

# Parish of St Mary, Middlewich & St Margaret Ward, Holmes Chapel

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**Second Sunday of Easter , 19th April 2020**

Sunday	19th Apr	10.30am	<b>Louise Turnbull Anniv</b>
		3.00pm	<b>Adoration &amp; Divine Mercy Prayers</b>
Monday	20th Apr	9.00am	<b>Mary Walshe Anniv.</b>
Tuesday	21st Apr	9.00am	<b>Philip Holbrook</b>
Wednesday	22nd Apr	7.30pm	<b>Genaro Cagampang</b>
Thursday	23rd Apr	3.15pm	<b>Requiem Mass for Charlie Egan</b> <i>St George</i>
Friday	24th Apr	9.00am	<b>John &amp; Amelia Dilworth Anniv.</b>
Sunday	26th Apr	10.30am	<b>Lily Costello B'day</b>

**Sacrament of Reconciliation : On request in extreme need**  
**Sacrament of Baptism On hold until further notice.**

### Please Pray for

ALL who are sick at home and in hospital: Stephen Grey, Margaret McCallum, Sara O'Brien, Jamie Connor, John Bomford, Nathan Carter, Larry Porter, Gillian Robinson, Tim Bradbury, Roy Yearsley, Peter Hannon, Stan Rosiak, Sadie Everard, Alex Randall Jenny Ogden, John Evans, Shirley Gaskell, Joan Upton, Karen Potts, Fr Pat Munroe, Mary Morris, Michael McCluskey, Jan D, Margaret Scarlett, Angela Kitchen, Fr Paul Hughes, Deacon Philip White, Martin Armit , Emily Wickham, Fr Jim McGrath, Ursula Finn, Elaine Trower, Glyn Maddock, Veronica Barrett



ALL who have died recently, especially Charlie Egan & James Lyons

ALL whose anniversaries occur at this time: John Costello, Leonard Farrington, Louise Turnbull, Richard Purcell, Frances Bannaghan, Margaret Johnson, Jack Cavaney, Michael James Bannaghan, Laura McLean, Thomas Cannon, James A Cannon, Mary Ryan, Catherine Costello, Mary Edwards, Cicely Sant, Lawrence Lynch, John Gregory, Julia Brennan, Rev John Flood, Rev John Gannon, Canon Patrick J Egan.

Food Bank Shortages: Long life milk, whole or semi skimmed, Long life juice, Jellies, Tinned spaghetti, spaghetti hoops, baked beans with sausages (not baked beans on their own, we have plenty of those!) Please use collection points at supermarkets whilst church is closed. Thank you for the wonderful response to the need for volunteers. There are sufficient now for present needs, but we will let you know if the situation changes.

This Sunday is Divine Mercy Sunday. There will be an hour's Eucharistic Adoration from 3.00pm, during which Fr Peter will lead the prayers as presented to us by St Faustina. He will be giving an explanation of this devotion at the morning Mass. NB There is no Mass in the afternoon.

Sr. Anne Ryan sends love and prayers to all parishioners.

Dear Parishioners,

For all of us, this must be the strangest Easter ever, but, remember that Jesus burst out of lock-down on Easter morning and, although we are physically confined, we must not allow ourselves to be spiritually restricted by our present situation. Remember that He overcame sin and death for us, and that is more powerful than any virus. Whilst we are all missing the support of our parish family, we are very aware of the power of prayer to unite us, as we pray for the physical safety and mental strength we all need at this time. As this Easter season continues, let us remain confident in our faith.

Fr Peter will be saying Mass privately in the church at the normal times so please join him in spiritual communion. Masses will be offered for the intentions requested on specific dates Any new requests for Masses should be put through the presbytery door. Fr Peter will put our daily Mass on St Mary's RC Parish Middlewich Facebook page. He will also put Exposition on there on Monday evening 7.00-7.30pm. You can also follow us on @stmarysparishmiddlewich. Thank you those who are tuning in and sending appreciative comments, it helps to make celebrating Mass alone a little less strange. There are various other ways to participate in Holy Mass. There will be live streams available from Shrewsbury Cathedral (details at <http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/live-masses> ) Wythenshawe: <http://wythcc.co.uk/> and in our own deanery at St Alban's Macclesfield [www.stalbanmacc.org.uk/stalbanslivestream.html](http://www.stalbanmacc.org.uk/stalbanslivestream.html), also from several other parishes in the diocese. Go to <https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Children-s-liturgy> for a **virtual children's liturgy each week**. Cafod also provide weekly learning resources if you follow the schools/youth tab on the site. You can also read all the prayers and scriptures for daily Mass at: [www.magnificat.com/free](http://www.magnificat.com/free) and the scriptures for Mass at: [www.universalis.com/mass](http://www.universalis.com/mass) .Other useful sites: The National Catholic Shrine to Our Lady at Walsingham has a full broadcast schedule – including Mass, Rosary, Vespers, Exposition, Mass in Latin and even some talks. Visit its [Livestream area](#). The producers of the Magnificat have kindly provided [complimentary access to its online version](#) to help people follow the Mass and pray from home. The website, [www.ChurchPaper.co.uk](http://www.ChurchPaper.co.uk), contains over 600 editions of the many newspapers.

If anyone requires the Sacrament of the Sick , please ring the presbytery . It is not permitted to take communion to the sick, except in danger of death.

If you are aware of any elderly or self-isolating people who need help with shopping or picking up prescriptions please ring the presbytery as we have a list of volunteers who can help.

Thank you those who have put collection envelopes through the presbytery door, the envelopes for the last two weeks of the financial year contained £458. Easter Offerings, will be counted after this weekend. Some new boxes of envelopes have arrived , but lock-down came in the middle of our delivery system .We are trying where possible to deliver boxes whilst on daily exercise, but this will not cover all areas. If you wish to change to giving by standing order, either permanently or during the “no public Mass era,” please see the information below. We would also ask that those of you who are able, continue to donate items for the Food Bank, as there will be more clients needing help as the crisis continues. Whilst church is not open, please use the collection points at supermarkets

Please pray for our Parish Community and for those affected by this pandemic and do not be downcast. Remember , “Jesus is risen, he is risen indeed, Alleluia”  
 Fr Peter, Deacon Tony, Deacon Chris

If you wish to set up a Standing Order either permanently or in order to continue to make your regular Offertory giving to the Parish during the period when Mass is not being celebrated in public, please contact Ken Worthington on 01606 737070

inevitable ending, a closure. Sutherland captures magnificently the poignancy of the exchange: Christ is ascending to his Father, just as he is ascending the staircase. There is only one possible direction for him now, and all of humanity stands to gain; and yet it is the end of his life as a human being, and in his outstretched palm lies regret and pain. Partings, even for the most essential of reasons, are anything but easy.

### A BEACON OF ART

Sutherland painted this scene in 1961; it was a commission from Walter Hussey, then dean of Chichester Cathedral, and the foremost patron of religious contemporary art in Britain. Sutherland, raised in south London, the son of a civil servant, had persuaded his parents he needed to study art, and then gone into printmaking. He converted to Catholicism in 1926, the year before his marriage to a fellow art student, Kathleen; and he went on to be a war artist. *Noli me Tangere*, which hangs behind the altar in the Mary Magdalene chapel at Chichester Cathedral, sits alongside works by Marc Chagall and John Piper as the finest modern works in this beacon of religious modern art. Not everyone was a fan of his work – Winston Churchill famously loathed Sutherland's portrait of him – but among the visitors to Chichester Cathedral today, there are many admirers who continue to find sustenance and meaning in one of his greatest works of art.



## Mass text

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

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

FIRST READING Acts 2:42-47

PSALM Psalm 117

RESPONSE **Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.**

Or **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

- Let the sons of Israel say:  
"His love has no end."  
Let the sons of Aaron say:  
"His love has no end."  
Let those who fear the Lord say:  
"His love has no end." **R.**
- I was thrust, thrust down and falling  
but the Lord was my helper.  
The Lord is my strength and my song;  
he was my saviour.  
There are shouts of joy and victory  
in the tents of the just. **R.**

- The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the corner stone.  
This is the work of the Lord,  
a marvel in our eyes.  
This day was made by the Lord;  
we rejoice and are glad. **R.**

SECOND READING 1 Peter 1:3-9

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!**  
**Jesus said: "You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe."**  
**Alleluia!**

GOSPEL John 20:19-31

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

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

### Next Sunday's Readings:

Acts 2:14. 22-33  
1 Peter 1:17-21  
Luke 24:13-35

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## GRAHAM SUTHERLAND, *NOLI ME TANGERE*

The colours are what you notice first about Graham Sutherland's Eastertide masterpiece, *Noli me Tangere*. Coral red for the building is juxtaposed with the seascape azure of the backdrop; their contrast is an indication of the unfolding drama.

It is Easter morning, a few hours after Christ has emerged from his tomb. The sun is up, and is making shadows of Christ's head and hand on the wall behind him. And yet it's all so low-key, downplayed, domestic: an outside staircase, a man and a woman, an exchange, a connection. In the aftermath of the world-shattering events of the preceding days and hours – Christ's trial, his walk to Calvary, his crucifixion and death – it feels at first like a snapshot of normality, an everyday scene after the seismic tumult.

But remember those colours... the urgency of the red, the strength of the blue. However normal the scene might look, it is anything but that. A man and a woman – him on the stairs, her crouched below. A conversation. The man is in a hurry – this is a fleeting moment, but it is also a world-changing one. Because this is the moment when a human being first recognises the reality of salvation; the moment when Mary Magdalene, in the garden, encounters a man she first mistakes for a gardener and then realises is Christ – a man who she knows is dead, but now risen. He is a king triumphant, not that you'd know it from his understated garb, a white robe and a slightly battered-looking straw hat. Mary has sunk to her knees, partly in shock and gratitude for the knowledge that he is alive, but also in awe and homage to the God she now knows he most surely is.

Her hand, though, is outstretched, because she is one of the disciples Jesus loves, and this is a human as well as a spiritual connection. The painting's title translates from Latin as "do not touch me" or "do not cling to me"; and yet – and this is the essence of what makes this work so great – Christ is still a man as well as God, and the gesture in his hand, reaching out to her as she is reaching out to him, reveals his humanity. He does not want to leave Mary; and yet he must. It is a tender evocation of that most bittersweet experience we all know: because within every new dawn, however bright and colourful, there is also an

## Divine images



Joanna Moorhead continues this series looking at religious art.



19 APRIL 2020

2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER

YEAR A

DIVINE OFFICE WEEK II