

Unsurprisingly the Pope leads the Easter celebrations in Italy, holding a huge service on Good Friday at St. Peter's Basilica where the Via Crucis, or Station of the Cross, is celebrated. During the service, a huge crucifix made out of burning torches is raised in the night sky. In Florence, Easter Sunday is marked by the Scoppio del Carro, a centuries-old custom in which a huge and elaborately designed antique wagon full of fireworks is set alight by a dove-shaped rocket after being hauled into a small square by oxen and hundreds of people in 15th century dress. Elsewhere in Italy over the course of the three days, religious processions are held in which people dress in ancient costumes and parade artefacts, statues and olive branches through main squares. One of the most popular foods on the peninsula during this period is the Colomba di Pasqua, a traditional cake which is similar to a panettone.

-Bernard Kellett

Entrance Antiphon: Cry out with joy to God, all the earth; O sing to the glory of his name. O render him glorious praise, alleluia.

First Reading: Acts 3: 13-15, 17-19

Responsorial Psalm: 4 Response: Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord.

Second Reading: 1 John 2:1-5

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Lord Jesus, explain the scriptures to us. Make our hearts burn within us as you talk to us. Alleluia!



Gospel: Luke 24: 35-48

Memorial Acclamation: When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.

Communion Antiphon: The disciples recognized the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread, alleluia.



Third Sunday of Easter, Cycle B, 2024 Weekly Reflection: Easter Around the World (2)

As in Spain, many of France's Easter customs stem from Catholic tradition and as such the holiday is usually a more religious

affair than the UK's. One such tradition dictates that church bells stop ringing around Easter as a mark of respect for Jesus' death, and to explain their silence children are told the bells have flown to Rome to be blessed by the Pope. On the morning of Easter Sunday - Jesus' resurrection - the bells then fly back to France loaded with sweet treats which they drop into gardens for the children. Once they are back in their steeples they then start ringing joyfully again.

So, in France it is the "cloches volantes" or "cloches de Pâques", and not the Easter bunny, which brings the Easter eggs. Once the bells have begun to ring, the Easter egg hunt - or "chasse aux oeufs" - begins. Traditional food revolves around lamb, cheese, potatoes, and chocolate. In the town of Bessières thousands of people gather on the Monday morning to make a giant omelette, usually consisting of 15,000 eggs and requiring 40 cooks. Good Friday and Easter Monday are both public holidays in Germany, and they celebrate by lighting bonfires around sunset on Holy Saturday. Some places have turned the "osterfeuer" (Easter bonfire) into mini festivals with stands selling sausages, wine and funfair rides while other communities stuff huge bales of straw into a wooden wheel, set it on fire and roll it down a hill (known as the Osterrad). Other traditions include decorating an "Easter tree" with hand painted eggs, known as the Osterieierbaum. Usually, families hang the ornaments from a small household tree, however you can hang them from bigger foliage in your garden. It is also traditional in Germany to eat something green on Maundy Thursday, which is called Gründonnerstag - or "green Thursday". Spiced, sweet bread, enriched with eggs and dairy and dotted with almonds, candied peel raisins are also popular during Easter for breakfast and afternoon tea.



**St Pius X Church, Stamford Road,
Alderley Edge, SK9 7NS, Cheshire**

Clergy: Fr Mathew

01625 582386



stpiusalderley@gmail.com



stpiusalderley.com

14-April-2024

Eucharistic Prayer – II or III

Third Sunday of Easter

R.C DIOCESE OF SHREWSBURY REG. CHARITY No.234025

Saturday (Vigil) 6.00pm	Michael Moran (Sick)
Sunday 8.30am	Parishioners
10:00am	Elizabeth Holmes
Monday 10.00am	
Tuesday 9.30am	
Wednesday 9.30am	
Thursday 9.30am	
Friday 9.30am	
Saturday 11.30am	Austin Queenan
Saturday (Vigil) 6.00pm	Gerald Ramsden
Sunday 8.30am	Parishioners
10.00am	Fourth Sunday of Easter Jack & Carmel Byrne
11.30am	Baptism: Baby Oliver

Michael Scaife RIP: Michael, beloved husband of Ann Scaife sadly passed away at their home in Alderley Edge. The funeral Service will be held at St Philip & St James Church in Alderley Edge on Tuesday 16th April at 1.30 pm. Please remember Michael and his grieving family in your prayers and thoughts.

Recent Deaths

Austin Queenan RIP: Beloved brother of Loretto Kilroe.

Nonie RIP: Beloved aunt of Eleonor Stanley & Maura Ryland.

Please remember Austin, Nonie and their grieving Family in your thoughts and prayers.

Introduction Mass for the First Communion Candidates: Sunday 21st April during the 10am Mass. **First Holy Communion 2024:** Sunday 05th May during the 10.00am Mass. Please keep our young candidates and their families in your prayers.

Introduction Mass for the Confirmation candidates: Sunday 28th April during the 10.00am Mass. **Confirmation Mass- 2024:** At St Vincent's, Knutsford on Sunday 12th May at 3.00pm. Please keep our young candidates and their families in your prayers.

Attention all Gift Aid Donors: The tax year 2023/24 has ended and the Parish will soon be undertaking the process of claiming back the Gift Aid refunds on donations made in the tax year. If your circumstances have changed and you no longer pay income tax (or if for any other reason you do not wish to remain in the Gift Aid Scheme) please let Fr. Mathew or Louise Jones know as soon as possible, otherwise it will be assumed you have paid sufficient income tax for the Parish to reclaim Gift Aid on donations made in the last tax year.

Church Offertory and Gift Aid Explained: If you pay tax and are not in the Gift Aid Scheme you could help the parish by enrolling. For every £1.00 you donate HMRC gives the parish 25p. All that it involves is giving your name and address on a Gift Aid declaration form. No other details are required. There is no minimum amount or fixed amount, you don't have to give every week and you can stop or start as you like. The only stipulation is that the money has to be placed in a Gift Aid envelope or, preferably to save the volunteer counters' time, paid by standing order or cheque. If you would like to join the Gift Aid Scheme, please contact Father Mathew or Louise Jones.

Diocesan Mass for the celebration of Marriage 2024: The annual Marriage Mass will take place on Saturday June 8th, 12 noon at Saint Columba's Church Plas Newton Lane, Chester CH2 1SA, and will be followed by a reception in the Parish Hall.

Alderley Edge Musical Festival: Wednesday 1st May to Saturday 4th May. The church will be used for the festival above dates.

Parish Donations:

CAFOD Family fasting: £150.00 **Good Friday Offerings** £401.70 (For the upkeep of the Holy Places in Holy Land through the diocesan office)

Lenten Alms: £25.70 (Mary's meal through the diocesan office)

Retired Priests fund: £100.00 (We raised £30.00 for the Retired Priests Fund and sent £70.00 from the parish) Thank you very much for all your generous support to the above causes.