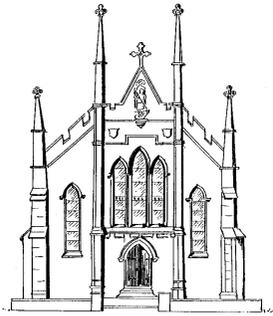


DAILY PRAYERS EASTER WEEK 2



HOLY TRINITY & ST GEORGE
CATHOLIC CHURCH
Serving Kendal and Sedbergh

www.kendalcatholicchurch.uk

Sunday Easter Week 2

Day of Divine Mercy

Collect:

God of everlasting mercy, who in the very recurrence of the Paschal Feast kindle the faith of the people You have made Your own, increase, we pray, the grace You have bestowed, that all may grasp and rightly understand in what font they have been washed, by whose Spirit they have been reborn, by whose Blood they have been redeemed. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Today's Gospel reading: John 20:19-31

The Eighth Station - The Risen Lord Strengthens the Faith of Thomas

We adore You, O Christ and we praise You. Because by the Wood of the Cross and the Light of the Resurrection, You have redeemed the world! Alleluia!

Scripture: "Thomas...was not with them when Jesus came... Thomas said, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in His hands and put my finger into the nail marks and put my hand into His side, I will not believe'...Jesus came...and stood in their midst and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then He said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see My hands and bring your hand and put it into My side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe'...Blessed are those who do not see and yet believe." (John 20: 24-29).

Reflection: The story of Thomas is important because it is through Thomas' example that we realize that doubt can be a part of faith. Too easily we call him "Doubting Thomas," and forgetting that after examining the nail marks, he fully embraced the Risen One as his Lord and Savior. Thomas' doubt was transformed into a lively faith. We too, are called to believe, knowing full well that our faith may be tested by doubt and fear. As disciples who desire an ever-deeper faith, we are patient and understanding with those who are struggling, searching and seeking like Thomas.

Prayer: Heavenly Father and God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for He is alive and has become the Lord of life. From the waters of death You raise us up with Him and renew Your gift of life within us. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ and help us to grow as Your people toward the fullness of eternal life with You. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

How blest are they who have not seen,
And yet whose faith has constant been
For they eternal life shall win. Alleluia!

Monday Easter Week 2

Collect:

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that we, who have been renewed by Paschal remedies, transcending the likeness of our earthly parentage, may be transformed in the image of our heavenly maker. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Today's Gospel reading: John 3:1-8

The Ninth Station - The Risen Lord Eats with the Disciples on the Shore of Tiberias

We adore You, O Christ and we praise You. Because by the Wood of the Cross and the Light of the Resurrection, You have redeemed the world! Alleluia!

Scripture: "Jesus said to them, 'Bring some of the fish you just caught.' So Simon Peter went over and dragged the net ashore full of one hundred fifty-three large fish. Even though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, 'Come, have breakfast.' And none of His disciples dared to ask Him, 'Who are You?' because they realised it was the Lord" (John 21: 10-12).

Reflection: After the crucifixion, the apostles returned to their former way of life. Out on the familiar Sea of Galilee, these expert fishers find themselves ineffective and baffled because not even a single fish was caught. From the shore, the Risen Lord guides them and directs their nets until they are filled to overflowing. As He prepares breakfast for them, He nourishes their hearts and promises them that they can also be fed by making disciples in His name. He calls them to an entirely new way of fishing - fishing for people.

Prayer: Father in heaven, author of all truth, a people once in darkness has listened to Your Word and followed Your Son as He rose from the tomb. Hear the prayer of this new-born people and strengthen Your Church to answer Your call. May we rise and come forth into the light of day to stand in Your presence until eternity dawns. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
On Sunday morn at break of day
The sad disciples went their way
To see the tomb where Jesus lay. Alleluia!

Tuesday Easter Week 2

Collect:

Enable us, we pray, almighty God, to proclaim the power of the risen Lord, that we, who have received the pledge of His gift, may come to possess all He gives when it is fully revealed. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Today's Gospel reading: John 3:7-15

The Tenth Station - The Risen Lord Forgives Peter and Entrusts Him to Feed His Sheep

We adore You, O Christ and we praise You. Because by the Wood of the Cross and the Light of the Resurrection, You have redeemed the world! Alleluia!

Scripture: Scripture: "When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon, son of John, do you love Me more than these?'... Peter was distressed that Jesus had said to him a third time, 'Do you love Me?' and he said to Him, 'Lord, You know everything, You know that I love You.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep.... Follow Me'" (John 21: 15, 17b, 19b).

Reflection: The Risen Lord directs His attention to Peter whose embarrassing three-fold denial was still ringing in his heart. The questions posed by Jesus help Peter to find reconciliation and to embrace his new mission to tend and feed the sheep. Their encounter reminds us that forgiveness is always available, even for the most serious of mistakes we can make. This warm embrace of forgiveness strengthens our resolve to be reconcilers and healers in the Spirit of Jesus. Only love can overcome guilt and deception. Only love and forgiveness can make us whole.

Prayer: Father, fill our hearts with the fire of Your love and the desire to ensure justice for our brothers and sisters. By sharing the good things You give us, may we secure justice and equality for every human being, an end to all division, and a human society built on love and peace. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
An angel clad in white they see,
Who sat and spoke unto the three,
Your Lord has gone to Galilee, Alleluia!

Wednesday Easter Week 2

Collect:

As we recall year by year the mysteries by which, through the restoration of its original dignity, human nature has received the hope of rising again, we earnestly beseech Your mercy, Lord, that what we celebrate in faith we may possess in unending love. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Today's Gospel reading: John 3:16-21

The Eleventh Station - The Risen Lord Sends the Disciples into the World

We adore You, O Christ and we praise You. Because by the Wood of the Cross and the Light of the Resurrection, You have redeemed the world! Alleluia!

Scripture: "Go therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age" (Matthew 28: 19-20).

Reflection: From the mountaintop, the Risen Lord gives the "Great Commission" to the disciples to reach out to the ends of the earth. We realize that we are the recipients of this faith-filled mission: our ancestors embraced the faith of the apostles, who were the original witnesses of the resurrection. The greatest response we can give to such a legacy is our dedication to a new evangelization of our contemporary culture. We must allow the Risen Lord to reinvigorate our whole way of living, helping us to re-evaluate every aspect of our lives with the values of the Kingdom of God.

Prayer: God of all creation, whose mighty power raised Jesus from the dead, be present to this community of disciples whom You have called to the hope of a glorious inheritance among the saints. Strengthen us in the power of the Spirit to go and make disciples of all nations, to obey everything that Jesus Christ has commanded us, and to know that He is with us always until the end of the age, interceding on our behalf, living and reigning with You in the power of the Holy Spirit, now and forevermore. Amen.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
And we with Holy Church unite,
As evermore is just and right,
in glory to the King of light. Alleluia.

Thursday – Easter Week 2

Collect:

O God, who for the salvation of the world brought about the Paschal sacrifice, be favourable to the supplications of Your people, so that Christ our High Priest, interceding on our behalf, may by His likeness to ourselves bring us reconciliation, and by His equality with You free us from our sins. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Today's Gospel reading: John 3:31-36

The Twelfth Station - The Risen Lord Ascends into Heaven

We adore You, O Christ and we praise You. Because by the Wood of the Cross and the Light of the Resurrection, You have redeemed the world! Alleluia!

Scripture: "So then the Lord Jesus, after He spoke to them, was taken up into heaven and took His seat at the right hand of God. But they went forth and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the word through accompanying signs" (Mark 16: 19-20).

Reflection: The Scriptures do not portray the Ascension as a day of sadness. While still looking up at the skies, the disciples were consoled by the continuing presence of the Lord. They return to the familiar surroundings of the Upper Room, with Mary, the Mother of the Lord, to pray in anticipation of their mission. In this "original novena," we continue to implore the Risen Lord to be the centre of our lives and to keep us focused as a jubilant pilgrim people.

Prayer: Eternal God, clothe us now with Your power. With the eyes of our hearts enlightened, may we come to understand the immeasurable greatness of Your power at work in us who believe. In that strength, may we boldly pronounce the Good News of our salvation to everyone. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Our humble thanks to God let's show
And fitting praise on Him bestow
For Paschal blessings here below. Alleluia!

Friday Easter Week 2

St Bernadette Soubirous

Collect:

O God, hope and light of the sincere, we humbly entreat You to dispose our hearts to offer You worthy prayer and ever to extol You by dutiful proclamation of Your praise. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Today's Gospel reading: John 6:1-15

The Thirteenth Station - Mary and the Disciples Keep Vigil in the Upper Room for the Spirit's Arrival

We adore You, O Christ and we praise You. Because by the Wood of the Cross and the Light of the Resurrection, You have redeemed the world! Alleluia!

Scripture: "When they entered the city, they went to the Upper Room where they were staying.... All [the apostles] devoted themselves with one accord to prayer, together with some women, and Mary, the mother of Jesus, and His brothers" (Acts 1: 13a, 14).

Reflection: Throughout the history of the Church, there have been apostolic movements dedicated to prayerful contemplation, and others resulting in transforming action. Each Easter, we look to the "Upper Room" as a symbolic place where we return over and over again, so that we can become "contemplatives in action." As people who are both prayerful and energetic in service to the Gospel, we must always keep vigil for the coming of the Risen Lord, with the flame of faith alive in our hearts. Only the Lord can refresh our spirits and renew us in the ministries that flow from our Baptism and Confirmation.

Prayer: Father most holy, see Your Church gathered in prayerful worship like the first disciples and Mary in the Upper Room. Grant that we may accomplish, in the joy of the Holy Spirit, all that You give us to do in the world. May we gladly share in Christ's sufferings so as to rejoice when His glory is revealed. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
On this most holy day of days,
To God your hearts and voices raise,
In laud and jubilee and praise. Alleluia!

Saturday - Easter Week 2

Collect:

Set aside, O Lord, the bond of sentence written for us by the law of sin, which in the Paschal Mystery You canceled through the Resurrection of Christ Your Son. Who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Today's Gospel reading: John 6:16-21

The Fourteenth Station - The Risen Lord Sends the Holy Spirit

We adore You, O Christ and we praise You. Because by the Wood of the Cross and the Light of the Resurrection, You have redeemed the world! Alleluia!

Scripture: "... Suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house. Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim" (Acts 2: 2-4).

Reflection: The power of the Holy Spirit drives the disciples from the Upper Room into the streets and marketplace. The Spirit compels them to take the message everywhere, in places familiar and unfamiliar, not stopping until they reach the ends of the world. We have been clothed with the same Spirit. We are called to be evangelizers and witnesses, near and far, wherever we go. The Spirit always goes before us, preparing the way and strengthening our hearts to be generous servants of the Risen Lord who ever guides us. Pentecost is an enduring and continuing event. We implore the Holy Spirit to renew the face of the earth by renewing us.

Prayer: Father in heaven, through this spiritual journey, You have reminded us of the fullness of the mystery of Your revealed love. See Your people gathered in prayer, open to receive the Spirit's flame. May it come to rest in our hearts and disperse the divisions of word and tongue. With one voice and one song, may we praise Your name in joy and thanksgiving. Grant this through Christ our Lord, and in the power of the Spirit, both now and forevermore. Amen.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
O sons and daughters of the Lord,
The King of glory, King adored,
From death to life has been restored. Alleluia.