

THE PARISH OF SAINT PAUL DEPTFORD



'anglo-catholic, inclusive, committed to prayer & justice.'

<http://www.achurchnearyou.com/deptford-st-paul>

The Rector & Parish Priest: Fr Paul Butler

tel: 0208 6927449 email: stpaulsdeptford@btinternet.com

Welcome to S. Paul's today in church or on Zoom.
Please follow the directions of the Churchwardens & Welcomers.



Please turn off mobile phones.

No form of visual or sound recording, or any form of photography is permitted during or after the services, without express permission. Thank you for your co-operation.



WCs (& baby changing facilities) downstairs in the crypt. Do not attend if you have Covid, symptoms, or a cold.

Please let a Welcomer know if you require a **Gluten Free Host.**
'Love one another as I have loved you', says the Lord.



The Statue of Our Lady is crowned

Hail, O Lady, Holy Queen, Mary, holy Mother of God:



who are the Virgin made Church,
chosen by the most Holy Father in heaven
whom he consecrated
with His most holy beloved Son
and with the Holy Spirit the Paraclete,
in whom there was and is
all fullness of grace and every good.
Hail His Palace!
Hail His Tabernacle!
Hail His Dwelling!
Hail His Robe!
Hail His Servant!
Hail His Mother!
And hail all You holy virtues
which are poured into the hearts of the faithful
through the grace and enlightenment
of the Holy Spirit, that from being unbelievers,
You may make them faithful to God. **Amen.**

Salutation to our Lady of S. Francis of Assisi

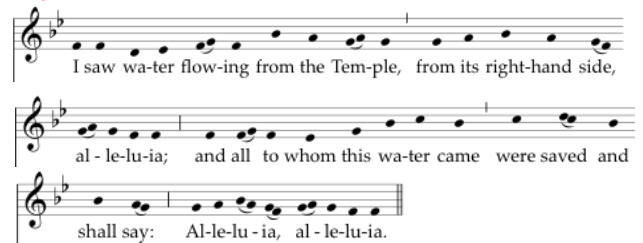
Rite for the Blessing and Sprinkling of Water

replaces the Penitential Act

Lord our God, in your mercy be present to your people's prayers, and, for us who recall the wondrous work of our creation and the still greater work of our redemption, graciously bless ✠ this water. For you created water to make the fields fruitful and to refresh our bodies. You also made water the instrument of your mercy: for through water you freed your people from slavery and quenched their thirst in the desert; through water the Prophets proclaimed the new covenant you were to enter upon with the human race; and last of all, through water, which Christ made holy in the Jordan, you have renewed our corrupted nature in the bath of regeneration. Therefore, may this water be for us a memorial of the Baptism we have received, and grant that we may share in the gladness of our brothers and sisters who during Eastertide have received their Baptism. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Afterward taking the aspergillum, the priest sprinkles himself then the people, moving through the church, whilst we sing the **Vidi Aquam.***

Antiphon



The Kyrie Eleison

**Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

The Gloria in Excelsis

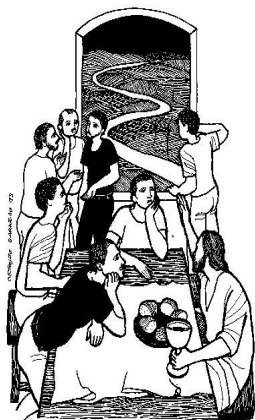
**Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest.
Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
✠ in the glory of God the Father.
Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest.**

The Collect

Almighty God,
who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ
have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life:
grant that, as by your grace going before us
you put into our minds good desires,
so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect;
through Jesus Christ our risen Lord, who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**



5th SUNDAY of EASTER

*May Devotion
to the Blessed Virgin Mary
3rd MAY 2026*

**THE PARISH MASS
SUNG
10.30am**

Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector

Mass of St Thomas by David Thorne
Hymns in CAHON (orange book)
Please join in with the Bold Type

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Stand

O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders;
in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia Cf. Psalm 98: 1-2
Let us go forth in peace, **in the name of Christ. Amen.**

The Processional Hymn

Bring flowers of the fairest.
Words & Tune by Mary E. Walsh.

Bring flow'rs of the fairest, bring flow'rs of the rarest,
From garden and woodland and hillside and vale;
Our full hearts are swelling our glad voices telling,
The praise of the loveliest Rose of the vale.

Chorus

**O Mary! we crown thee with blossoms today,
Queen of the Angels, Queen of the May,
O Mary, we crown thee with blossoms today,
Queen of the Angels, Queen of the May.**

Our voices ascending, in harmony blending,
Oh! thus may our hearts turn dear Mother, to thee;
Oh! thus shall we prove thee how truly we love thee,
How dark without Mary life's journey would be. **Chorus**

O Virgin most tender, our homage we render,
Thy love and protection, sweet Mother, to win;
In danger defend us, in sorrow befriend us,
And shield our hearts from contagion and sin. **Chorus**

Of Mothers the dearest, oh, wilt thou be nearest,
When life with temptation is darkly replete?
Forsake us, O never! Our hearts be they ever
As pure as the lilies we lay at thy feet. **Chorus**

The Greeting

✠ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Alleluia, Christ is risen! **He is risen indeed, alleluia!**

The Introduction to the Mass

The celebrant welcomes the people and introduces the Mass.

Sit for the readings

First Reading from Acts of the Apostles

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (7: 55-end)

Standing before the high priest and the council, ⁵⁵ Stephen, filled with the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ 'Look,' he said, 'I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!' ⁵⁷ But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸ Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹ While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' ⁶⁰ Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.' When he had said this, he died.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 31: 1-5, 15-16

R. / Let your face shine on your servants and we shall be saved.

¹ In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness.

² Incline your ear to me; make haste to deliver me. **R. /**

³ Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me. **R. /**

⁴ Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, for you are my tower of strength.

⁵ Into your hands I commend my spirit, for you have redeemed me O LORD, O God of truth. **R. /**

¹⁵ My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

¹⁶ Make your face to shine upon your servant, and in your loving-kindness save me. **R. /**

Second Reading from the New Testament

A reading from the First letter of Peter (2: 2-10)

² Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation, ³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. ⁴ Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight. ⁵ Like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For it stands in scripture: 'See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.' ⁷ To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner,' and ⁸ 'A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.' They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. ⁹ But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Stand & turn to face the Gospel

Gospel Acclamation and Reading

♫ **Allleluia!** I am the way, and the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me. *S. John 14:6* **Allleluia** ♫
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

A ✠ reading from the ✠ Holy Gospel according to ✠ **John (14: 1-14)**
Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples: ¹ 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ² In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?' ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴ And you know the way to the place where I am going.' ⁵ Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' ⁶ Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.' ⁸ Philip said to him, 'Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.' ⁹ Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, "Show us the Father"?' ¹⁰ Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹ Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. ¹² Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.'

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Stand

Niceno-Constantinopolitan Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, (Genuflect) was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made human. (Rise)

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, ✠ and the life of the age to come. Amen.

Remain standing

Prayers of Intercession

Celebrant

As we pray to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we say with Our Lady, the Blessed Virgin Mary:

Lord, have mercy on those who fear you. **Holy is your name.**

Intercessor 1

Your prophet of old foretold a day when a virgin would conceive and bear a son who would be called, Emmanuel, God-with-us.

Help us to look forward to your deliverance and to seek the fullness of your kingdom. Lord, have mercy on those who fear you. **R./**

Intercessor 2

Your angel declared to Mary that she was to be the mother of the Saviour. Help Sarah our Archbishop, our Bishop Christopher, and his assistant, Alastair, our Parish Priest, Fr Paul, and all the Faithful, to be open to your word and obedient to your will. Lord, have mercy on those who fear you. **R./**

Intercessor 3

Mary rejoiced with Elizabeth, and sang your praise, 'My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord.' Help us to live joyful lives that sing your praise.

Lord, have mercy on those who fear you. **R./**

Intercessor 4

Mary proclaimed in her Magnificat that God has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts, put down the mighty from their thrones, lifted up the lowly, filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. May Our Lady's social vision guide our common life, especially as we vote in the forthcoming elections, Lord, have mercy on those who fear you. **R.**

Intercessor 5

Mary bore a son of David's line, born a king whose reign would never end. Bless all the nations of the world with Christ's gift of peace.

Lord, have mercy on those who fear you. **R./**

Intercessor 6

The child Jesus grew in wisdom and stature in the home of Mary and Joseph. Strengthen our homes and families, and keep under your protection all those whom we love. Lord, have mercy on those who fear you. **R./**

Intercessor 7

At the foot of the cross of Christ stood his mother, and from the cross she received his lifeless body in her arms. Give comfort and healing to all who suffer. We especially remember (*Celebrant reads the names ...*) and those who stand by them. Lord, have mercy on those who fear you. **R./**

Celebrant

The apostle John saw a vision of a woman in heaven, robed with the sun. Bring us with all those who have died in the faith of Christ to share the joy of heaven with Mary and all the saints.

We pray for all who have died recently, *especially...* and those whose anniversaries fall at this time *especially...*

Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord **and let light perpetual shine upon them.**
✠ May they rest in peace **and rise in glory.**

The celebrant invites us to offer our personal intentions, and then leads us in asking for the Prayers of our Lady & the Saints.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of the BVM we pray: **Hail Mary...**

S. Mary Magdalene, Apostle to the Apostles, Pray for us.
S. Peter, Prince of the Apostles, S. Paul the Apostle, our Patron
S. Joseph of Nazareth, spouse of the BVM, S. Benedict & S. Scholastica
S. Augustine & S. Monica, S. Francis & S. Clare of Assisi
Mother Julian of Norwich, All you angels and saints.

Merciful God, **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, Our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

¶ THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

The Altar is prepared

The Offertory Hymn: 759
Ye who own the faith of Jesus (Tune: Daily, daily)

Remain standing

Pray my sisters and brothers, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his Church.

Prayer over the Offerings

O God, who by the wonderful exchange effected in this sacrifice have made us partakers of the one supreme Godhead, grant, we pray, that, as we have come to know your truth, we may make it ours by a worthy way of life. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

Here follows the Preface in which the celebrant praises God for his mighty acts, and all respond:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

✠ Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The celebrant recalls the Last Supper, and this acclamation is used:

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

The Prayer continues and leads into the doxology, to which all respond boldly:

AMEN.

¶ THE COMMUNION RITE

Remain standing

The Lord's Prayer

Rejoicing in God's new creation,

let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name;

thy kingdom come; thy will be done;

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation;

but deliver us from evil.

The celebrant adds:

Deliver us, Lord, from every evil, and grant us peace in our day.

In your mercy keep us free from sin and protect us from all distress as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Peace.

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles: Peace I leave you,

my peace I give you. Look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church,

and grant us the peace and unity of your kingdom

where you live for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

We share the peace with those immediately around us, a sign that expresses peace, communion, and love.

Agnus Dei

during which the celebrant takes the host and breaks it over the paten, placing a small piece in the chalice.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

Giving of Communion

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word, and I shall be healed.

Communion Antiphon

I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia. *S. John 15:1,5*

Please follow the directions of the sidespeople.

The Body / Blood of Christ.

*The communicant replies **Amen.** and then receives.*

*** At home, make an Act of Spiritual Communion ***

As you imagine yourself receiving the Bread of Heaven, be still and rest in the love of God. Thank Him for entering beneath the roof of your soul.

O Sacred Feast! Wherein Christ is received, his Passion is remembered, our souls are filled with grace and the pledge of eternal glory is received.

O Sacrum Convivium, 13th century (attributed to S. Thomas Aquinas)

After receiving Holy Communion pray quietly in thanksgiving.

THE JESUS PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

THE TRISAGION (Thrice Holy)

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, Have mercy on us. (x3)

No Kneeling during Eastertide

in order to commemorate the Resurrection of our Lord.

"Since there are some who kneel on Sunday and during the season of Pentecost, this holy synod decrees that, so that the same observances may be maintained in every diocese, one should offer one's prayers to the Lord standing."

First Ecumenical Council of Nicea 325. Canon 20

The Communion Hymn

Hail, Holy Queen (Tune: Salve Regina a Coelitum)

Hail, Holy Queen, enthron'd above, O Maria,
Hail, Mother of Mercy and of love, O Maria.

Chorus:

Triumph all ye Cherubim,

Sing with us ye Seraphim,

Heav'n and earth resound the hymn,

Salve, Salve, Salve, Regina.

Our life, our sweetness, here below, O Maria,

Our hope in sorrow and in woe, O Maria. **Chorus**

O gentle, loving, holy one, O Maria,

The God of light became your Son, O Maria. **Chorus**

Turn then, most gracious Advocate, O Maria,

Toward us thine eyes compassionate, O Maria. **Chorus**

SUB TUUM PRAESIDIUM.



The oldest known prayer to the Virgin Mary is often referred to in the West by its first words in Latin, "**Sub tuum praesidium**". It was composed in Greek by an unknown author and is first attested on a papyrus fragment of the 3rd century (Rylands 470). The original Greek text is as follows; the letters missing from the Rylands papyrus are in brackets.

(Υ)πό (τὴν σὴν) εὐσπλα(γχνίαν)
καταφε(ύγομεν), Θεοτόκε. Τ(ᾶς ἡμῶν) ἰκεσίας μὴ
παρίδης ἐν περιστάσ(ει),
ἀλλ' ἐκ κινδύνου (λύτρω)σαι ἡμᾶς,
μόνη (Ἄγνή, μόν)η εὐλογ(ημένη).

"Beneath thy compassion do we flee, o Mother of God. Despise not our supplication in difficulty, but deliver us from danger, o only pure one, only blessed."

The Latin version appears to depend on a variant of this text used by the Coptic Church and differs from the Greek in a few places.

Sub tuum praesidium confugimus, Sancta Dei Genitrix: nostras deprecationes ne despicias in necessitatibus, sed a periculis cunctis libera nos semper, Virgo gloriosa et benedicta.

"Under thy protection (defence, assistance) do we flee, o Holy Mother of God. Despise not our supplications in difficulties, but always deliver us from all dangers, o glorious and blessed Virgin."

In the Roman Rite, this is traditionally sung at Compline in the Little Office of the Virgin Mary; in the modern Liturgy of the Hours, it may be sung at the end of Compline.

Walsingham: England's Nazareth.

<https://www.walsinghamanglican.org.uk>



In 1061, so the story goes, the lady of the manor of Little Walsingham in Norfolk, a widow named Richeldis, prayed to our Lady asking how she could honour her in some special way. In answer to this prayer Mary led Richeldis in spirit to Nazareth and showed her the house in which she had first

received the angel's message. Mary told Richeldis to take the measurements of this house and build another one just like it in Walsingham. It would be a place where people could come to honour her and her Son, remembering especially the mystery of the Annunciation and Mary's joyful 'yes' to conceiving the Saviour.

The late eleventh century and all through the twelfth and thirteenth century was the era of the crusades, which saw a growing interest in the sites consecrated by the human presence of Jesus in the Holy Land. But now pilgrims need not go so far; in England itself there was a 'new Nazareth' built by one of their own countrywomen.

After some time, Augustinian canons took over the care of the holy house and enshrined it in a special chapel within a much larger church. Pilgrims began to come from all over England and even abroad. From the time of Henry III nearly all the kings and queens of the realm visited Walsingham, as well as hundreds of ordinary people seeking help, healing, and inner peace. Walsingham ranked with Rome, Jerusalem and Compostella in importance as a pilgrimage destination.

However, the Shrine was destroyed at the time of the Reformation, and only rebuilt at the beginning of the twentieth century, mainly due to the inspired leadership of the Anglican vicar of Walsingham, Fr Hope Patten. He revived devotion to Our Lady under this title and built a new shrine Church and Holy House in the village, together with a statue modelled on that depicted on the ancient priory seal. It shows a seated Mary with her Son on her lap holding a book of the gospels.

Meanwhile a Miss Charlotte Boyd had purchased and restored the ancient Slipper Chapel a mile away and gifted it to the Catholic Church. This has since become the National Shrine of the Catholic Church in England. So Walsingham is a village dedicated to Mary, a place of ecumenical pilgrimage with a growing understanding of the original message of Walsingham as received by Richeldis – that it should be a place where the joy of the Annunciation could be remembered and celebrated, for the Word became flesh and dwelt amongst us through Mary's joyful and ready 'yes,' spoken within an ordinary house that would become the boyhood home of the Son of God himself.

Prayer to Our Lady of Walsingham

O Mary, recall the solemn moment
when Jesus, your divine Son, dying on the cross
confided us to your maternal care.
You are our Mother;
we desire ever to remain your devout children.
Let us therefore feel the effects
of your powerful intercession with Jesus Christ.
Make your name again glorious in this place,
once renowned throughout our land
by your visits, favours, and many miracles.
Pray, O Holy Mother of God,
for the conversion of England,
restoration of the sick, consolation for the afflicted,
repentance of sinners, peace to the departed.
O Blessed Mary, Mother of God,
Our Lady of Walsingham, intercede for us. Amen.

Why is May the Month of Mary?

By Marge Fenelon.

May, the month in which the earth springs into bloom (at least in the Northern Hemisphere) and we start thinking about planting gardens, family picnics.... It's also the Month of Mary.

Why is May Mary's month?

Here's a brief explanation. For centuries, the Catholic Church has set aside the entire month of May to honour Mary, Mother of God. Not just a day in May, mind you, but the entire month.

The custom spans both centuries and cultures, with roots going back as far as the Ancient Greeks. In early Greece, May was dedicated to Artemis, the goddess of fecundity.

In Ancient Rome, May was dedicated to Flora, the goddess of blooms, or blossoms. They celebrated 'ludi florales', or floral games, at the end of April and asked the intercession of Flora for all that blooms.

In medieval times, similar customs abounded, all cantering around the practice of expelling winter, as May 1 was considered the start of new growth.

During this period, the tradition of 'Tricesimum' or 'Thirty-Day Devotion to Mary' came into being. Also called 'Lady Month', it was held from August 15th (the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary) to September 14th and is still observed in some parts of the world. The idea of a month dedicated specifically to Mary can be traced back to baroque times. Although it wasn't always held during May, Mary Month included thirty daily spiritual exercises honouring Mary. It was in this era that Mary's Month and May were combined, making May the Month of Mary with special devotions organized on each day throughout the month. This custom became especially widespread during the nineteenth century and remains in practice until today. The ways Mary is honoured in May is as varied as the people who honour her.

It's common for parishes to have a daily recitation of the Rosary during May, and many erect a special May altar with a statue or picture of Mary as a reminder of Mary's month. Additionally, it's a long-standing tradition to crown the statue of Mary during May – a custom known as May Crowning. Often, the crown is made of beautiful blossoms representing Mary's beauty and virtue. It's also a reminder to the faithful to strive to imitate our Blessed Mother's virtue in our own lives. May Crowning, in some areas, is a huge celebration and is usually done outside of Mass, although Mass may be celebrated before or after the actual crowning.

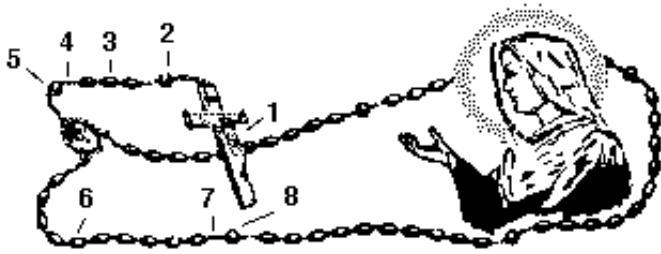
But May altars and crownings aren't just "church" things. We can and should be doing the same in our homes. When we echo the customs and traditions of the Church in our homes – our domestic churches – we participate more fully in the life of the Church.

If you haven't already, I encourage you to erect a prayer corner in your home. No matter how fancy or simple it is. The main point is that it's a place designated for God, and more specifically, for spending time with him. Just as you need proper atmosphere to sleep, you also need proper atmosphere to pray.

For May, give Mary a special spot in your prayer corner. It can be a statue or picture, but place there some representation of our Blessed Mother. Make it appealing and a real tribute to her beauty and virtue. Then, crown Mary. You can give her an actual or spiritual crown and you can make it a subtle gesture or ornate ceremony of your own device. The meaning is far more important than the action. You can do it in the beginning, at the end of May or anywhere in between. Just do it. Why? Not because it's a long-standing tradition in the Church, although it is. Not because there are any special graces connected to it, although there are. No, do it because Mary is Mother – your mother, my mother, everyone's mother – and because she cares for all of us day-in-and-day-out without fail, interceding for us in even the tiniest matters. For that, she deserves an entire month in her honour.

Marge Fenelon is a Catholic author, blogger, speaker, and award-winning journalist. She's a long-time correspondent for National Catholic Register, a columnist for the Milwaukee Catholic Herald and the author of several books on Marian devotion. Copyright © 2017 EWTN News, Inc. All rights reserved.

THE MOST HOLY ROSARY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



INTRODUCTION

Today we pray the [...] Mysteries of the Rosary.

Particularly we pray for ...

COMMON OPENING PRAYERS

1. Make the Sign of the Cross and say the "Apostles' Creed."
2. Say the "Our Father."
3. Say three "Hail Marys."
4. Say the "Glory be to the Father."

DOMINICAN RITE

The Most Holy Rosary of the BVM.

1. ✠ Make the Sign of the Cross.
2. Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.
**Blessed art thou among women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.**
3. ✠ O Lord, open my lips
and my mouth will proclaim your praise.
O God, come to my assistance.
O Lord, make haste to help me.
GLORY BE to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
**As it was in the beginning is now,
and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**
4. **Alleluia.**
(Lent: Praise be to Thee, O Lord, King of everlasting glory.)
5. Announce the First Mystery; then say the "Our Father."
6. Say ten "Hail Marys," while meditating on the Mystery.
7. Say the "Glory be to the Father." ("O my Jesus" etc may be added.)
8. Announce the Second Mystery; then say the "Our Father."
Repeat 6 and 7 and continue with Third, Fourth and Fifth Mysteries in the same manner.

PRAYERS OF THE ROSARY

I BELIEVE IN GOD the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day he rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, And sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; The holy Catholic Church; The Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body, ✠ And the life everlasting. Amen.

OUR FATHER, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy Name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.
**Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not
into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.**

HAIL MARY, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
**Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our death. Amen.**

GLORY BE to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
**As it was in the beginning is now,
and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

Fátima Prayer

**O my Jesus, forgive us our sins,
save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven,
especially those in most need of thy mercy.**

*Or: Mary, mother of grace, mother of mercy, shield me from
the enemy and receive me at the hour of my death. Amen.*

On Monday & Saturday, meditate on the "Joyful Mysteries"

First Decade: The Annunciation of Gabriel to Mary (Luke 1:26-38)

Second Decade: The Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth (Luke 1:39-56)

Third Decade: The Birth of Our Lord (Luke 2:1-21)

Fourth Decade: The Presentation of Our Lord (Luke 2:22-38)

Fifth Decade: The Finding of Our Lord in the Temple (Luke 2:41-52)

On Thursday, meditate on the "Luminous Mysteries"

First Decade: The Baptism of Our Lord in the River Jordan

(Matthew 3:13-16) **Second Decade:** The Wedding at Cana,
when Christ manifested Himself (John 2:1-11)

Third Decade: The Proclamation of the Kingdom of God

(Mark 1:14-15) **Fourth Decade:** The Transfiguration of Our Lord

(Matthew 17:1-8) **Fifth Decade:** The Last Supper, when Our Lord
gave us the Holy Eucharist (Matthew 26: 1-35)

On Tuesday & Friday, meditate on the "Sorrowful Mysteries"

First Decade: The Agony of Our Lord in the Garden

(Matthew 26:36-56) **Second Decade:** Our Lord is Scourged at the

Pillar (Matthew 27:26) **Third Decade:** Our Lord is Crowned with

Thorns (Matthew 27:27-31) **Fourth Decade:** Our Lord Carries the

Cross to Calvary (Matthew 27:32) **Fifth Decade:** The Crucifixion of
Our Lord (Matthew 27:33-56)

On Wednesday and Sunday, meditate on the "Glorious Mysteries"

First Decade: The Glorious Resurrection of Our Lord

(John 20:1-29) **Second Decade:** The Ascension of Our Lord

(Luke 24:36-53) **Third Decade:** The Descent of the Holy Spirit at

Pentecost (Acts 2:1-41) **Fourth Decade:** The Assumption of Mary

into Heaven **Fifth Decade:** The Coronation of Mary as Queen of
Heaven and Earth. (Revelation 12: 1)

AFTER THE ROSARY

Salve Regina

**HAIL HOLY QUEEN, mother of mercy;
our life, our sweetness, and our hope.**

To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve.

**To thee do we send up our sighs,
mourning and weeping in this vale of tears.**

**Turn, then, most gracious advocate,
thine eyes of mercy toward us.**

**And after this, our exile,
show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus.**

O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

Pray for us, O holy Mother of God,

that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ. Amen.

Let us pray.

O GOD, whose only begotten Son, by His life, death, and resurrection,
has purchased for us the rewards of eternal life, grant, we beseech Thee,
that meditating upon these mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary of the
Blessed Virgin Mary, we may imitate what they contain and obtain what
they promise, through the same Christ Our Lord. **Amen.**

May the divine assistance remain always with us.

**May the souls of the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.**

✠ May the Lord bless us, protect us from all evil
and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.**

¶ THE CONCLUDING RITE

Stand

Postcommunion Prayer
Eternal God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life:
grant us to walk in his way, to rejoice in his truth, and to share his risen life;
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**



¶ NOTICES & ANY BANNES OF MARRIAGE.

Stand

The Solemn Blessing

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Alleluia, Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed, alleluia!

Let us Bow our heads and pray for God's blessing.

God the Father, by whose love Christ was raised from the dead,
open to you who believe the gates of everlasting life. **Amen.**

God the Son, who in bursting the grave has won a glorious victory,
give you joy as you share the Easter faith. **Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit, whom the risen Lord breathed into his disciples,
empower you and fill you with Christ's peace. **Amen.**

And the blessing of almighty God,
✠ the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The Dismissal

I-te, missa est, alle-lú-ia, alle- lú- ia. R. De-o grá-ti-as,
alle-lú-ia, alle- lú- ia.

The Recessional Hymn: 604

Sing we a song of high revolt (Tune: O Tannenbaum)

**Joy to thee, O Queen of heaven, alleluia.
He whom thou wast meet to bear, alleluia.
As he promised hath arisen, alleluia.
Pour for us to God thy prayer, alleluia.**

Regina Cœli

Rejoice and be glad O Virgin Mary, alleluia.
For the Lord hath risen indeed, alleluia.

The Bell is rung 33 times,
once for each year of the earthly life of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Let us pray. O God, who gave joy to the world
through the resurrection of Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,
grant we beseech Thee, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary,
his Mother, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life.
Through the same Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

✠✠✠✠

Organ Voluntary

✠✠✠✠

∞ ∞ PLEASE TAKE THIS SHEET AWAY WITH YOU
& MAKE YOUR WAY TO THE CRYPT FOR REFRESHMENTS. ∞

THE COLLECTION OF MONEY

is taken for the Mission & Ministry of the Church.

Please see the **Financial Information** Section in the **Notices** on the
back page of this Mass Sheet for further information about giving to S. Paul's.
Contactless payment and Yellow envelopes are provided for the gifts of
visitors. Please fill in the front of the envelope or enter the details on
the machine so that we can claim Gift Aid on your offering.

Regular members of S. Paul's should be giving by Direct Debit,
or be part of the parish envelope scheme.
Please see the Churchwardens or Hon. Treasurer for further details.

Credits: Charity Registration no. 1182791. Hymns reproduced under CCLI Church Copyright
Licence no. 924099, Music Reproduction Licence No. 924123, PRS for Music Church Licence No.
924154; Streaming Licence 236366; Common Worship material © Archbishops' Council of the
Church of England; NRSV Biblical Texts © National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA, 1989.
Roman Missal, English translation according to the Third Typical edition © Catholic Truth Society.
'Ite missa est, alleluia, alleluia', from, *Graduale simplex*, Vatican, 1975, p. 152.
Image on front page: © Cerezo Barredo.

THE KALENDAR

5th WEEK of EASTER: 3rd to 9th MAY 2026

MASS & Other Service Times in church

SUN, 3rd,	MP 9am, PARISH MASS 10.30am, (No EVENING PRAYER here tonight) 3pm: CHORAL EVENSONG at SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL during which the Rector will be installed as an Honorary Canon No Public Liturgies
MON, 4th, Feria	
TUES, 5th, Feria	MP 9.15am, EP 5.30pm, Mass 6.00pm
WEDS, 6th, Feria	MP 9.15am, EP 5.30pm, Mass 6.00pm
THURS, 7th, Feria	MP 9.15am, EP 5.30pm, Mass 6.00pm
FRI, 8th, Mother Julian of Norwich	MP 9.15am, EP 6.00pm
SAT, 9th, of the BVM	MP 9.15am, Mass 10.00am , EP 6pm

DAILY OFFICE: MP = Morning Prayer, EP = Evening Prayer

10th MAY 2026

6th SUNDAY of EASTER

MORNING PRAYER at 9.00am

PARISH MASS SUNG at 10.30am

Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector

EVENING PRAYER at 9.00am

THE NOTICES

Annual Vestry & APCM, Sunday, 24th May

Holy Confirmation at Parish Mass with Bp Rob Wickham
Asst-Bishop, CEO of the Church Urban Fund
on **Trinity Sunday, 31st May.**

For all recently baptised adults & any other adult members of the
congregation who are baptised & but not yet confirmed.

Please let Fr Paul know if you are interested in
HOLY BAPTISM &/or in HOLY CONFIRMATION

Ω S. PAUL'S OMEGA STUDY GROUP Ω

Thursday, 7th May 8.30-10pm on Zoom.

When we will watch and discuss the film,
'The Flowers of Saint Francis' (1950)
Directed by Roberto Rossellini.

All welcome. Info & login details on Parish website
& the Rector's Weekly Email.



CHURCH CLEANING every Saturday
after Mass/MP until 12.30pm.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

'The Lord loves a cheerful giver.'

The Church, based upon biblical teaching, asks every Christian to give a Tithe,
10% of their time, talents & money to God's work, and recommends that
members contribute 5% of their income to their church. **E.g. If you earn:**

£5000 a year or, £96 a week = Give £5 a week to S. Paul's.
£10000 a year, £192 a week = £10 a week. £20000 a year, £385 a week = £20 a week.
£25000 a year, £480 a week = £25 a week. £30000 a year, £577 a week = £30 a week.

Over the year our costs run to almost £1,000 a week. We receive no external
subsidies, and all monies must be raised from the parishioners, through lettings,
or voluntary donations. **Thank you** for all financial contributions which help to
pay for: - the: Utility bills of the church, (gas, electricity, water) - Costs of maintaining
the worship, (e.g. candles, wine, wafers, incense) - Maintenance, cleaning, & repair of
our Grade I Listed church, (substantial costs) - Office costs (e.g. postage, printing,
paper) - Monthly Diocesan Parish Share to the Diocese, (80p out of every £1 we give
to the Diocese goes towards clergy stipends).

**We ask everyone, who can, to please give via Direct Debit,
Standing Order, or, via the Weekly Envelope Scheme.**

GIVING VIA DIRECT DEBIT: Please see the **PARISH GIVING SCHEME**
information leaflet and Direct Debit Form, on the Parish Website

ONLINE GIVING: Our **Give A Little** page is available on our website,
via the **Donate** button, or here: <https://bit.ly/spd-giving>

✠ **FURTHER INFORMATION & UPDATES** ✠

On the **Parish Website, Church Noticeboard** (churchyard
forecourt) & **Subscribe to the Rector's Weekly Email** directly
from the link on the website or by sending an email to:

stpaulsdeptford@btinternet.com

sent every Friday via MailChimp (GDPR compliant)