



**Encountering Christ**  
 Prayerfully preparing for the  
 Sunday Mass and praying in  
 particular for our school families



Preparing for the Mass of Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2021 - The Sixth Sunday of Easter

**1 Relax & Remember**

Set aside 10 -15 minutes and create a suitable environment by removing any distractions. Make sure that you are comfortable. Perhaps light a candle. Make the sign of the cross † and remain still for a minute of settling silence. **Call to mind the love that God has for you. Remember that through this scripture our Lord is truly present.** Then read the Gospel, preferably aloud and slowly, and pay attention to any words that stand out. If any do, meditate on them for a few minutes and be invited into a dialogue with God.



**2**

**Taken from the Gospel for 9<sup>th</sup> May 2021 (John 15:9-17): Loving like God**

Jesus said to his disciples, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my own joy may be in you and your joy be complete. This is my commandment: love one another, as I have loved you. A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends, if you do what I command you. I shall not call you servants anymore, because a servant does not know his master's business; I call you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. You did not choose me; no, I chose you; and I commissioned you to go out and to bear fruit, fruit that will last; and then the Father will give you anything you ask him in my name. What I command you is to love one another."

**3 Reflect**

After spending a few minutes considering this Gospel, continue by reading Fr Henry Wansbrough's reflection.

*Like so many of the great discourses of Jesus in the gospel of John, today's reading is not a shorthand record of Jesus' words, but will have been written up after the event. Most probably there were several slightly different versions of what Jesus said at the Last Supper. In any case, one can see that the author has in mind two different contexts: Jesus' own historical situation at the Last Supper and the situation of the early Church, where the disciples are being tested hard in their mission. They need encouraging by Jesus' own example of his sacrifice and by his promise of real friendship; they are friends, not servants, specially chosen by Jesus to bear fruit that will last. So we too are welcomed as friends, chosen and commissioned by Jesus to go out and bear fruit, but reminded that we must be prepared to pay the price. There is no fruit without pruning. Jesus had just given the example of service by washing the feet of his disciples. If we are to share the joy of Jesus we must be ready to join him also in laying down our lives for our friends.*

**Do we ever have to make hard choices for Christ?**

**Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB**



**Respond & Request**

Now slowly and prayerfully read the Gospel once again but this time in silence. Consider how this Gospel could apply to your life in general. Then thank God for any insight you may have received. Conclude by asking God to bless you with one of the following spiritual gifts to help you act on any resolution you have made: love, understanding, wisdom, faithfulness, peace, self control, patience, or joy. Please remember to pray for the Church and particularly our school families. **Then conclude by requesting the prayers of Our Lady & St Joseph.**



**The Wednesday Word is under the patronage of St Joseph, Patron Saint of Families and Protector of the Church**  
 Within the tradition of the Catholic Church, each Wednesday is dedicated to St Joseph

**Welcome to the Parish of Our Lady & St. Robert**

Robert Street, Harrogate, HG1 1HP (Diocese of Leeds) Registered Charity No: 249404

**Clergy: Canon Jim Callaghan –Parish Priest**  
**Fr. Elliott Wright -Assistant Priest**

**Parish Office (St. Robert's Presbytery)**  
**web:www.strobertsharrogate.co.uk**

**Tel: (01423)504988**  
**e-mail: office.strobert@dioceseofleeds.org.uk**



**Saturday Vigil Mass will be video-recorded and available Sunday to view on this link:**  
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1ON0w9Vg1R8-nGyLWMA?view\\_as=subscriber](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1ON0w9Vg1R8-nGyLWMA?view_as=subscriber)

Sunday 2nd May	FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	
Saturday 1st May	St. Robert's Vigil Mass 6.15pm St. Aelred's Vigil Mass 6.30pm	Mass (Joseph Booth) Mass (Parish Dead List)
Sunday 2nd May	St Robert's 9.00am St Aelred's 10.00am St Robert's 11.00am St Robert's 6.00pm	Mass (Intentions of Philomena Patton) Mass (People of the Parish) Mass (Henry Santos) Mass (Parish Dead List)
Monday 3rd May	Ss Philip and James, Apostles FEAST	
	St Robert's 12 noon	Mass (Mary Wilkinson)
Tuesday 4th May	The English Martyrs FEAST	
		Private Mass (Priest's Intention) Private Mass (Priest's Intention)
Wednesday 5th May	Weekday of Easter	
	St Aelred's 10.00am St Robert's 12 noon	Mass (M & P Dales (30th Wedding Anniversary)) Mass (Intentions of Gemma Ryoo)
Thursday 6th May	Weekday of Easter	
		Private Mass (Parish Dead List) Private Mass (Parish Dead List)
Friday 7th May	St John of Beverley, Bishop MEM	
	St. Aelred's 10am Confessions St Robert's 11.00-11.45am St. Robert's 12 noon	Mass (Intentions of Mrs Carter) Confessions Mass (Intentions of Gemma Ryoo)
Saturday 8th May	Weekday of Easter	
	St Robert's Vigil Mass 6.15pm St Aelred's Vigil Mass 6.30pm	Mass () Mass ()
Sunday 9th May	SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	

Dear Parents and Children,

Thank you for your cooperation these past few months in preparing for First Confession and/or First Holy Communion.

**First Confession** In order to comply with government restrictions on places of worship we will need to split the group over 2 sessions.

If your child's surname lies alphabetically between A and L (inclusive) please attend St. Robert's between 10am and 12 noon on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> May.

If your child's name lies alphabetically between M and Z (inclusive) please attend St. Robert's between 10am and 12 noon on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> May.

It may help you to know that the formula for Confession is laid out on pages 64 and 65 of your workbook "the gift of reconciliation".

**First Holy Communion** This is proving a little more difficult to organise because we have to assume that some

Restrictions on places of worship may still be in place after the 21<sup>st</sup> June. We are planning that a First Communion Mass will

Be celebrated on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> June at 3.00pm at St. Robert's church. If the current restrictions still apply, it will require a second celebration

at the same time on the following Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> July at St. Robert's church. Essentially, we have to plan for the worst and hope for the best. The division

of candidates will be the same as for First Confession, but I will write to you again nearer the time and when more information is available.

With my best wishes

Canon Jim

## MISSION INDIA

We are asked, along with our fellow Christians of other countries to pray particularly this weekend for those suffering from COVID-19 in India.

*Please remember in prayer those who have died this week:*

*May they rest in peace.*

*Please pray for all the sick of the Parish.*

*And those whose anniversaries occurs at this time:*

**St Robert's and St. Aelred's is OPEN for Mass**

**Many thanks to the Volunteers for Stewarding the Church when open —we could not open without you!**

**We will need more Stewards, so if anyone is interested or can spare an hour or two per week please ring Canon Jim on 01423 504988**

**Any changes or updates will be updated on this bulletin and uploaded to the website.**

### **BOOK FOR MASS**

We would be very grateful if you would please try to book the day before the Mass you want to come to. We appreciate it is not always possible, but as numbers are rising the lists we compile have to be produced the evening before. Our lists have not been accurate where last minute bookings have taken place. The permitted total at St. Roberts for Mass is 46 and St. Aelred's 22 and we do not ever want to be in the situation where parishioners have to be turned away as we would exceed our permitted total for the church.

[www.strobertsharrogate.co.uk](http://www.strobertsharrogate.co.uk) to [book online](#) for whatever Mass you want to attend [or ring the dedicated phone line during office hours 9am-5pm Monday to Friday. 0778 361 1229](#)

**It is MANDATORY until further notice to wear a face covering Church**

**COUNSELLING SERVICE:** Catholic Care are offering a free and confidential counselling service to members of our Catholic community, if you feel that you, a family member or friend might benefit from counselling support please contact us on 01133885400, 07739975008 or email [counselling@catholic-care.org.uk](mailto:counselling@catholic-care.org.uk)

**MENTAL HEALTH IN EDUCATION: A CATHOLIC APPROACH:** an online conference for those involved in the education or catechesis of young people. Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2021, 9am-3.30pm (online) Hosted by Leeds Trinity University. Input from Christian psychiatrists, psychologists, counsellors, academics, clergy, media professionals and students. Places are limited, so book early to avoid disappointment. More information:

[h.hayward@leedstrinity.ac.uk](mailto:h.hayward@leedstrinity.ac.uk) or <https://www.leedstrinity.ac.uk/events/the-trinity-conference-2021-mental-health-in-education-a-catholic-approach.php>

**THE BRIERY ZOOM MEDITATION,** Thursday from 7.30pm to 8.15pm. We open at 7.15pm for a chat and start promptly at 7.30pm. It is a simple format of praying with the Sunday Mass Readings and sharing in small groups. To Join Briery Thursday Meditation click on the link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83436583706?pwd=M1RUNFNvcVJkMXUwSUNWSVd1TnhjZz09>

Or log into the app using the following:

Meeting ID: 834 3658 3706

Passcode: 977049

**BEREAVEMENT RETREAT – LIVING WITH LOSS,** 21st – 23rd May, 2021 led by Abi & John May. The aim of this retreat is to better equip ourselves to deal with life-changing loss. The offering is £160 for the weekend with full board and en-suite accommodation. For further details and a booking form please email: [briery@btconnect.com](mailto:briery@btconnect.com) or telephone: 01943 607287.

#### **Parish Finance:**

*Huge thanks to everyone* who has continued to support St. Robert's and St. Aelred's, and especially those who have made new arrangements to donate towards the church during these difficult times.

You can give weekly or monthly in several ways:

1. Set up a standing Order with your bank or building society (GAD forms can be downloaded)
2. Make a one off payment via internet or telephone banking to the church using the details below:

**Diocese of Leeds: Our Lady Immaculate St. Robert's Harrogate. Sort Code: 40-27-15 Account No: 81017489**

**Diocese of Leeds: St. Aelred of Rievaulx. Sort Code 40-27-15 Account No: 41017470** Or, donate from the webpage pressing the donate button

3. Leave a donation at St. Robert's Presbytery (cash or cheque) through the letterbox. Many thanks.