



**St. David's Parish
Monastery Road, Pantasaph,
Holywell. CH8 8PE**



**Fifth Sunday of LENT
March 26, 2023**

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, our Savior and Redeemer You are the resurrection and the life. No one else can give eternal life. Make our faith in You strong. Help us to remember that You defeated sin and death, and that we will also defeat death because we belong to You. We pray this in Your most holy name. *Amen.*

READINGS

1st Reading **Ez 37:12-14**

2nd Reading **Rom 8:8-11**

Gospel **Jn 11:1-45**

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

Introduction: Resurrection Hope is the central theme of the Scripture readings for the Fifth Sunday of Lent. We can see the progression in themes from the thirst for living water (on the Third Sunday of Lent), through the desire to be healed of our spiritual blindness (Fourth Sunday) to our ultimate desire to share in eternal life with the risen Lord (Fifth Sunday).

Scripture lessons summarized: Death and resurrection are the themes that permeate today's Scripture lessons. The Psalmist (Responsorial Psalm, Ps 130), singing, "*I trust in the Lord, my soul trusts in His word. More than sentinels*

wait for the dawn, let Israel wait for the Lord,” awaits Yahweh’s redemption both for himself and for Israel. Reporting his vision in the first reading, Ezekiel bears witness to the reanimation of the dead Israel in preparation for the return of the exiles to the Promised Land. Through Ezekiel, the Lord God guarantees His chosen People that He will one day bring them back to live in the freedom of the Promised Land, that not even their death will stop Him from carrying out this promise. Yahweh states, *“I will open your graves, have you rise from them, and bring you back to the land of Israel.”*

St. Paul, in the second reading, assures the early Roman Christians, who were facing death by persecution (and us, surrounded by a culture of death), that the same Spirit Who raised Jesus from the dead and Who dwells within us will raise our mortal bodies to Life on the Last Day. Paul considers the Resurrection of Jesus as a reality, the ground of our Faith and the basis for our Hope of sharing in Jesus’ Resurrection.

For John, in today’s Gospel, the raising of Lazarus, the sixth sign that he is the Deliverer, is a symbolic narrative of Jesus’ victory over death at the cost of his own human life, and a sign anticipating his Resurrection. Describing this great miracle, the Church assures us that we, too, will be raised into eternal life after our battle with sin and death in this world. Thus, Resurrection Hope is the central theme of the Scripture readings for the Fifth Sunday of Lent. The readings assure us that our Faith in Jesus, who is “the Resurrection and the Life,” promises our participation in Resurrection and new life.

LENT-Pope Benedict XVI-2013

"Believing in charity calls forth charity"

“We have come to know and to believe in the love God has for us” (1 Jn 4:16)

(....Continue) The relationship between these two virtues resembles that between the two fundamental sacraments of the Church: Baptism and Eucharist. Baptism (

sacramentum fidei) precedes the Eucharist (*sacramentum caritatis*), but is ordered to it, the Eucharist being the fullness of the Christian journey. In a

similar way, faith precedes charity, but faith is genuine only if crowned by charity. Everything begins from the humble acceptance of faith (“knowing that one is loved by God”), but has to arrive at the truth of charity (“knowing how to love God and neighbour”), which remains for ever, as the fulfilment of all the virtues (cf. *1 Cor* 13:13).

Dear brothers and sisters, in this season of Lent, as we prepare to celebrate the event of the Cross and Resurrection – in which the love of God redeemed the world and shone its light upon history – I express my wish that all of you may spend this precious time rekindling your faith in Jesus Christ, so as to enter with him into the dynamic of love for the Father and for every brother and sister that we encounter in our lives. For this intention, I raise my prayer to God, and I invoke the Lord’s blessing upon each individual and upon every community!

From the Vatican, 15 October 2012

MARCH 18/19 COLLECTIONS

Gift Aid collection	176
Loose cash	201.33
Total	277.33

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION

Sacrament of Confession at 11.30 am on Saturday
ON EMERGENCY ANY TIME 0741-749-4277

Please Pray for our Sick

Ann Parry, Mary Toumaine, Patrick Nagle,
Phillip Mc Greavy, Anthony Parry

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE APRIL 1-9 , 2023

1. April-2 PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

April-1-Saturday. Vigil Mass Evening 4 pm

April-2 Sunday Mass 10 am

2. April-6 Holy Thu. Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:30 pm

3. April-7 Good Friday Retreat 10 am-3 pm

Stations of the Cross 3 pm

Passion Liturgy 5 pm

4. April 8 Easter Vigil 8:30 pm

April 9 Easter Sunday 10 am

5. Washing of the Feet. An invitation for those who like to participate in the washing of the feet on Holy Thursday. If you are interested, kindly give your names to Gerard Rhodes.

To the Heavenly Abode- Anna Brizzi, Joan Tolkien

ANNIVERSARIES (March 26-April-1)

William Neville, David Pawson, '79, Fr. Columba Randal, '85, Mary Neile, '10., Br. Roch Mallinder, John Waters, Veronica Mary Comerford, 2020, Bridget Golightly, '01:, Rose Molloy, '48, Vincent Dilworth '84: Eric Frank Rhodes '09, Eric Rhodes

Website: <http://www.pantasaph.org>

Email: pantasaphstdavids@gmail.com

Phone: 01352 711053, **0741-749-4277**

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