



# OUR LADY OF DOLOURS SERVITE CHURCH

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**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent**

**(Year C)**

**13<sup>th</sup> March 2016**

**Sunday Reflection:** – ‘Perverting the course of justice is a serious offence’, we are always told. The penalty fits the crime. Our social judicial system doesn’t do Mercy. In today’s gospel we have a beautiful story of the mercy of Jesus as he reaches out in forgiveness to the woman taken in adultery. For her accusers it was a clear cut case – ‘she deserved to be stoned to death,’ as the Law stated. The woman is brought by the Scribes and Pharisees, but as usual the man has made an abrupt escape. So keen to obey the Law, they want this woman executed. They also want to catch out Jesus in this open and closed case. But Jesus proves to be a step ahead. He doesn’t say she is innocent, but simply invites the innocent among them to ‘cast the first stone’. Instead of pointing an accusing finger, Jesus goes back to writing on the ground and waiting for their reaction. As they reflect on their own lives, they realize that no one is innocent, so they depart quietly. Jesus responds ‘has anyone condemned you?’ “Neither do I condemn you. Go and sin no more”. It is so much easier to judge and condemn others than to look at ourselves and our own track record. The gospel of Jesus challenges us all to be a people caught up in forgiveness. Are we able to forgive as readily as Jesus forgives? If so we are truly his disciples.

**Penance Service** – Lent is the ideal time to scrutinize our lives and assess what is good and what must change so that I can be faithful to what Christ asks of us. The Church encourages us all to receive the Sacrament of Confession/Reconciliation, during Lent. This is especially so during this Jubilee Year of Mercy. Please make every effort to share in this Sacrament of God’s Mercy this Lent. On tomorrow Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March we shall celebrate our Lenten Penance Service at 7.30pm. We ask and encourage all Parishioners to make a special effort and come to share in God’s merciful forgiveness for Easter at this service. We hope to have extra visiting confessors available at the Service.

**RCIA** – The third Scrutiny of Adults (The Elect) preparing to be baptised and those to be received into the Catholic Church, during this Easter takes place this Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> March at the 7pm Mass. Please let us continue to pray for them.

**St Patrick’s Celebration** – Will take place on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm in the small Servite Hall. Everyone welcome! Tickets £5 and available in the Colonnade/Parish office. All proceeds will go to supporting the local charity S.M.A.R.T.

**Easter Raffle Tickets** – for sale after Mass. We hope to raise enough funds to send a child to Lourdes! Thank you, the Confirmation Group.

to send a child to Lourdes starting with an Easter Egg Raffle. Tickets on sale after Mass today.

**Prepare for Holy Week** – “Risen” A powerful new Hollywood film, which covers the Period between the Crucifixion and the Ascension, seen through the eyes of a hardened military tribune, played by Joseph Fiennes. He goes from hardened cynicism to the beginnings of belief through what he experiences, ‘Both gripping and faith affirming’. Suitable for believers and non-believers alike and a great evangelistic tool. Out on 18<sup>th</sup> March.

**Palm Sunday** – Is next Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> March. Blessing of Palms and Procession beginning in School yard at 9.30am, and before the 10am Mass. Story of the Passion is read at all Masses.

**Easter Services & Cards** – Will be available in Church this week.

**Cardinal’s Mass of the Thanksgiving** – For the Sacrament of Matrimony Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May at 3pm. The Archbishop invites to Mass all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their 10<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, and 60<sup>th</sup> (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2016. If you are celebrating, please give your parish clergy the following details: husband and wife’s names, wedding date, full postal address and email or telephone number by the 7<sup>th</sup> March 2016.

**Pilgrimage to Walsingham** – Join Cardinal Vincent on the diocesan pilgrimage to Walsingham, England’s Nazareth, on 9<sup>th</sup> July. With the theme of ‘Mary, the Mother of Mercy’, the day will include an outdoor Mass, procession with the statue of Our Lady of Walsingham and banners along the Holy Mile, prayers and Benediction in the Priory grounds. Free time to visit the Basilica, the Slipper Chapel and the Holy Door. Bring a picnic lunch. Please speak to the Parish Office to book a place on one of the coaches departing locally.

## Mass Times

Vigil Mass Sat	6.30 pm
Sunday	8.30 am
	10 am
(Spanish)	11.15 am
	12.15 pm
	7 pm
Mon - Sat	10 am
	6.30pm

## Sacrament of Confession

Saturday	10.45 – 11.15 am
	6.00 – 6.30 pm

## Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Mon – Fri 10.30 am – 11.15 am

**Rosary** – Wednesdays 10.30am, followed by Tea/Coffee in the Founders Room.

**Legion of Mary** – Every Tuesday at 7pm. Tel: 0207 352 6965  
Contact [cdewinton@gmail.com](mailto:cdewinton@gmail.com)

**Lectio Divina** – Every Saturday at 11am in the Founders’ Room.

**Charismatic Prayer Group** – Every Thursday 11am in the Founders’ Room.

## Saints Days

Thurs 17<sup>th</sup> – St Patrick  
Fri 18<sup>th</sup> – St Cyril  
Sat 19<sup>th</sup> – St Joseph

Total Offertory collection last Sunday was £1,771 and the Second collection for “Lenten Alms” was £785. Thank you for your support & generosity.~~~~~

**Stations of the Cross:** Every Fri of Lent after the 6.30pm Mass.