



ENGLISH MARTYRS CHURCH
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Fr Albert Ofere



2nd Sunday of Easter 24th April 2022
"We are the Easter People and Alleluia is our Song"

Pope Francis Prayer Intention for April: For health care workers - We pray for health care workers who serve the sick and the elderly, especially in the poorest countries; may they be adequately supported by governments and local communities

Sun 24th	(Sat) 8 p.m. 9.00 a.m. 11.00 a.m. 6 p.m.	S Kruk R.I.P. Da Costa Family Int Mary & Family Int People of the Parish	
Mon 25th	St Mark	M & M McNicholas R.I.P.	
Tues 26th	St George	A & M Menezes Int	
Wed 27th	Easter Feria	7 p.m. P D Dias R.I.P.	Confirmation Candidates after evening Mass
Thurs 28th	Easter Feria	D'Souza Family Int	Exposition until 11 a.m. First Communion Children 6 p.m.
Fri 29th	St Catherine of Sienna	K Kennedy R.I.P.	
Sat 30th	Easter Feria	L Rodrigues R.I.P.	Reconciliation 10.40 a.m. & 5.15 p.m.

• **Mass Books: Order of the Mass: Page 7 – 2nd Sunday Of Easter: Prayers and Readings of the day: Page 262**

Jesus spoke in short sentences and summed up a lot of life in a few words. His final beatitude is in the gospel today - **'Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe.'** You can unpack that little phrase and in it you realise that faith is about things that cannot be proved, that it is not easy and that it brings a blessedness to life. It also includes ourselves - the ones of this year who still believe.

Something is only by faith when everything else fades off. Our loved ones die and only faith assures us that they are alive with God. Only faith assures us that Jesus is present in the mystery of the bread and wine at our Mass. Only faith assures us that he is with us when two or three gather and only faith assures us that what we do for others we do for him. Faith assures us of some of the best things of life; finally, that we come from God and go to God.

Thomas found difficulty with all this. Jesus dealt gently with him, pointing out the wounds of his body and inviting him to touch them. But Thomas never needed to touch the holes in Jesus' hands and feet. He was told that an even better happiness was to believe without touch or sight. He found faith now in the risen Lord, and the faith itself was Jesus's final gift to Thomas.

We need to take time and let faith grow within us. This can be in prayer, in faith-conversation and in allowing ourselves sit quietly and be in the presence of God. In the busy world, this may be difficult, but no day is diminished by time spent in silence and in quiet, knowing we are richly blessed when we grow our faith in God.



- **EASTER OFFERINGS:** *Many thanks for your kindness, generosity, cards & gifts. Fr Albert*

- **Fr Albert** will be available on Mondays from **6.00 p.m. – 7.30 p.m.** to see parishioners regarding non urgent matters, including the signing of passports and other forms.

- **Sacrament of Baptism:** From next month we will resume celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism on the third Sunday of each month. If you wish to have your child baptised, please collect an application form.

- **New Planned Giving Envelopes:** For those who use the weekly envelope scheme to donate to the church – boxes are available to collect next week. If you would like to join the envelope scheme or if you prefer to donate by standing order, please let us have your details.

- **St Margaret Clitherow Food Bank: Donations can be dropped at the school or the church. Thank you for your generosity.**
- **Foodbank is open Tuesday – Friday 12 – 1 p.m.**

- **Refurbishment of Church Hall:** We are hoping to resume our plans for the hall. Michael Rushe our architect will do a presentation in the hall next Saturday 30th April after 6 p.m. Mass and Sunday 1st May after the 11 a.m. Parishioners are invited to come along to have a look at the proposed plans for the hall.

Act of Spiritual Communion:

*My Jesus,
I believe that you are present in the Holy
Sacrament of the altar.
I love you above all things
and I passionately desire to receive you
into my soul.
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
come spiritually into my soul
so that I may unite myself wholly to you
now and forever. Amen*

- **This afternoon Novena** concludes with Holy Hour, Divine Mercy Devotion, and veneration of Divine Mercy picture & relic of St Faustina beginning at 2.40 p.m. Live streamed



- *Eternal Father, I offer You the Body & Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and the sins of the whole world.*

Church Offerings by Card, using the contactless terminal at the back of the church. A big thank you to everyone who continues to support our church financially.



Last Week's Collection:
Envelope: £836 Loose Plate: £337
Contactless: £138
Holy Places: £1444

REGINA COELI

V: O Queen of heaven, rejoice,
R: alleluia
V: For he, whom you were worthy to bear,
R: alleluia!
V: Has risen, as he said,
R: alleluia!
V: Pray for us to God,
R: alleluia!
V: Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia!
R: For the Lord has risen indeed, alleluia!
Let us pray: O God, who gave joy to the world through the resurrection of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ; grant that we may obtain, through his Virgin Mother, Mary, the joys of everlasting life. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen