

**FIFTH SUNDAY  
OF LENT  
29 MARCH 2020**



**St Wulstan's Parish**  
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Ezechiel 37:12-14 Ezechiel's vision of a resurrection of the dry bones of a despairing Israel in exile. It is a parallel to the last of the OT readings at the Easter Vigil: "I shall give you a new heart, and put a new spirit in you; I shall remove the heart of stone from your bodies and give you a heart of flesh instead" and is given to us now.

Responsorial Psalm: We pray the *de Profundis* in the cemetery on All Saints/Souls Day.

Romans 8:8-11 At Easter, when they are hiding behind closed doors, Jesus enters and breathes the Holy Spirit of God into the disciples. This is the effect of our "justification" - being put right with the God of life and love.

John 11:1-45 This is the 6th of the 7 "signs" in John's Gospel by which his followers believe that he has been sent by God, whose glory he reveals. (The 7th sign is Jesus' own resurrection). Lazarus is 4 days (i.e. completely) dead—the fate of us all without Christ (I am the Resurrection and the life...he who believes in me will never die). Lazarus stands for all of us: Jesus "loves" him and weeps at his death. Jesus' loud command "Lazarus come out" is a foretaste of when all the dead "will hear his voice and come forth to the resurrection of life or of judgment\*.

ARRANGEMENTS DURING THE SHUT DOWN : Although there will be no public liturgies for the time being, I shall continue to celebrate Mass for the Parish at 9.30am on weekdays in the house and on Sundays at 10.30am in the church. After a new directive from the Archbishop and Cardinal Nicholls, the church will **no longer be open for visits**.

LIVE STREAMING OF SUNDAY MASS If you have access to the internet you can follow Mass from many different places. For example St George's, Worcester at <https://www.facebook.com/CatholicWorcs/> or St Chad's Cathedral at <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/news/live-streaming-launches-at-st-chads-cathedral>

Isolated but not alone: resources for Catholics is a useful compilation of online resources offered by The Tablet.

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION for anyone unable for whatever reason to receive Holy Communion sacramentally:  
*Lord Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most blessed sacrament of the altar. I love you above all things and desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there, and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.*

REDEDICATION TO OUR LADY : This is due to happen on **Sunday at 12 noon**. Owing to the Covid 19 shutdown, it is now up to us to make this dedication individually at home. For details see the above Tablet resources or log on to

Behold 2020. The act of rededication is based on the beautiful prayer composed by Desiderius Erasmus on a visit to Walsingham in 1511 (kindly supplied to me by Patrick Hare):

*O Alone of all women, Mother and Virgin, Mother most happy, Virgin most pure, now we, sinful as we are, come to see thee who art all pure. We salute thee; we honour thee as how we may with our humble offerings. May thy Son grant us, that imitating thy most holy manners, we also by the grace of the Holy Ghost may deserve spiritually to conceive the Lord JESUS in our inmost soul, and once conceived never to lose Him. Amen.*

Latest : Archbishop Bernard will lead the rededication after the 11am Mass at St Chads (live streamed—see above).

MALVERN HILLS FOODBANK: Donations in kind can no longer be accepted in the church. If you wish to make a cash donation, go on line to **Malvern Hills Food Bank-The Trussell Trust**, click on **Get Involved**, then on **Ways to Give**.

PLEASE PRAY FOR CHRISTOPHER KOUWEN, brother of Sue Adey, who died unexpectedly last weekend. There will be a Requiem/Memorial Service at St Wulstan's later in the year. And pray for Sue: he was living in her house.