

Readings & Prayers

Sunday 10.30am

Introit

Dens in loco sancto

God in his holy habitation; it is he that maketh brethren to be of one mind in a house: he will give the dominion and pre-eminence unto his people.

(Ps) Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered: let them also that hate him flee before him.

GLORY. God in his... *Ps 68:5, 6, 35, 2*

Collect

Lord Jesus Christ, who by thy wondrous holiness didst adorn a human home, and by thin obedience to Mary and Joseph didst consecrate the order of earthly families: grant that we, being enlightened by the example of their life with thee in thy Holy Family, and assisted by their prayers; may at last be joined with them in thine eternal fellowship; who livest and reignest with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end.

First Reading

Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3 [RSV]

After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." ²But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Elie'zer of Damascus?" ³And Abram said, "Behold, you have given me no offspring; and a slave born in my house will be my heir." ⁴And behold, the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; your own son shall be your heir." ⁵And he brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶And he believed the LORD; and he reckoned it to him as righteousness...²¹ The LORD visited Sarah as he had said, and the LORD did to Sarah as he had promised. ²And Sarah conceived, and bore Abraham a son in his old age at the time of which God had spoken to him. ³Abraham called the name of his son who was born to him, whom Sarah bore him, Isaac.

Second Reading

Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19 [RSV]

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place which he was to receive as an inheritance; and he went out, not knowing where he was to go... ¹¹By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered him faithful who had promised. ¹²Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born descendants as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore... ¹⁷By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was ready to offer up his only son, ¹⁸of whom it was said, "Through Isaac shall your descendants be named." ¹⁹He considered that God was able to raise men even from the dead; hence he did receive him back, and this was a symbol.

Gospel

Luke 2:22-40 [RSV]

And when the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every male that opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") ²⁴and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons." ²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, looking for the consolation of Israel, and

the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he should not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. ²⁷And inspired by the Spirit^{al} he came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the law, ²⁸he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

²⁹"Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word;

³⁰for mine eyes have seen thy salvation

³¹which thou hast prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to thy people Israel."

³³And his father and his mother marvelled at what was said about him; ³⁴and Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother,

"Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising of many in Israel,

and for a sign that is spoken against

³⁵(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that thoughts out of many hearts may be revealed."

³⁶And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phan'u-el, of the tribe of Asher; she was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years from her virginity, ³⁷and as a widow till she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸And coming up at that very hour she gave thanks to God, and spoke of him to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. ³⁹And when they had performed everything according to the law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own city, Nazareth. ⁴⁰And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

Prayer over the Offerings

We offer unto thee, O Lord, this sacrifice of propitiation; humbly beseeching thee, to accept therewith the intercession of the Virgin Mother of God and blessed Joseph for the establishment of our families in thy grace and favour; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Preface

Preface of the Incarnation

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God; because thou didst give Jesus Christ, thine only Son, to be born for us; who, by the overshadowing of the Holy Spirit, was made very Man of the substance of the Virgin Mary his mother, and that without spot of sin; that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become thy children. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; ever more praising thee, and saying: Holy, Holy, Holy *etc.*

Communion

Fili, quid fecisti (Lk 2:48-49)

Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? Behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing. And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business.

Postcommunion

Bring those you refresh with this heavenly Sacrament, most merciful Father, to imitate constantly the example of the Holy Family, so that, after the trials of this world, we may share their company for ever. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.



The Catholic Church of Our Lady of the Assumption and St. Gregory

A parish dedicated to the life of the Personal Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham

Sunday 31st December

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

A very warm welcome to Mass today, especially if you are new or visiting. This sheet contains information about the week's Masses, along with this week's readings and hymns. You are warmly invited to stay for coffee, tea and wine, which is served after the 10.30am Solemn Mass in the Presbytery.



As an example for us to follow, the Holy Family can seem a little too perfect: when we consider the more 'dramatic' events of the Christmas and Easter story, it can seem so far removed from us. And yet, as today's Gospel reminds us (especially in the shorter version), there were also the so-called 'hidden years' - the many years of family life in Nazareth, spent in ordinary things. During that time, we hear how Jesus grew and matured, and in the glimpse of that family life we see our example. The family is a basic unit of our Christian society, despite coming under threat nowadays. Our celebration of this feast, and the Word of God we proclaim, announces that there is a lasting value in the ideals of family life, and the relationship between husband, wife, parents and children. Whatever the changing details of each age, honour, understanding and love always remain the recipe for the perfect, and holy, human family. It is love that we put on over all the other clothes of changing cultures and places, to guarantee the life of the family in imitation of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

This Sunday's Readings

First Reading

Genesis 15:1-6,21:1-3

The essence of this first reading is God's faithfulness. He promises that his people will be blessed and that they will increase. His promise to Abram that his descendants would be as numerous as the stars is fulfilled in Sarah, who conceives in old age, and bears a son, Isaac.

Second Reading

Hebrews 11:8,11-12,17-19

The writer of the letter to the Hebrews reminds that it is through faith that Abraham obeyed the call from the Lord to set out in search of a new country and inheritance. He trusted in the Lord, as did Sarah, that the Lord's promises would be fulfilled. We are called to live in faith, as heirs of the promises of Christ, who brings us, by Baptism, into the family of the Church.

Gospel

Luke 2:22,39-40

Why did Jesus choose to become a baby born of a mother and father and to spend all but His last years living in an ordinary human family? In part, to reveal God's plan to make all people live as one "holy family" in His Church. In the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, God reveals our true home. We're to live as His children, "chosen ones, holy and beloved," as the First Reading puts it. Jesus shows us this in today's Gospel. His obedience to His earthly parents flows directly from His obedience to the will of His heavenly Father. Joseph and Mary aren't identified by name, but three times are called "his parents" and are referred to separately as his "mother" and "father." The emphasis is all on their "familial" ties to Jesus. But these ties are emphasized only so that Jesus, in the first words He speaks in Luke's Gospel, can point us beyond that earthly relationship to the Fatherhood of God.

SUNDAY MASS

6.00pm (Saturday Vigil), 10.30am (Solemn), 5pm

WEEKDAY MASS

12.45pm Mon-Fri
8am As advertised

HOLYDAYS OF OBLIGATION

As advertised.
8am and 12.45pm

8.00am Mass this week

See poster for details

CONFESSIONS

Sat 5.15-5.45pm
12.15pm Mon-Fri

News & Events

Music at the Solemn Mass: *Missa de Angelis*.

The Choir resumes next week.

Website

We have a splendid new website designed by Andrew Cusack. We are very grateful to him, and you can find us at www.warwickstreet.org.uk.

Please note that there will be NO Masses on Monday 1st January

Festival of Lessons and Carols at Warwick Street

In celebration of the Epiphany & Baptism of the Lord, followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. This will be on **Monday 8th January at 6.30pm**. There will be a fund raising reception in the Challoner Hall afterwards (£10).

13th/14th January 2018 White Flower Appeal

Over this weekend, we will be collecting for the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children. Please be generous in your support of the important work they do on behalf of the unborn and for their fidelity to the teaching of the Church.

Sunday 28th January at 10.30am

We welcome Bishop Nicholas Hudson, auxiliary bishop in Westminster, as our preacher at Mass. Please make a note of the date!

Ordinariate Membership Cards

Those who are Roman Catholics within the Ordinariate of our Lady of Walsingham are invited to take away a devotional card and fill in their name in the space provided. It is conveniently designed to be folded and fitted into a wallet or purse. Among other things it reminds members of their duties and obligations as Latin Rite Catholics, but also the special duty of praying for the unity of the Church.

Eucharistic Congress 7-9 September 2018

The Bishops of England and Wales have announced a National Eucharistic Pilgrimage and Congress (ADOREMUS) in Liverpool. Its purpose is to rejuvenate Eucharistic Adoration; to deepen and strengthen our love of Our Lord, present in all the tabernacles of the world; and to engender a deeper understanding of the centrality of the Mass in which the Sacrifice of Calvary is made present to us afresh. More details will follow in due course.

The Westminster Year Book

There are two copies left. Price £4.50. Please see Fr Mark if you wish to buy one.

Monday 1st January	SOLEMNITY OF THE BVM	NO MASS TODAY	IN YOUR PRAYERS THE SICK Susan Elliott Smith, Rae Collins, Peter Oliver, Rosa Negra, Assumption Fernandez, Khady Gounougo, Paddy Naughton, Simon Ollivant, Sally Ward Enticott, Mick Batten, Ignatius Leong, Pauline Doherty THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED
Tuesday 2nd January	Ss Basil the Great & Gregory, Bishops and Doctors	8.00am 12.45pm	
Wednesday 3rd January	The Most Holy Name of Jesus	8.00am 12.45pm 7.00pm Low Mass (1962)	
Thursday 4th January	Christmas feria	8.00am 12.45pm	
Friday 5th January	Christmas feria	8.00am 12.45pm	
Saturday 6th January	EPIPHANY	12 Noon (1962) 6pm Mass	

WHO'S WHO AT OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION

Parish priest: Fr Mark Elliott Smith

Fr Alan Griffin

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Readings & Prayers Saturday 6pm & Sunday 5pm

Entrance Antiphon

Lk 2: 16

The shepherds went in haste,
and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.

Collect

O God, who were pleased to give us
the shining example of the Holy Family,
graciously grant that we may imitate them
in practising the virtues of family life
and in the bonds of charity,
and so, in the joy of your house,
delight one day in eternal rewards.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

First reading

Genesis 15:1-6,21:1-3

The word of the Lord was spoken to Abram in a vision, 'Have no fear, Abram, I am your shield; your reward will be very great.'

'My Lord,' Abram replied 'what do you intend to give me? I go childless...' Then Abram said, 'See, you have given me no descendants; some man of my household will be my heir.' And then this word of the Lord was spoken to him, 'He shall not be your heir; your heir shall be of your own flesh and blood.' Then taking him outside he said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.

The Lord dealt kindly with Sarah as he had said, and did what he had promised. So Sarah conceived and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the time God had promised. Abraham named the son born to him Isaac, the son to whom Sarah had given birth.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 127(128):1-5

O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways!

O blessed are those who fear the Lord
and walk in his ways!
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.
You will be happy and prosper.

Your wife will be like a fruitful vine
in the heart of your house;
your children like shoots of the olive,
around your table.

Indeed thus shall be blessed
the man who fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from Zion
all the days of your life!

Second reading

Hebrews 11:8,11-12,17-19

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going. It

was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore.

It was by faith that Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He offered to sacrifice his only son even though the promises had been made to him and he had been told: *It is through Isaac that your name will be carried on*. He was confident that God had the power even to raise the dead; and so, figuratively speaking, he was given back Isaac from the dead.

Gospel Acclamation

Heb1:1-2

Alleluia, alleluia!

At various times in the past
and in various different ways,

God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets;
but in our own time, the last days,

he has spoken to us through his Son.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 2:22,39-40

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord.

When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.

Prayer over the Offerings

We offer you, Lord, the sacrifice of conciliation,
humbly asking that,
through the intercession of the
Virgin Mother of God and Saint Joseph,
you may establish our families
firmly in your grace and your peace.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Bar 3: 38

Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.

Prayer after Communion

Bring those you refresh with this heavenly Sacrament,
most merciful Father,
to imitate constantly the example of the Holy Family,
so that, after the trials of this world,
we may share their company for ever.
Through Christ our Lord.

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