



THIRD SUNDAY

OF EASTER

26 April 2020

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Today's Scripture Readings Acts 2: 14;22-3 In his Pentecost preaching, Peter quotes the Psalmist (David) who speaks of his soul being delivered from Hades. Peter takes this to refer to David's descendant, Jesus, who is enthroned as King at the Father's right hand.

1Peter 1:17-21 Peter here speaks of Christ's death as a "ransom" paid by the precious blood of an innocent lamb. We have faith in God through Christ's resurrection from the dead.

Luke 24:13-25 "Was it not ordained that the Messiah should suffer and so enter into his glory?" The two disciples recognise the risen Jesus at the breaking of the bread.

CONTINUATION OF ZOOM MASSES In last week's newsletter I announced the Saturday Zoom Mass as an experiment to celebrate the golden wedding of Pat and James Sweetman. There was some kind of misunderstanding and we ended up with a Zoom Mass on Sunday as well, instead of the usual Sunday Mass behind locked doors in the church. I am happy to continue with the Zoom Masses, if that is what parishioners want. We could have them every weekend, alternate weekends, or from time to time. Please make your preference known. When celebrating Mass in the house chapel (there's no wi-fi in the church) I feel acutely uncomfortable when I am the only person receiving holy communion. I would like to try this weekend placing our monstrance on the altar with the Blessed Sacrament in it for just three minutes, so that we can share in adoration

PLEASE PRAY FOR OSCAR RASILE, the caretaker who has looked after Blackmore Park Church for many years. He died of cancer yesterday (Thursday) in Worcester Royal Hospital. Pray for Anne and their children.

FINANCIAL MATTERS Parishioners are kindly asking how they can continue to support the parish financially during the lockdown. We are fortunate, thanks to your generosity, to have sufficient resources in the bank to carry us over the present crisis. And, thanks in part to some recent grants, work on the restoration of the north side of the church is due to be undertaken in mid-May. So the answer, agreed by Sue Rigby, is that standing orders continue as usual, but please do not take out a new standing order at this moment because it would cause extra work for the Diocese. Those of you who pay by Gift Aid weekly envelopes, please keep your contributions until such time as we can reassemble in church. You can then pay either by cheque or in cash and the Gift Aid will be recovered. Those who make contributions which are not Gift Aided can likewise make an accumulated donation when we get back to the church.

PLEASE PRAY for Oscar Rasile who died on 23 April, for Christopher Kouwen, Mary Plunkett, Paul Hothersall and Les Miller, who have died recently, for John Bilsborough, Andy Cooper, Pat Higgins, Rosemarie Kay, Andy McGowan, Pauline Mills, Peter Onions, Nicholas Ratcliff, Raymond Turner and Ellen Verdult who are unwell/housebound.