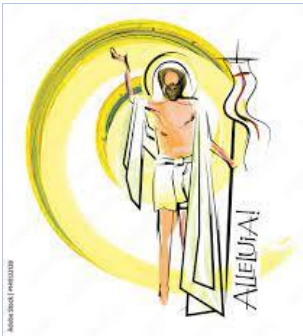


Saint John Henry Newman

Parish: Latchford, Grappenhall & Thelwall.

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where heart speaks to heart

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30/31 March 2024

EASTER SUNDAY (Page 251)

Man of Galilee,
Will you come and stand by me
Through the length of each working day?
Bless, O Lord, my efforts, I pray.

Man, who healed the blind,
Open up the eyes of my mind
To the needs of my fellow man.
Help me give with open hands.

Man of bread and wine
Show me by the means of this sign
That I share your life and your light
With the neighbour here at my side.

Man of Calvary,
Give me strength and will to be free
Of the weight of self-pity's chains,
Then my trials will be but gains.



Man at God's right hand,
Will you help me understand
That in you, when my breath is
stilled,
All my longings will be fulfilled?



The Anglican priest and poet R.S. Thomas frequently blends scriptural images and themes with everyday experiences and encounters. One particularly good example is when he compares a shaft of sunlight breaking through on a dreary Welsh mountainside with the parable of the hidden treasure in the field.

The same is true of this poem called Easter. Here he takes what to many an adult mind is as mundane as a car wreck, but which is seen by a child as an object of wonder crowned with flowers.

For Thomas, such child like wonder still carries potential into adulthood, especially for those who have absorbed scriptural stories and images. It is also particularly apt for a country such as Wales where so many remote hamlets have biblical names, think of Carmel, Bethlehem etc...

A willingness to allow the things of God to accompany us in our daily tasks and activities can reap great rewards if we allow the gift of the imagination some reign over our otherwise pedantic and mundane attitudes.

Easter. The grave clothes of winter
are still here, but the sepulchre
is empty. A messenger
from the tomb tells us
how a stone has been rolled
from the mind, and a tree lightens
the darkness with its blossom.
There are travellers upon the road
who have heard music blown
from a bare bough, and a child
tells us how the accident
of last year, a machine stranded
beside the way for lack
of petrol, is crowned with flowers.

Easter by R. S Thomas

Happy Easter to you all and may the Joy and Peace of the Resurrection bring healing to your wounds, solace in your grief and help you to grow ever more confident in the gift that is you.

Thank you for your generous words, deeds, and messages. They are truly appreciated.

A particular thank you to everyone who helped with our Holy Week celebrations. This includes those who work behind the scenes cleaning, decorating, in the sacristy, arranging displays etc. It also involves our welcomers, servers, readers, musicians, minister of Holy Communion and *Little Church* leaders. All these tasks are part of our devotion to God, and they go a long way towards enabling us all to celebrate our faith the way we do. It is important to remind ourselves that these tasks are fulfilled by volunteers. **THANK YOU.**



Holy Hour for
Divine Mercy
Sunday

Pope John Paul II was a great proponent of a devotional practice that built on the mystical experiences of Sister Faustina, and he established the custom of marking the Second Sunday of Easter as *Divine Mercy Sunday*. To mark this we will hold a holy hour at 3.00 pm during which Fr Peter will make himself available for personal confessions.



Teas and Coffees will be served by Team A after the 5.30pm Mass on Saturday 6th April.



Please note that the **collections** this weekend contribute to the income of the **parish clergy**. For those who prefer cashless transactions please use the card reader provided.

THANK YOU

30-31 MARCH – EASTER SUNDAY p 251

Sat 30 March	7.00 pm	EASTER VIGIL – PARISH INTENTIONS
Sunday 31 March	9.00 am 11.00 am	Agnes Redmond RIP Sid Royle RIP
Mon 1 April	10.00 am	Mrs O’Callaghan’ Family (T/Toast)
Tues 2 April		No Services
Wed 3 April		No Services
Thursday 4 April	6.30 pm 7.00 am	Quiet Adoration Andrew Bent RIP
Friday 5 April	10.00 am	Kath Johnson

6 - 7 APRIL – SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER- PAGE

Sat 6 April	5.30 pm	Kathleen Brennan RIP
Sunday 7 April	9.00 am 11.00 am 3.00 pm	Joseph Lawlor Rose Marie Murlei (Birthday Int’s) DIVINE MERCY HOLY HOUR



KINDLY REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: for all requesting our prayers including *John & Marie Clowes, Harry Challoner, Margaret Daintith, Harold Entwistle, Mary Finn, Tony Graham, Rita Hutson, Barbara Lynskey, Rita Mahon, Kathleen Mannion, Roger Maxwell, Gerard Moulding, Christine Moores, Marcos Sala, Meryl & Tony Wernham, Gordon Whittaker, & Carol Worsley.*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:

R: Risen Saviour. **Renew our lives!**

Rejoicing with Mary we pray:

O Queen of heaven rejoice ***R. Alleluia!***

For Christ your only Son ***R. Alleluia!***

Has risen as he said, ***R. Alleluia!***

Pray for us to God. ***R. Alleluia!***