifth Sunday of Lent, we thank you for the sign of Lazarus's resurrection, a foretaste of Easter hope. Free us from the fear of death, unbind us from our faults, and lead us eagerly toward the charity of your Son, who handed himself over for love of us. We ask this through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Make not a show of your good deeds
suffice it that the Father heeds;
by fast and prayer in secret done
in heaven reward for you is won**

Easter Duties

The faithful are required by Canon Law to receive the Eucharist at least once a year and this precept should be fulfilled between Ash Wednesday and Pentecost Sunday. It is presumed that Catholics would ordinarily go to Confession in preparation for receiving Holy Communion. These are minimum requirements to help ensure regular encounter with Christ in the sacraments. The Church invites more frequent reception of Holy Communion (even weekly or daily) and regular Confession for deeper spiritual growth.

Maundy Thursday

If you would like to volunteer to get your feet washed at the Maundy Thursday Mass please sign the sheet at the back of the Church. Thank you for your service.

Lent Penitential Service

There will be a Penitential Service for Lent at Corpus Christi Church on Friday 27th March at 19.00. A number of priests will be available. Confessions take place in our Church during the Holy Hour every Wednesday and any time at call in the Presbytery or immediately after daily mass.

Recent Collections

Standing Orders £410, Sunday £1948, Contactless £174 with thanks.

Readers and Eucharistic Ministers

Readers: 9.30 S Smith, B Nanovo 11.00 C Wright, L Goodall **Ministers:** 9.30 V Brooks 11.00 H Gardiner **n/w Readers:** 9.30 J Carr-Jones, R Hernandez 11.00 M-A Jean-Francoise, V Dybka **n/w Ministers:** 9.30 J Happe 11.00 L Goodall

Forthcoming Dates

Finance Committee 24th March
Penitential Service (Corpus Christi) 27th March
Easter Sunday 5th April
First Communion 6th June