

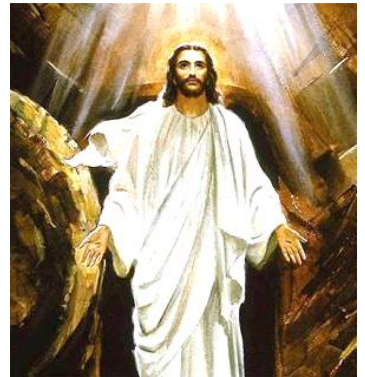
Franciscan of the Week: Pica of Assisi

Close by the site of St Francis' family home stands this statue of his parents: his father, Pietro, and his mother, Pica. Francis and his father were at loggerheads after the young man decided to give up everything to follow Christ. His father even imprisoned him! But his mother released him from his chains, and let him follow his call. Later, she joined the Third Order of St Francis. Pica stands as a good role model and encouragement to all mothers who try to hold families together in the midst of conflict in the home.



FOCUS ON... The Season of Easter

Today – hopefully – people may wish you a 'Happy Easter'. It's an invitation to enjoy the light of the risen Lord and the hope He offers us. By Monday, you're much less likely to hear that greeting, and by Tuesday, for most people, everything is back to normal. But Easter is not one day! Instead, it is a season of 50 days, and does not end until Pentecost Sunday, this year celebrated on 9th June. Over the next seven weeks, the Paschal (Easter) Candle will burn on the sanctuary during Mass, the



symbol of the risen Lord watching over us. The length of Eastertide is significant – it's longer than Lent, because our rejoicing in Christ's victory must always be greater than our mourning for His death. Death does not have the last word! Eastertide is seven weeks in length. Seven is considered a number of completion, and so this season (seven weeks of seven days) reminds us that God's work is completed with the resurrection of Christ. He has won victory, even over sin and death. To God be the glory for ever and ever. Amen. Alleluia!

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MASSES THIS WEEK

Office: Psalter – Easter Octave; Sundays: Year C; Weekdays: of Easter Octave

Date	Time	Occasion	Intention/Details
HOLY SATURDAY	8:30pm (vigil)	THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD	People of the Parish
EASTER SUNDAY	9:30am		Fr Bernard Woods RIP
	6pm		Thanksgiving
Monday	10am		Michael and Mary Donlan – Ruby wedding anniv.
Tuesday	11am	Requiem	Winifred Hamilton RIP
Wednesday	9:15am		Anne Topping RIP
Thursday	9:15am		Jack Burton RIP
Friday	12noon		Diamond Wedding
Saturday 27 th April	6pm (vigil)	SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER	May & Bill Hargreaves RIP
	7pm (vigil)		<i>NeoCatechumenal Way</i>
Sunday 28 th April	9:30am		Monica Dziubinska RIP
	6pm		People of the Parish

LATELY DEAD: Please remember in your prayers **Winifred Hamilton**, whose Requiem will take place this Tuesday 11am, **Monsignor Michael Tully**, all who have died recently.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Tuesday-Friday 7am-8am; Saturdays 10:30am-12noon;
During Eastertide: Sundays 4-5pm, ending with Benediction.

CONFESSIONS: Saturday 11am-12noon, and on request.

SUNG VESPERS AND BENEDICTION: Sundays 4:30pm during Eastertide.

ROSARY: Prayed after 9:15am Mass and before 12noon Mass. These prayers are offered for the protection of human life from conception to natural end.

ST ANTHONY: April wall box donations will go to local people in need of help.

ANNIVERSARIES: Anne Topping, May Hargreaves, Helena Jackson, Susan Harrison, Margaret Smith, Patricia Tallat, Rita Medway, Geoffrey Pike.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR APRIL: For doctors and their humanitarian collaborators in war zones, who risk their lives to save the lives of others.

HAPPY EASTER! May the Lord bless you and all your loved ones in this holy season. May you feel some of the joy of Christ's resurrection and the hope it offers. Thank you to everyone (so many people) who have worked so hard to prepare and celebrate the Holy Week liturgy. Happy Easter to you all!

CONGRATULATIONS to Mark and Linda, received into full communion with the Church this Easter. We wish them every blessing and warmly welcome them both.

WALK WITH ME BOOKS: Eastertide books and children's calendars now available in the narthex. These are free of charge, and have daily reflections for Eastertide.

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK: Please note that Mass on Monday is at 10am, and there is no hospital Mass this week. Mass on Tuesday will be at 11am, a Requiem Mass for Winifred Hamilton. There will be no evening Mass on Tuesday this week. Please note also, there will be no morning Exposition on Monday this week.

EASTER EGG-STRAVAGANZA: Next Sunday (28th April) immediately after 9:30am Mass. Games for children with chocolate prizes, and bacon/sausage butties on sale in the hall. Come along and continue our celebration of Easter!

CTS BOOK CLUB: next meeting on Sunday 12th May, 7pm. The booklet for this month is *Loving Mary: what Pope Francis says*. Copies available from Fr Andrew.

EASTER RAFFLE: The raffle is being drawn after 9:30am Mass this Sunday. If you still want to enter, you need to return your envelope before the draw!

FOOD BANK collection this weekend. Please leave items in house porchway.

FLOWER FESTIVAL: 14th-16th June 2019. Marking 25 years since the church was consecrated; proceeds to Aid to the Church in Need appeal. From next Sunday there will be an opportunity to sponsor a display. Thank you for your support.

NCW CATECHESIS: An opportunity to discover more deeply our faith, and new ways to live it. Starts Thursday 9th May. More details to follow.

CORPUS CHRISTI: Warm congratulations to Corpus Christi High School on their recent Ofsted report. They were rated 'Good' and the report identifies some outstanding areas of school life. Some copies are available in the narthex.

MEDAILLE TRUST wall box donations raised £264.32. Thank you.

ROSARY SERVICE and talk by Fr Andrew at Carmel, St Vincent's Road, Tuesday 7th May at 2pm. To pray for expectant mothers and their unborn babies.

PRO-LIFE CHAIN: SPUC's annual pro-life chain, kerbside, silent vigil on London Road, next Saturday (27th) 11am-1pm. Meet just north of Ribble bridge. Info, tel: 723094.

QUIZ NIGHT for LIFE: at OLSE next Saturday (27th), 7pm for 7:30pm. Bring your own drinks. Pay at the door, £2.50 per person.

LAST WEEK: At Mass: 503; Collection: £1045.60; Thank you for your generosity.

Events this week (occasional/one-off events in bold type)

Day	Time	What?	Where?
Sat/Sun	At Mass	Food Bank Collection	House porch
Sunday 21 st April	10:30am	After-Mass tea/coffee & Easter draw	Parish Hall
	4pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
	4:30pm	Sung Vespers and Benediction	Church
Sunday 28 th April	10:30am	Easter 'Egg-stravaganza'	Parish Hall
	4pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Church
	4:30pm	Sung Vespers and Benediction	Church

Further ahead and further afield...

Brave of Heart - A Weekend Journey for Men

Inspiring & challenging talks, fellowship & sharing with other Christian men, walk in the Lake District, and more! Sat 11th-Sun 12th May 2019 at Cor et Lumen Christi, Wigton, CA7 9HU (donation only). More info: Tel: 016973 45623 or 07588 159341
Web: www.coretlumenchristi.org Email: stcuthberts@coretlumenchristi.org

Learning from refugees: the work of the Jesuit Refugee Service

Talk at Boarbank Hall, Allithwaite, Grange-over-Sands, LA11 7NH. Free entry, collection in aid of the work of Jesuit Refugee Service. Easter Monday, 7:30pm.

Preston Orpheus Choir: Saturday 11th May at 7:30pm in St Saviour's Church, Bamber Bridge, PR5 6EP. Includes Vierne's "Messe Solennelle", Mendelssohn's "Hear my prayer" and Haydn's "Little Organ Mass". Adults £10, under 18s free. Book via the website: www.prestonorpheuschoir.org or pay on the door.



“What is the Lord saying to us through this trial? Here we are in a scandal of death, but facing the resurrection. Our hope will never deceive us, because it is not founded on buildings of stone, which always need reconstructing, but on the Resurrection, which endures for ever. We have lost the beauty of the showcase, but we haven't lost the jewel it contained: Christ, present in His Word and in His Body, given for us.”

Monsignor Michel Aupetit
Archbishop of Paris