

Reflection – God's amazing love shown to us in Jesus.

I love this story. And as often as this story is referred to, many people say that this is a perfect parable of the gospel; of God's love for us. The sinner rejects God, goes off, and when he's lost his way, repents, and the father receives him back with love. But where is Jesus in this parable? Where is the saviour? Where is the sacrifice to pay and atone for sin? I'd like to look through this parable closely, the saviour is in there! The son here did nothing to save himself, in his mind, he would never be anything anymore but a servant, and that's the best he could hope for.

Jesus, coming down in the form of man, enduring the same that we endure, dying the death that we were supposed to die, and offering us a life we would never be able to earn. Jesus was the one that put the robe on the boy, and sandals on his feet, and the ring on his finger. Jesus made it possible for him to be a son again, despite his offense. And God absolutely celebrates, because of his love for us.

This makes Jesus' choice to accept the cross not some begrudging reality that was part of the cosmic plan, but a choice willingly made for the joy set before him because of the deep love he has for us.

We were created to enjoy and know God.

We traded our relationship with him for earthly things.

We have dishonoured God and shamed ourselves.

We recognize our folly, and in humility and little hope, turn to God.

Jesus joyfully comes down to take our place, that we might be joined to him as a brother, restored to our rightful place in God's house.

God's love is amazing.



LENT COURSE

The theme this year is **LIVING FRUITFULLY.**

The course will be here on **TUESDAY 2nd April 2pm** in the parish hall



**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
CHRIST CHURCH CATHOLIC CHURCH,
HEALD GREEN**

Saturday 30th. March 2019

(Vigil Mass) 5.30pm

Sunday 31st March 2019

Mass 9am & 11am

(Children's Liturgy at 11am)

				<i>Intentions</i>
Sat	30th Mar	Fourth Sunday of Lent	Vigil Mass 5.30pm	John Allen RIP
Sun	31st Mar	Fourth Sunday of Lent	Mass 9am Sung Mass 11am	John Dennison RIP Patrick & Bridget Kirrane RIP Anniv
Mon	1st Apr	Ferial	Celebration of Word & Communion 10 am	
Tue	2nd Apr	Ferial	Mass 10 am	Mary Sheila Hopkins RIP
Wed	3rd Apr	Ferial	Mass 10 am	John Kelly RIP
Thu	4th Apr	Ferial	Celebration of Word & Communion 10 am	
Fri	5th Apr	Ferial	Mass 10 am & Expo Stations of the Cross 7pm	Rob Knowles RIP
Sat	6th Apr	Ferial	Mass 10 am Vigil mass 5.30pm	Anne Hewitt RIP John Richardson RIP

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Fr. Paul will be in the confessional on Saturday 11.30—12noon and 5-5.20pm.

OTHER TIMES BY APPOINTMENT.

CHRIST CHURCH CATHOLIC CHURCH

Finney Lane, HEALD GREEN Cheadle, SK8 3DY

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Next Week : Fifth Sunday of Lent:

Saturday 6th April 2019 Vigil Mass 5.30pm

Sunday 7th. April 2019 Mass at 9am & 11am

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

NEXT WEEK 1st Sunday of the Month

COFFEE IN THE HALL— come and join us after 9am Mass /before 11am mass.

TALK ON CARING FOR OUR COMMON HOME MONDAY 8TH APRIL 7.30PM

An interesting talk by Catherine Green, CAFOD campaign volunteer
St Vincent's Parish Centre Groby Rd Altrincham WA14 2BP. See poster in the porch.

Holy Week

Palm Sunday

Saturday 13th April Vigil Mass 5.30 p.m.
14th. April Sunday Mass 9 a.m.
Sung Mass with procession 11 a.m.

Monday (15th) of Holy Week

Mass at 10 a.m. & 7 p.m.

Tuesday (16th.) of Holy Week

Mass at 10 a.m. & 7 p.m.

Wednesday (17th) of Holy Week

Mass at 10 a.m. &
Christm Mass 7 p.m. at St. Anthony's

Maundy Thursday (18th.)

Office of readings & Morning Prayer 10 a.m.
Evening Mass of the Last Supper with foot washing 8 p.m. followed by Silent Watch before the Blessed Sacrament until Night Prayer at 11.50 p.m.

Good Friday

Office of readings & Morning Prayer 10 a.m.
Children's Liturgy in the Hall at 11 a.m.
Celebration of the Lord's Passion at 3 p.m.
Stations of the Cross at 7 p.m.

Holy Saturday

Office of readings & Morning Prayer 10 a.m.
Easter Vigil 7 p.m.

EASTER SUNDAY

Mass at 9 a.m.
Sung Mass at 11 a.m.

Attention all Gift Aid Donors

The tax year 2018/19 will be coming to an end on 5th April 2019 and the Parish will then make a claim to HMRC (HM Revenue & Customs) for Gift Aid refunds on all donations made in the tax year. Father Paul would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for the donations you have made over the course of this tax year. If your circumstances have changed and you no longer pay income tax (or if for any other reason you do not wish to remain in the Gift Aid Scheme) please let Jane Handley, our Parish Gift Aid Organiser (Mobile Telephone Number 07925 340 252) or the Parish Office know by 5th April 2019, otherwise it will be assumed you have paid sufficient income tax for the Parish to reclaim Gift Aid on donations you have made during the tax year.

In addition it is important that we keep our Gift Aid records up-to-date and therefore if you have moved house or change your name in the past few years, we would be grateful if you could let Jane or the Parish Office know.

Gift Aid & Planned Giving Envelopes

The envelopes for the 2019/20 tax year are now available for collection in the porch. They should be used from 7th April. If you would like to give regularly by envelope or standing order, please contact the office and fill in the appropriate forms.

WELCOMERS NEEDED

People comment on how nice it is to be greeted when coming to Mass - the 2 persons welcoming have to arrive half an hour before Mass. Currently we only have 4 teams for Saturday Vigil; 5 teams 9am and 6 teams 11am Sunday. When the rotas are done the teams can check and swap with others if the date is not suitable, even on the last minute. We would love to have a response from some of our younger members. If you feel you can't commit but are willing to be called on occasionally Please contact the office .

VACANCIES

ST AMBROSE COLLEGE HALE BARNs

Teacher of :- Geography
Design & Technology
Deputy Head of Humanities
Www.st-ambrosecollege.org.uk
SCHOOL BUSINESS MANAGER. ST.PAULS
Wythenshawe
See notice board in the porch

Mothing Sunday is a bit like Marmite – you either like it or hate it. If you are a Mum, then you may feel a bit special for a day, may receive a card and a gift, may get taken out to lunch if you are lucky. If the children are still small, there are the home-made cards, full of glitter, which leave little sparkly bits on the carpet which join the pine needles you are still trying to vacuum up from Christmas. If the children are older or grown up, then you may get bunches of flowers or boxes of chocolate (to be put back until the end of Lent of course!) You may receive a visit, a phone call or even see them on Skype. In days gone by, servant boys and girls were allowed on this day to walk home to see a mother they may not have seen since this time last year; by tradition they would pick wild flowers on the way to present their Mums with a posy of flowers and echoing that tradition every lady in the church today will receive a daffodil.

Whether we have children or not, let us make this Mothering Sunday a time of renewing our mothering skills, when we can try to emulate the mothering love of God and go out to reflect it in our community. Pastoral care is not the sole province of clergy thank goodness. Our mothering may be but a pale reflection of God's love for his world, but we can all do our best. Make this Mothering Sunday be the start of our mothering of those we come in contact with. And if just one life is better because of today, then for that, thanks be to God.

PRAYER FOR THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND



May the Communion we share today with the members of our parish family who are at home or in hospital, remind us to live for one another and give them a sense of belonging to our family and to this celebration

ROSARY Monday to Friday at 9.30am.

MORNING PRAYER OF THE CHURCH is prayed prior to 10 am weekday Mass or Service of the Word & Communion.

DIVINE MERCY GROUP

This group meet each Monday at 2pm in the Meeting Room.

HOLY WATER

Holy Water is available from the stone jar on the altar steps near the Baptismal Font.



BAPTISMS & WEDDINGS

Andrea Lomas will be available on Tuesday evenings 7.30-8.30pm for anyone wishing to discuss arrangements.

WELLSPRING— it is time again for the collection of non-perishable groceries, toiletries etc for the homeless people at the Wellspring. There is a list on the notice board of items they need, and also items that they do not really need.

LENT— is moving on—so what have you done and what have you planned?

Why not :

- Attend an extra weekday mass
- Follow the way of Jesus in Stations of the Cross each Friday
- Make sure you fast on Wednesdays & Fridays
- Spend 5 minutes each day quietly praying to God
- Attend the Lent course on Tuesdays

WEEKDAY EVENING MASS DURING LENT

St Chad's—Tuesdays 7.30pm
St Ann's Wednesdays 7.30pm