

Mass Readings in April (Sunday Year C)

<i>Maundy Thursday</i>	1st April	Exodus 12:1–8, 11–14 1 Corinthians 11:23–26	John 13:1–15
Good Friday	2nd April	Isaiah 52:13–53:12 Hebrews 4:14–16; 5:7–9	John 18:1– 19:42
Holy Saturday	3rd April	No Mass today	
EASTER DAY	4th April	Acts 10:34, 37–43 Colossians 3:1–4	John 20:1–9 Luke 24:13–35)
<i>(Easter Evening Mass:</i>			
<i>Monday</i>	5th April	Acts 2:14, 22–33	Matthew 28:8–15
<i>Tuesday</i>	6th April	Acts 2:36–41	John 20:11–18
<i>Wednesday</i>	7th April	Acts 3:1–10	Luke 24:13–35
<i>Thursday</i>	8th April	Acts 3:11–26	Luke 24:35–48
<i>Friday</i>	9th April	Acts 4:1–12	John 21:1–14
<i>Saturday</i>	10th April	Acts 4:13–21	Mark 16:9–15
2nd of Easter	11th April	Acts 5:12–16 Rev. 1:9–13, 17–19	John 20:19–31
<i>Monday</i>	12th April	Acts 4:23–31	John 3:1–8
<i>Tuesday</i>	13th April	Acts 4:32–37	John 3:7–15
<i>Wednesday</i>	14th April	Acts 5:17–26	John 3:16–21
<i>Thursday</i>	15th April	Acts 5:27–33	John 3:31–36
<i>Friday</i>	16th April	Acts 5:34–42	John 6:1–15
<i>Saturday</i>	17th April	Acts 6:1–7	John 6:16–21
3rd of Easter	18th April	Acts 5:27–32, 40–41 Rev. 5:11–14	John 21:1–19
<i>Monday</i>	19th April	Acts 6:8–15	John 6:22–29
<i>Tuesday</i>	20th April	Acts 7:51–8:1	John 6:30–35
<i>Wednesday</i>	21st April	Acts 8:1–8	John 6:35–40
<i>Thursday</i>	22nd April	Acts 8:26–40	John 6:44–51
* ST GEORGE	23rd April	Acts 9:1–20	John 6:52–59
<i>Saturday</i>	24th April	Acts 9:31–42	John 6:60–69
4th of Easter	25th April	Acts 13:14, 43–52 Rev. 7:9–17	John 10:27–30
<i>Monday</i>	26th April	Acts 11:1–18	John 10:1–10
<i>Tuesday</i>	27th April	Acts 11:19–26	John 10:22–30
<i>Wednesday</i>	28th April	Acts 12:24 –13:5	John 12:44–50
<i>Thursday</i>	29th April	Acts 13:13–25	John 13:16–20
<i>Friday</i>	30th April	Acts 13:26–33	John 14:1–6
<i>Saturday</i>	1st May	Acts 13:44–52	John 14:7–14

* Ferial series of readings: readings for the solemnity will be read in Church.

Ebbsfleet Extra

April 2010



Calendar of Events

Bishop's House, Dry Sandford,
Abingdon, Oxon, OX13 6JP.
01865 390746, www.ebbsfleet.org.uk



May

- 4th May 7.00pm Paschal Stational Mass
(St Mary, Bathwick)
- 5th May 7.00pm Paschal Stational Mass
(Derby venue tbc.)
- 12th May 7.00pm Paschal Stational Mass
(St Paul, Charlestown)
- 18th May 7.00pm Paschal Stational Mass
(Coventry)
- 20th May 7.00pm Paschal Stational Mass
(Emmanuel, Wyld Green, Birmingham)
- 31st May National Pilgrimage to Walsingham

June

- 12th June Ebbsfleet Children & Young People's
Eucharistic Festival at Brean Sands
- 19th June Glastonbury Pilgrimage
- 26th June 5.00pm Priesting of the Rev'd Michael Berrett,
Wantage Parish Church
- 30th June 7.30pm Tony Hutchinson's First Mass as Deacon,
St Chad, Stafford

July

- 3rd July 11.00am Diaconal Ordination of Daniel Lloyd,
SS Mary & Giles, Stony Stratford
- 4th July 5.00pm Priesting of the Revd Matthew Pittam,
St Luke, Holbrooks, Coventry

(Continued from page III)

possible within the Church of England? and (2) is it possible (however unlikely it may seem) that the whole of the Church of England will embrace that understanding of the Church, her Faith, her Orders, and her Sacraments? If the answer to either question is 'no', then the Church of England is not part of the Catholic Church as we understand it to be and we Anglo-catholics ought to do all we can to become 'Anglican Catholics', that is, sign up one by one, but in our natural groupings, for the emerging Ordinariate. Those are the issues I am presently thinking through myself, and shall continue to think through as I celebrate the paschal mysteries of baptism and confirmation and the Petertide gift of ordination.

May God bless you as you celebrate the new life of Easter.

(Continued from page IV)

join in the general confession ('I confess') immediately before Holy Communion at the Sunday Mass. It seems that the **Asperges** (a ceremony well over a thousand years old) was originally not a penitential rite so much as the cleansing of the building before the Sunday liturgy, a rite of exorcism. Nevertheless the two antiphons – for ordinary Sundays and for Sundays in Eastertide – show that the ceremony changed over the years into being a cleansing of the worshipper (ordinary Sundays) and a celebration of baptismal cleansing (Eastertide).

(Continued from page VI)

Pray also for Stuart King and Michael Bailey, to be ordained deacon in cathedral ordinations. Michael will also serve at St Luke, Holbrooks. Further details in due course.

GENERAL SYNOD ELECTIONS

It seems early to be thinking of these but the quinquennium of the present General Synod ends in July and HM the Queen will be opening the new 2010–2015 sessions of General Synod in November. Before then there will be elections to the new body and the future of Catholic Anglicanism in the Church of England will be mapped out by that Synod and its decisions. Now is the time to be thinking about who should stand for election, how they can be supported, and 'getting out the vote'. Our Ebbsfleet contact for this is Ian O'Hara whom you can reach at ianoh@sky.com

Notice board

This section evolves month by month. Watch out for new items and changes.



PEACE MEAL: ALL SAINTS CLIFTON YOUTH FESTIVAL and MASS
Saturday 15 MAY 2010 – An ecumenical day for young people 11 – 19 with Music by CJM on vocals, guitars and drums; Music and Dance Workshops 11 – 1, 2 – 4 (refreshments available, BYO lunch). Celebration with Hog Roast afterwards (Tickets free to participants; £5 to those attending only the Mass and the Party). To register for the workshops, to request tickets for the Party and for further information please email the Co-ordinator Anne Bradley allsaintsalive@live.co.uk The £1 registration fee will go to help earthquake relief in Haiti. **ALL SAINTS ALIVE!**

PASCHAL STATIONAL MASSES

Times for these are published in the Calendar. The aim is to bring together priests and people from the whole area to celebrate the Easter mysteries and to administer the sacraments of initiation. This year Bishop Andrew will also be confirming at St Luke, Kingstanding, at the Easter Vigil, and at SS Mary and Chad, Longton, on Ascension Day, as well as in a variety of parishes between Easter Day and the summer.

EBBSFLEET CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S EUCHARISTIC FESTIVAL

Have you got Saturday 12th June in your diary yet? That is the date for Brean Sands. Further information from Jackie Ottaway at bishop.andrew@ebbsfleet.org.uk

GLASTONBURY PILGRIMAGE

The Glastonbury Pilgrimage has been operating on a 'use it or lose it' basis for some years now. Support has declined and yet the Pilgrimage is clearly enjoyable, spiritually fruitful, and meets a need. It is a major point of reference, for instance, for Welsh Anglo-Catholics and for those from the deepest South West, for whom Walsingham is rather a long way away. Come along on 19th June and find out for yourself the joy of the Glastonbury Pilgrimage.

ORDINATIONS

Please pray for this year's Ebbsfleet ordinands. Daniel Lloyd is to be ordained deacon to serve at Stony Stratford and Calverton. Michael Berrett is to be ordained priest to continue to serve at Wantage Parish Church. Matthew Pittam is to be ordained priest to continue to serve at St Luke, Holbrooks, Coventry. Bishop Andrew is planning to be the ordaining bishop for these ordinations.

(Continued on page VII)

The Bishop's Pastoral Letter



Is RITA right?

FOLLOWING the wonderful Day of Prayer on the Chair of Peter on 22nd February, priests and parishes and people, up and down the country, are considering what the future direction should be for Anglo-catholics. Hardly a day goes by without me being asked by someone for comment. As I write, I am arranging a number of meetings with clergy and lay people to see quite where we are getting to. Meanwhile, in the back of our minds – and not always the back! – are the Pope's offer of an Ordinariate (the very framework which we were asking the Church of England for, and which they have said is impossible), and the forthcoming vote in General Synod in July. It will be the July Synod of 2010, it seems, right at the end of the synodical quinquennium, that decides whether or not to accept the recommendations of the legislative committee, recommendations which (we are already told) will not make proper provision for Anglo-catholics.

Anglo-catholics, for a generation at least, have talked about the priority being reunion with Rome and the Holy See. Faced with an offer from the Pope for a way forward into reunion – indeed the only way forward that will be possible for the foreseeable future – I think we have

to consider that route on its own merits. It can't be a 'Plan B' or an emergency exit. It is an invitation into full communion with Peter, who, according to Catholic teaching, is the Vicar of Christ. It is RITA ('Rome is the answer'): 'Plan A' and the front door, for those who want it and understand its importance. And yet there will be plenty of Anglo-catholics who don't want it, preferring their own congregational independence, and some who, on principle, simply do not accept the central leadership role of Peter and his successor the Pope, at least as it is presently exercised. From this it follows that the July vote, however crucial it seems to us, in itself solves nothing. Whatever the result of the General Synod debate, the Holy Father's offer deserves to be considered in its own right. Whatever the result of the debate, those who cannot accept the ministry of Peter should not accept the Pope's offer. Amidst this, it is hard to see anything but a time of division, a 'parting of friends', though, thankfully, no one seems to be heading off to form or join anything new, or smaller: there are enough sects already.

I think the questions every Anglo-catholic need to ask are (1) 'is our understanding of the Church, her Faith, her Orders, and her Sacraments

(Continued on page VII)

VIDI AQUAM and ASPERGES ME



This article first appeared two years ago in EBBEX. Since then we have attracted many more readers and, because of its seasonal relevance, we boldly reprint!

ONE OF THE experiences of the Easter Vigil is being sprinkled – and sometimes drenched – with the newly blessed baptismal water. During this sprinkling, the **Vidi aquam** (based on verses from Ezekiel 47) is usually sung:

*I saw water flowing from the right side of the temple, alleluia.
It brought God's life and his salvation,
and the people sang in joyful praise: alleluia, alleluia.*

In many churches the **Vidi aquam** and the Sprinkling happen also at the beginning of Mass on Sundays in Eastertide, in place of the penitential rite. This gives a welcome emphasis on the Church as a joyful gathering of the baptized and redeemed.

Until the liturgical reforms of the 1960s there was a similar ceremony before the main Sunday Mass, every Sunday throughout the year. Outside Eastertide, verses from Psalm 51 (**Asperges me**) were sung:

*Thou shalt purge me, O Lord, with hyssop, and I shall be clean:
thou shalt wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
Have mercy upon me, O God, after thy great goodness.
Glory be to the Father &c*

These words do not appear in the modern Mass rite, though the Rite of Blessing and Sprinkling Holy Water may be used on any Sunday (and nowadays at any Mass of Sunday). What's more the rubric suggests that 'an antiphon or another appropriate song is sung' and what could be more appropriate on an ordinary Sunday than the **Asperges**?

It appears that the Sprinkling on Sunday morning was not originally part of the penitential rite. In the pre-1962 Roman Mass, those who were to receive Holy Communion were invited not only to confess their sins to a priest beforehand – usually Saturday night – but bidden to

(Continued on page VII)

Ebbsfleet Lay Council



2010 is Election Year – and not just for the House of Commons. Though the Lay Council has elections every year, as particular members come to the end of their three-year term of office, this year there is an exceptional crop. Owing to the vagaries of chance, ten of the eighteen places come up. This is the list (with the names of current members):

Buckingham	(David Webb)
Coventry	(Karen Dean)
Exeter	(Stephen Haslam)
Hereford	(Rachael Allum)
Lichfield/Stafford	(Jill Hibberd)
Plymouth	(John Walker)
Reading	(vacant)
Salisbury	(Joy Waker)
Truro	(Barbara Meade)
Worcester	(Barry Skilton)

In most cases the existing members will be willing to stand again, but it's important to stress that this doesn't mean that their re-election is a mere formality. Some people may be (re-)elected unopposed, but it is important that others also have the opportunity to stand, should they so wish – hence this article. We shall also be making use of other means to publicise the elections locally. If alternative candidates come forward the choice will be made democratically – by the Parish Representatives for the relevant dioceses/area, present and voting at the Lay Congress on 25th September.

In two cases we know already that we need candidates. Reading is currently vacant, and Buckingham is being covered by David Webb, who very generously agreed to remain on the Council despite the pressure of his other commitments, but he will definitely stand down this year. If you come from these areas, please give prayer and thought to whether you would be willing to stand, or if you know someone suitable, please encourage them to do so.

If you are interested in being a candidate (for these areas or any other), and would like more information, please contact me, Karen Dean (Vice Chairman) or Rosemary Parslow (Secretary). Nominations, with the names of proposers and seconders, will need to be received by Rosemary two weeks before the Lay Congress (ie, by 11th September).

*David Smart
Chairman of the Lay Council*