

# BRINDLE St JOSEPH'S

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## Fourth Sunday of Easter 21<sup>st</sup> April 2024

(Sunday cycle year B, weekday cycle year 2, psalter week 4)

### DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS



*“I am the good shepherd; I know my own  
and my own know me”*

#### **Prayer for Vocations**

God our Loving Father, you called each of us by name through the Sacrament of Baptism to holiness. Through the gift of the Holy Spirit, you made us the temples of the Holy Spirit. Help us to listen to the cry of our Lord Jesus from the Holy Cross ‘I thirst’ and respond to the call ‘Go out to the whole world and proclaim the good news to all the nations’. Guide us in every step we take in life and lead us in every decision we make in responding to your call. Make us and mould us into the living images of Christ your Son, who was always close to those in need. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord, Amen.

# THIS WEEK

Sat 20 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Abbot's intentions	Saturday of Easter 3
	6.00pm	For the Parish	<b>Fourth Sunday of Easter</b>
Sun 21 <sup>st</sup>	9.30am	Rita Gorrell	
Mon 22 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>No Mass today</b>		Monday of Easter 4
Tue 23 <sup>rd</sup>	9.30am	Adrian Cowsley	St George (solemnity)
Wed 24 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Vocations to the priesthood and religious life	Wednesday of Easter 4
Thu 25 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Anne and Peter Chadwick	St Mark (feast)
Fri 26 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Holy Souls	Friday of Easter 4
Sat 27 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Pope's intentions	Saturday of Easter 4
	6.00pm	For the Parish	<b>Fifth Sunday of Easter</b>
Sun 28 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Rita Gorrell	

### First Saturday of the Month: Confessions at 10.00am, Anointing of the sick during 10.30am Mass

This week		Reader		Eucharistic Minister		Bookshop
Sat 20 <sup>th</sup>		G Hopkinson		L Gardner		Not open
Sun 21 <sup>st</sup>		L Rigbye		J Slater		Not open
<b>Bidding prayers</b>	G Hopkinson	<b>Children's Liturgy</b>	L Worswick	<b>Collection counters</b>	J & K Slater	
Next week		Reader		Eucharistic Minister		Bookshop
Sat 27 <sup>th</sup>		C Williamson		P Fawcett		L Gardner
Sun 28 <sup>th</sup>		F Fordyce		L Rigbye		K Slater
<b>Bidding prayers</b>	L Lomax	<b>Children's Liturgy</b>	J Grogan, C Snape	<b>Collection counters</b>	C & K Snape	

**Last weekend: attendance: 104, collection: £577.80, SPUC: £131.82 – thank you!**

**Readings: Acts 4:8-12, 1 John 3:1-2, John 10:11-18.**

*For of all the names in the world given to men, this is the only one by which we can be saved that name being Jesus. (1<sup>st</sup> reading)*

These words do not square well with secular views such as: a person can do what they like so long as they do not hurt anyone or there is no need for God or religion binding us with rules and regulations.

They do not square with those who so easily say that the reason for so many religions is due to where you happen to have been born, so they are all of equal value and all point to the one God.

These words do not square well with those scientists who believe that there is no longer any need to speak of a creator God since our ever-advancing knowledge of the universe makes God redundant.

It's worth noting that this last example especially, may remind us of Eve in the garden of Eden, attracted by the tree God had forbidden her to eat from on pain of death. But she *saw that the tree was good to eat, pleasing to the eye and that it was desirable for the **knowledge** that it could give.* (Gen.3: 6)

In other words, they no longer need to depend upon God – an idea that the devil had put into her mind: for *you will not die, your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods ... so let knowledge be your god* and let it be made in your own image ... which is idolatry.

As a result of seeking their independence from God, the eyes of Adam and Eve were opened and they realized that they were naked, Cain kills Abel and the rest, as they say...

Whether or not we literally believe in this biblical account of Adam and Eve's fall from God's grace, the story conveys a truth that we can see all around us: that all is not well in the world, for there is war, persecution, pain illness, suffering and death ... all, a consequence of the *fall*.

The devil's hatred toward God and humanity is huge and it was that hatred which lured Adam and Eve into the committing of that primordial grave/mortal sin so infinite in malice against God's infinite love.

Such an act of infinite hatred, according to St Thomas Aquinas, could only be repaired by an act of infinite love which is beyond the power of any ordinary human being, all of whom are tainted by the fall of Adam and Eve.

And this is why no ordinary man or woman could do what we are now celebrating at Easter and at every Mass: the restoration of humanity's loving relationship with God ... through the death and resurrection of the one man *whose name, of all the names in the world, is the only one by which we can be saved* Jesus Christ – because he was no ordinary man, but the Son of God.

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## Reflections

*Everything comes from love, all is ordained for the salvation of man, God does nothing without this goal in mind.*  
(St Catherine of Sienna)

*Love is a fruit in season at all times and within reach of every hand.* (St Teresa of Calcutta)

With Prayers,

Fr Raphael.

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## This week's Saints

**St George** (d 303) Patron of England, Venice, Genoa, Portugal, Catalonia, venerated in Russia and Ethiopia and one of the 14 Holy Helpers in Germany.

He is associated with the story of the fearsome dragon which had graduated from eating sheep to eating human sacrifices before being appeased. After the King's daughter became the sacrificial victim by lot, St George confronted the dragon and pierced it with his lance, tamed it and told the people that if they would believe in Christ and be baptized, he would rid them of the monster which they did and he did.

He is thought to have been martyred under the persecutions of Diocletian and Maximian.

**St Mark the Evangelist** thought to be the author of the gospel of the same name and was the travelling companion of both St Peter and St Paul.

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There is a **FOODBANK COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND.**

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Today is the **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS.** Pope Francis' message is in the "Downloads" section of our website.

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**SPUC** invite you to join their **annual Pro-Life Chain** next Saturday (27<sup>th</sup>) between 11.00am and 1.00pm to remember the millions of unborn children lost through abortion. Meet on London Road, Preston, just north of the Ribble bridge. Stay for all or part of the time – take a chair if necessary. More information from 01772 723094.

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**GRAVEYARD:** As the growing season begins, please could we avoid planting shrubs or any other plants or placing any items in front of graves which might prohibit the passing of a lawn mower and to remember with thanks our volunteers who try to keep the graveyard in good order for you.

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**PLEASE PRAY** for those who are sick or housebound including Isaac Wilson, Fr Laurence Mayne, Kathleen Bamber and Bill Warbrick, and for those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

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**DURING EASTER we are asked to pray for:** New Members of the Church; Human Work; Vocations; Survivors of Abuse; The Right Use of the Media; the Church.

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**100 CLUB:** The winner for week 19 is number 65, Marion McDonald.

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**HOSPITAL CHAPLAINS:** If you or someone you know would like a visit from the Catholic Chaplain while in hospital, please ring 01257 262713 (for Chorley hospital) or 01772 719604 (for Preston). For St Catherine's Hospice, contact Browndedge St Mary's on 01772 335168.

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In the unlikely event of the need to evacuate church for any reason, the **ASSEMBLY POINT** is in Chapel Fold, by the statue of St Joseph.

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The **KEY FOR THE TOILETS** is available at the back of church during Mass.

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Can **PARKING** in front of the church be left for those who need it, please?

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**TEA AND COFFEE** are served after Mass on Sunday – please come along – you'll be most welcome!

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**Leeds Male Voice Choir** will perform at **BROWNDGE ST MARY'S** on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May at 2.00pm – entry by donation. See the poster on the noticeboard for more details.

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**ESCORTED TOUR TO WESTPORT, KNOCK AND CO MAYO**, 16<sup>th</sup> June. £899.00pps. Price includes flight, 10kg hold luggage, 5 nights in 4\* Castlecourt Hotel, Westport with Dinner, Bed and Breakfast. Lunch on three days. All entertainment, excursions and transport included. Visit Knock, Galway City, Kylemore Abbey, Croagh Patrick and Ashford Castle. Single supplement on Enquiry. Contact Patricia or Natali on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email [knockpilgrimages@gmail.com](mailto:knockpilgrimages@gmail.com).

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### **Bidding Prayers for the weekend of 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> April 2024**

**Priest:** Let us approach our heavenly Father, with the confidence of His children, for the needs of this fallen world, trusting in his grace and mercy.

**Reader:** We pray for your church, that she may be made ready for the coming marriage of the Lamb, Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Lord, hear us...

We pray for your saints here on earth, that they may proclaim the truth even though the world refuses to acknowledge you, trusting in your provision and providence. Lord, hear us...

We pray for our leaders, within the church and the government, that they will respect the authority you have given them and seek your will in their deliberations. Lord, hear us...

We pray for your people, here in this Parish, that we allow you to shepherd us as the sheep of your flock. That we may know you, the Good Shepherd, and listen to your voice. Lord, hear us...

Let us ask Mary, the mother of Jesus, to join us in prayer, as we say: Hail Mary,...

Let us spend a moment in silent prayer for our own needs...

**Priest:** Abba, Heavenly Father, with confidence we ask, and with faith we receive what we ask for, in the Name of your only begotten Son Jesus, our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

#### **PRAYER FOR THE SICK**

**Priest:** As we thank God for the gift of his Son in Holy Communion, let us remember those of our Parish who are sick or housebound.

**All:** May the body and blood of your Son, which we now send to them through our Eucharistic Ministers, bring them consolation and peace. We ask this in the name of Jesus, Our Lord. Amen.