



“I am the Immaculate Conception”

Archdiocese of Birmingham Virtual Pilgrimage.

Dear Friends and fellow pilgrims,

I write this brief introduction to our 'Virtual Lourdes Pilgrimage' in troubled times. None of us could have anticipated the profound changes and loss that the coronavirus pandemic would bring into our lives. At a time when we most long for the comfort of the Lord's presence at Mass and Holy Communion, our churches are necessarily closed. The familiar reassurance of gathering, and, at this time of the year, travelling in pilgrimage to Lourdes, has also been denied to us.

Nevertheless, the pilgrimage still goes on, the pilgrimage that is our shared journey into the presence of a Lord who never abandons us, and who is especially close to us in our darkest moments.

I therefore invite you to be united in prayer throughout the days ahead in a pilgrimage of heart and mind. Many of you will have happy memories of Diocesan Pilgrimages to Lourdes in past years. Let us focus our thought and prayer on Our Lady of Lourdes.

Mary is the surest guide to any pilgrim. Throughout her life on earth she was attentive to the least prompting of the Holy Spirit. Her journey would know both joy and sorrow, but through her obedience to the Holy Spirit, would always be lived in the presence of her Lord.

United in prayer, let us allow Our Lady of Lourdes to lead us through our present pilgrimage of shared joy, loss and hope.

During the days ahead, as we call upon Our Lady of Lourdes to guide us in prayer, I ask you to pray especially for Canon Gerry Breen who died so recently.

Canon Gerry served the people of our Archdiocese as a priest for over thirty years. In more recent years, as the Administrator of our Cathedral, he was always ready with a warm welcome for groups coming from across the Archdiocese.

Most of all, we remember Canon Gerry as the director of our Birmingham Lourdes pilgrimage. In many ways Lourdes was the passion that ran through his life. As pilgrims we give thanks for the cheerful reassurance that he brought to the many pilgrimages that he accompanied over so many years.

Above all, let us pray for him, that Our Lady of Lourdes may accompany him into the peace and glory of her Son Jesus.

Bishop David McGough,

Chairman of the Lourdes Pilgrimage Committee.

# PROGRAMME

## ARCHDIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM VIRTUAL LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2020

Sunday 24 – Friday 29 May

*“I am the Immaculate Conception.”*

DATE	TIME	VENUE/LOCATION
SUN 24 7th of Easter	15:00 20:00	Opening Mass from St Chad's (+Bernard) <a href="#">Virtual Marian Procession (Glorious)</a>
MON 25	10:00 17:00 20:00	Mass from Middlesbrough Diocese <b>Service of Healing</b> (Fr Tony Rohan) <a href="#">Virtual Marian Procession (Joyful)</a>
TUE 26	10:00 17:00 20:00	Mass from Our Lady & St Brigid, Northfield <b>Stations of the Cross</b> (Fr Craig Szmids) <a href="#">Virtual Marian Procession (Sorrowful)</a>
WED 27	10:00 17:00 20:00	Mass from Alton Virtual Blessed Sacrament Procession <a href="#">Virtual Lourdes Concert</a>
THU 28	09:30 17:00 20:00	Mass from Our Lady, Bulkington <b>Reconciliation Service</b> (Mgr. Tim Menezes) <a href="#">Virtual Marian Procession (Luminous)</a>
FRI 29	09:30 17:00	Mass from OLOL Yardley (with Rosary) <b>Closing Liturgy of Thanksgiving</b> (+David)

All services of the pilgrimage can be accessed via the following link:

[bit.ly/lourdes2brum](https://bit.ly/lourdes2brum)

Every service will be linked through the webpage and recorded so that you may join in live, when you are physically able to.

# **Sunday Opening Mass 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter.**

**Mass at St. Chad's Cathedral at 3pm.**

**Celebrated by His Grace Archbishop Bernard.**

On this 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Easter Season, we have celebrated the Ascension of the Lord and now we await the promised Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

Today, the Birmingham Diocesan Family would have begun its annual pilgrimage: tired from the journey but excited to be in Lourdes, a special and holy place. The gathering that we shall celebrate in the coming days will acknowledge all those who would have been in Lourdes: pilgrims with sickness or disability of any kind – the most important pilgrims; young people from schools and parishes of the Archdiocese; medical staff, nurses and many, many volunteers who work especially for the benefit of our sick pilgrims; and a pilgrimage made up of those who have been to Lourdes many times, and those who were to have made their first visit.

On this, the Lord's Day, we join with the Church throughout the world in singing the praises of God and seeking his blessing on our lives.

We unite ourselves with all those who wish to enter into the spirit of the Lourdes Pilgrimage this year, with the theme of Mary: The Immaculate Conception. May we experience something of the prayer that adorns the interior of the Rosary Basilica: Through Mary to Jesus.

## OPENING SONG:

1. Praise him as he mounts the  
skies, alleluia!  
Christ, the Lord of paradise,  
alleluia!  
Cry hosanna in the height,  
alleluia!  
as he rises out of sight, alleluia!
2. Now at last he takes his throne,  
from all ages his alone!  
with his praise creation rings;  
'Lord of lords and king of kings!'
3. Hands and feet reveal  
wounds of love, high  
priesthood's seal!  
Advocate, for us he pleads;  
Heavenly Priest, he intercedes!
4. Christians, raise your eyes  
above!  
He will come again in love,  
on that great and wondrous day  
when this world will pass away!
5. At his word new heavens and  
earth  
Will in glory spring to birth!  
Risen Lord, our great Amen.  
Come Lord Jesus, come again!

GLORIA:

**Refrain (All:)**

Music: Mike Stanley

*f* Glo - - - ri - a -  
in ex - cel - sis De - o.

To verses

(Cantor:)  
*mp* 1. And on earth peace to peo - ple of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we a -  
dore you, we glo - ri - fy you, we give you thanks for your great glo -  
- ry, Lord God, heav'n - ly King, O God, al - migh - ty Fa - ther. *D.S. for Refrain*

(Cantor:)  
*mf* 2. Lord Je - sus Christ, On - ly Be - got - ten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the  
Fa - ther, you take a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy on us, have  
mer - cy on us; you take a - way the sins of the world, re - ceive our  
prayer, re - ceive our prayer; you are seat - ed at the right hand of the  
Fa - ther, have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us. *D.S. for Refrain*

(Cantor:)  
*mf* 3. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,  
you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the  
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. (All:) *f* A - men. A - men.

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**RESPONSORIAL PSALM: (sung)**

I am sure I will see the goodness of the Lord.  
I shall see the goodness of the Lord.

### PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL:

With Mary we ask you; Lord hear our prayer.

### HOLY, HOLY:

Music: Mike Stanley

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of hosts.

Hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the

high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bles - sed, bles - sed, bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.


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### MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION:




*Music: Mike Stanley*

*Sing either this (Missal chant)*

*Priest:* 


The mys - te - ry of faith.

*Or this*




The mys - te - ry of faith.

*All:*




We pro-claim your Death, O Lord, and pro - fess your Res - ur -



rec - tion un - til you come a - gain, un - til you come a -

1. *If only playing once through opt for 2nd time bar.* 2.




gain.\_\_\_\_\_ We pro-claim your gain.\_\_\_\_\_


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## GREAT AMEN:


*Priest:* *Music: Mike Stanley*



Through him, and with him, and in him,\_\_\_\_\_ O




God, al - migh - ty Fa - ther, in the u - ni - ty of the Ho - ly Spi - rit, all\_\_



glo - ry\_\_ and ho - nour is yours, for ev - er\_\_ and ev - er.

*All:*



A - - - men. A - - - men. A - - - men.

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## LAMB OF GOD:

Music: Mike Stanley

*(Intro.)*

Lamb of God, you

take a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy on

us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the

world, have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way

*rall.*

the sins of the world, have mer - cy on us, grant us peace.

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## COMMUNION SONG:

1. Be still and know I am with you,  
be still, I am the Lord,  
I will not leave you orphans,  
I leave with you my world. Be one.
2. You fear the light may be fading,  
you fear to lose your way.  
Be still, and know I am near you.  
I'll lead you to the day and the sun.
3. Be glad the day you have sorrow,  
be glad, for then you live.  
The stars shine only in darkness,  
And in your need I give your peace.

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## RECESSIONAL HYMN:

1. Holy virgin, by God's decree.  
you were called eternally;  
that he could give his Son to our  
race.

Mary, we praise, hail, full of  
grace.

*Ave, ave, ave, Maria.*

2. By your faith and loving accord,  
as the handmaid of the Lord,  
you undertook God's plan to  
embrace.

Mary, we thank you, hail full of  
grace.

3. Joy to God you gave and  
expressed,  
of all women none more  
blessed,  
when in mankind you Son took  
his place.

Mary, we love you, hail full of  
grace.

4. Refuge for your children so  
weak,  
sure protection all can seek.  
Problems of life you help us to  
face.

Mary, we trust you, hail full of  
grace.

5. To our needy world of today  
love and beauty you portray,  
showing the path to Christ we  
must trace.

Mary, our mother, hail, full of  
grace.

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**Virtual Marian Procession 8pm  
The Glorious Mysteries.**

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May.**

**Mass from Middlesbrough Diocese at 10am, celebrated by Bishop Terry  
Drainey**

**Service of Healing and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at 5pm.**

**Led by Fr Tony Rohan.**

On Monday of our week in Lourdes, traditionally, we celebrate Mass in the beautiful setting of the Grotto at which Our Lady appeared to Bernadette Soubirous. We do this with pilgrims from Middlesbrough Diocese and other English pilgrims who are in Lourdes at the same time.

Then, later on the Monday of the pilgrimage, we gather in prayer in the Rosary Basilica, for a celebration of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. We do this in the context of Eucharistic Adoration: two Sacraments of healing.

This evening, our focus is healing: one of the central themes of Lourdes, as Lourdes has been known to witness physical healing miracles over the years. But very many people who have been to Lourdes perhaps seeking a miracle or healing have come back – not necessarily cured from illness, but certainly having experienced something of the peace and joy of an encounter with Our Lord and the graces that Mary brings to all those who seek healing.

During this time of prayer, we shall have the opportunity to be still before the Lord. As we do so, let us hold before the Lord in a special way all those who are sick at this time. It is through the effect of sickness on a global scale that we are prevented from travelling as we planned. But may we be strengthened in our knowledge that prayer does not stop; the Word of God is not silenced, and God's care for his children continues.

**Virtual Marian Procession at 8pm.**

**The Joyful Mysteries.**

## **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May.**

**Mass from Our Lady & St. Brigid, Northfield at 10am.**

**Celebrated by Fr Cecil Rogerson.**

### **Stations of the Cross with Fr Craig Szmidt at 5pm.**

The prayers and devotions that are part of our life of faith in our parishes and schools take on a special meaning when they are prayed in a different setting. In Lourdes, there are various locations for the Stations of the Cross: some are on ground level and accessible for wheelchairs and those who wish to make the prayer 'on the flat'. There are also some amazing representations of the Stations of the Cross, high up on a hill which requires some strenuous climbing, and maybe something of what Christ himself endured in the struggle of the Way of the Cross.

The images of the Stations that will accompany this time of prayer are those Stations up on the Hill in Lourdes.

The Stations have the ability to transport us: picture, for a moment, the Stations of the Cross in your own church or school setting. If you have seen them often over many years, they are very familiar to you. And yet, the Stations of the Cross, when prayed and experienced in a new setting can reveal to us new perspectives on this prayer, this devotion.

We pray it together and we keep in mind all those who carry a burden in their lives. We pray the Stations of the Cross with Jesus himself, whose journey to Calvary gives meaning to this prayer.

### **STATIONS OF THE CROSS.**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark. *Mark 14:43-52*

And at once, while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, came up with him a number of men armed with swords and clubs, sent by the chief priests and the scribes and the elders. Now the traitor had arranged a signal with them saying, 'The one I kiss, he is the man. Arrest him, and see he is well guarded when you lead him away.'

So when the traitor came, he went up to Jesus at once and said, 'Rabbi!' and kissed him. The others seized him and arrested him. Then one of the bystanders drew his sword and struck out at the high priest's servant and cut off his ear.

Then Jesus spoke. 'Am I a bandit,' he said, 'that you had to set out to capture me with swords and clubs? I was among you teaching in the Temple day after day and you never laid a hand on me. But this is to fulfil the scriptures.' And they all deserted him and ran away. A young man followed with nothing on but a linen cloth. They caught hold of him, but he left the cloth in their hands and ran away naked.

*O Jesus Christ, my Lord, with what great love did you pass over the painful road which led you to death; and I, how often have I abandoned you! But now I love you with my whole soul, and because I love you, I am sorry for having offended you. My Jesus, pardon me, and permit me to accompany you in this journey. You are going to die for love of me, and it is my wish also, my dear Redeemer, to die for love of you. My Jesus, in your love I wish to live, in your love I wish to die.*

*At the cross her station keeping  
Stood the mournful Mother weeping  
Close to Jesus to the last*

#### **FIRST STATION — JESUS IS CONDEMNED TO DEATH**

V We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

R Because by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world.

Leaving the house of Caiphas, where he had been blasphemed, and the house of Herod, where he had been mocked, Jesus is dragged before Pilate, his back torn with scourges, his head crowned with thorns; and he, who on the last day will judge the living and the dead, is himself condemned to a disgraceful death.

*It was for us that you did suffer, O blessed Jesus; it was for our sins you were condemned to die. Oh, grant that we may detest them from the bottom of our hearts, and by this repentance obtain your mercy and pardon.*

**O God, we love you with our whole hearts and above all things, and are heartily sorry that we have offended you. May we never offend you any more. Oh, may we love you without ceasing, and make it our delight to do in all things your most holy will.**

*Through her heart, his sorrow sharing,  
All his bitter anguish bearing  
Now at length the sword has passed*

## SECOND STATION – JESUS RECEIVES THE CROSS

V We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

R Because by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world.

A heavy cross is laid upon the bruised shoulders of Jesus. He received it with meekness, nay, with a secret joy, for it is the instrument with which he is to redeem the world.

*O Jesus! grant us, by virtue of your cross, to embrace with meekness and cheerful submission the difficulties of our state, and to be ever ready to take up our cross and follow you.*

*Oh, how sad and sore distress'd  
Was that mother highly blest  
Of the sole begotten One*

**O God, we love you with our whole hearts and above all things, and are heartily sorry that we have offended you. May we never offend you any more. Oh, may we love you without ceasing, and make it our delight to do in all things your most holy will.**

## THIRD STATION – JESUS FALLS THE FIRST TIME

V We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

R Because by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world.

Bowed down under the weight of the cross, Jesus slowly sets forth on the way to Calvary, amidst the mockeries and insults of the crowd. His agony in the garden has exhausted his body; he is sore with blows and wounds; his strength fails him; he falls to the ground under the cross.

*O Jesus! who for our sins did bear the heavy burden of the cross, and fell under its weight, may the thoughts of your sufferings make us watchful over ourselves, and save us from any grievous fall into sin.*

**O God, we love you with our whole hearts and above all things, and are heartily sorry that we have offended you. May we never offend you any more. Oh, may we love you without ceasing, and make it our delight to do in all things your most holy will.**

*Christ above in torment hangs  
She beneath beholds the pangs  
Of her dying, glorious Son*

#### FOURTH STATION — JESUS IS MET BY HIS BLESSED MOTHER

V We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

R Because by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world.

Still burdened with his cross, and wounded yet more by his fall, Jesus proceeds on his way. He is met by his Mother. What a meeting must that have been! What a sword of anguish must have pierced that Mother's heart! What must have been the compassion of that Son for his holy Mother!

*O Jesus! by the compassion which you did feel for your Mother, have compassion on us, and give us a share in her intercession. O Mary, most afflicted Mother! intercede for us that, through the sufferings of your Son, we may be delivered from the wrath to come.*

**O God, we love you with our whole hearts and above all things, and are heartily sorry that we have offended you. May we never offend you any more. Oh, may we love you without ceasing, and make it our delight to do in all things your most holy will.**

*Is there one who would not weep,  
Whelm'd in miseries so deep  
Christ's dear Mother to behold?*

#### FIFTH STATION — THE CROSS IS LAID UPON SIMON OF CYRENE

V We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

R Because by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world.

As the strength of Jesus fails, and he is unable to proceed, the executioners seize and compel Simon of Cyrene to carry his cross. The virtue of that cross changed his heart, and from a compulsory task it became a privilege and a joy.

*O Lord Jesus! may it be our privilege also to bear your cross; may we glory in nothing else; by it may the world be crucified unto us, and we unto the world; may we never shrink from sufferings, but rather rejoice if we may be counted worthy to suffer for your name's sake.*

**O God, we love you with our whole hearts and above all things, and are heartily sorry that we have offended you. May we never offend you any more. Oh, may we love you without ceasing, and make it our delight to do in all things your most holy will.**

*Can the human heart refrain  
From partaking in her pain,  
In that Mother's pain untold?*



#### SIXTH STATION – VERONICA WIPES THE FACE OF JESUS

V We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

R Because by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world.

As Jesus proceeds on the way, covered with the sweat of death, a woman, moved with compassion, makes her way through the crowd, and wipes his face with a towel upon which, as a reward of her piety, the impression of his sacred countenance is miraculously imprinted.

*O Jesus! may the contemplation of thy sufferings move us with the deepest compassion, make us to hate our sins, and kindle in our hearts more fervent love to you. May your image be graven on our minds, until we are transformed into your likeness.*

**O God, we love you with our whole hearts and above all things, and are heartily sorry that we have offended you. May we never offend you any more. Oh, may we love you without ceasing, and make it our delight to do in all things your most holy will.**

*Bruised, derided, cursed, defiled,  
She beheld her tender Child  
All with bloody scourges rent.*

#### SEVENTH STATION – JESUS FALLS THE SECOND TIME

V We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

R Because by your holy Cross you have  
redeemed the world.

The pain of his wounds and the loss of blood increasing at every step of his way, again his strength fails him, and Jesus falls to the ground a second time.

*O Jesus! falling again under the burden of our sins, and of your sufferings for our sins, how often have we grieved you by our repeated falls into sin! Oh, may we rather die than ever offend you again!*

**O God, we love you with our whole hearts and above all things, and are heartily sorry that we have offended you. May we never offend you any more. Oh, may we love you without ceasing, and make it our delight to do in all things your most holy will.**

*For the sins of his own nation  
Saw him hang in desolation  
till his spirit forth he sent*

#### EIGHTH STATION – THE WOMEN OF JERUSALEM MOURN FOR OUR LORD

V We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

R Because by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world.

At the sight of the sufferings of Jesus some holy women in the crowd were so touched with sympathy that they openly bewailed and lamented him. Jesus knowing the things that were to come to pass upon Jerusalem because of its rejection of him, turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, weep not for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children."

*O Lord Jesus, we mourn, and will always mourn, both for you and for ourselves; for your sufferings and for our sins which caused them. Oh, teach us so to mourn, that we may be comforted, and escape those dreadful judgements prepared for all who reject or neglect you in this life.*

**O God, we love you with our whole hearts and above all things, and are heartily sorry that we have offended you. May we never offend you any more. Oh, may we love you without ceasing, and make it our delight to do in all things your most holy will.**

*O sweet Mother fount of love!  
Touch my spirit from above,  
Make my heart with thine accord.*

#### NINTH STATION – JESUS FALLS A THIRD TIME

V We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

R Because by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world.

Jesus had now arrived almost at the summit of Calvary; but before he reached the spot where he was to be crucified, his strength again fails him, and he falls the third time, to be again dragged up and goaded onwards by the brutal soldiers.

*O Lord Jesus! we entreat you, by the merits of this your third most painful fall, to pardon our frequent relapses and our long continuance in sin; and may the thought of these your sufferings make us to hate our sins more and more.*

**O God, we love you with our whole hearts and above all things, and are heartily sorry that we have offended you. May we never offend you any more. Oh, may we love you without ceasing, and make it our delight to do in all things your most holy will.**

*Make me feel as thou has felt;  
Make my soul to glow and melt  
With the love of Christ my Lord.*

#### TENTH STATION – JESUS IS STRIPPED OF HIS GARMENTS

V We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

R Because by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world.

Arrived at last at the place of sacrifice, they prepare to crucify him. His garments are torn from his bleeding body, and he, the Holy of Holies, stands exposed to the vulgar gaze of the rude and scoffing multitude.

*O Lord Jesus, you did endure this shame for our most shameful deeds. Strip us, we beseech you, of all false shame and pride, and make us so to humble ourselves in this life, that we may escape everlasting ignominy in the world to come.*

**O God, we love you with our whole hearts and above all things, and are heartily sorry that we have offended you. May we never offend you any more. Oh, may we love you without ceasing, and make it our delight to do in all things your most holy will.**

*Holy Mother, pierce me through  
In my heart each wound renew  
Of my saviour crucified.*

#### ELEVENTH STATION – JESUS IS NAILED TO THE CROSS

V We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

R Because by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world.

The cross is laid upon the ground, and Jesus is stretched upon his bed of death. He offers his bruised limbs to his heavenly Father on behalf of sinful man, and to his fierce executioners to be nailed by them to the disgraceful wood. The blows are struck! The blood gushes forth!

*O Jesus, nailed to the cross, fasten our hearts there also, that they may be united to you until death shall strike us, and with our last breath we shall have yielded up our souls to you.*

**O God, we love you with our whole hearts and above all things, and are heartily sorry that we have offended you. May we never offend you any more. Oh, may we love you without ceasing, and make it our delight to do in all things your most holy will.**

*Let me share with you his pain  
who for all our sins was slain  
Who for me in torments die.*

## TWELFTH STATION — JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS

V We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

R Because by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world.

For three hours Jesus has hung upon his transfixed hands; his blood has run in streams down his body, and bedewed the ground; and, in the midst of excruciating sufferings, he has pardoned his murderers, promised the bliss of paradise to the good thief, and committed his blessed Mother and beloved disciple to each other's care. All is now consummated; and meekly bowing down his head, he gives up the spirit.

*O Jesus! We embrace devoutly that honoured cross whereon you did love us even unto death. In that death we place all our confidence, henceforth let us live only for you; and when we die, let us die loving you, and in your sacred arms.*

**O God, we love you with our whole hearts and above all things, and are heartily sorry that we have offended you. May we never offend you anymore. Oh, may we love you without ceasing, and make it our delight to do in all things your most holy will.**

*Let me mingle tears with thee  
mourning him who mourned for me,  
all the days that I may live.*

## THIRTEENTH STATION — JESUS IS TAKEN DOWN FROM THE CROSS

V We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

R Because by your holy Cross you have  
redeemed the world.

The multitude have left the heights of Calvary, and none remain save the beloved disciple and the holy women, who, at the foot of the cross, are sharing the grief of Christ's holy Mother. Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus take down the body of her divine Son from the cross and lay it in her arms.

*O you, whose grief was boundless as an ocean, Mary, Mother of God, give us a share in your most holy sorrow for the sufferings of your Son, and have compassion on our infirmities. Accept us as your children with the beloved disciple. Show yourself a mother to us; and may he, through you, receive our prayer, who for us vouchsafed to be your Son.*

**O God, we love you with our whole hearts and above all things, and are heartily sorry that we have offended you. May we never offend you anymore. Oh, may we love you without ceasing, and make it our delight to do in all things your most holy will.**

*By the cross with you to stay  
There with you to weep and pray  
Is all I ask of you to give.*

#### FOURTEENTH STATION – JESUS IS LAID IN THE SEPULCHRE

V We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

R Because by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world.

The body of her dearly beloved Son is taken from his Mother, and laid by the disciples in the tomb. The tomb is closed, and there Christ's sacred body remains until the hour of its glorious resurrection.

*We, too, O God, will descend into the grave whenever it shall please you, as it shall please you, and wheresoever it shall please you. Let your just decreed be fulfilled; and, in your great mercy, receive our immortal souls, and when our bodies have risen again, place them likewise in your kingdom that we may love and bless you for ever and ever. Amen.*

**O God, we love you with our whole hearts and above all things, and are heartily sorry that we have offended you. May we never offend you any more. Oh, may we love you without ceasing, and make it our delight to do in all things your most holy will.**

*Virgin of all virgins blest!  
Listen to my fond request:  
let me share your grief divine.*

#### Concluding Prayers

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. Amen.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.



**Virtual Marian Procession at 8pm.**

**Sorrowful Mysteries.**

## **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May.**

### *A celebration of the faith of Young People on the Pilgrimage*

Two of the experiences of Lourdes that we celebrate on Wednesday are the International Mass, in the morning. This is a wonderful gathering of thousands of people from different countries, languages and backgrounds. As Lourdes is a principal shrine of Europe, most of the pilgrims are from European countries but of course people can normally travel from anywhere in the world to this holy place.

The International Mass is a Festival of Faith and of different cultures. There are readings and prayers in different languages; groups bring banners and flags which represent their schools and parishes, dioceses and countries. And faith unites us all.

On the Wednesday evening, the clergy on the pilgrimage usually gather with Archbishop Bernard and Bishop David. They call it the Clergy Retreat, but we have come to know that it is important time for the clergy to spend together, socially!

For the rest of the pilgrims, for many years, there has been an enjoyable concert by the pilgrimage musicians. The combination especially of sick pilgrims and young helpers is a joyful sight. We will try to capture some of that.

Today, we celebrate the influence on the Birmingham Lourdes Pilgrimage of our Diocesan Youth Service, of school groups, many of whom find their greatest fulfilment on the pilgrimage by experiencing the joyful faith of our sick pilgrims whom they are called to serve.

We pray in a special way for the young people of our Archdiocese who would have been travelling to Lourdes for the first time; that they may have the opportunity either very soon or at some time in their life to discover the meaning of faith in places like Lourdes.

**Celebration of Mass with Fr Paul Whieldon from Alton Castle at 10am.**

**Virtual Blessed Sacrament Procession at 5pm**

**Virtual Lourdes Concert at 8pm with Jo Boyce, Dan Callow & friends.**

## **Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May.**

**Mass from Our Lady's, Bulkington at 9:30 am.**

**Reconciliation Service led by Mgr. Tim Menezes at 5pm.**

Lourdes is a place associated with healing. As we said earlier in the week, this has been physical healing for some over the years. We reflected on the Sacrament of the Sick, we know the Eucharist to be a Sacrament of Healing, and we have come to know over recent weeks the value of Spiritual Communion.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated on our Lourdes pilgrimage on Thursday afternoon. It has been reckoned over the years that for people who might not have been to Confession for many years, the fact that this Sacrament is central to the pilgrimage experience still means for some a lot of preparation and getting ready for.

To see a church with several hundred people, and bishops and priests hearing confessions, celebrating the mercy of God with people of all ages, and witnessing to the burden that is lifted from so many people when they seek the Lord's forgiveness is an annual moment of grace on the pilgrimage.

This evening, we can reflect on the Lord's mercy in the life of each one of us. This is not a Sacrament about 'what we have done wrong'. It is very much more a Sacrament of homecoming, of the returning child of God being welcomed with the same joy that the Father welcomed the homecoming of the Prodigal Son. Let us seek the Lord's mercy; let us be instruments of the Lord's mercy in the lives of others. And let us ask for the humility to ask for forgiveness from God and from each other, where sin or the lack of forgiveness creates barriers between friends, family, communities and nations.

**Virtual Marian Procession at 8pm.**

**The Luminous Mysteries.**

## **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May**

**Mass from Our Lady of Lourdes, Yardley Wood at 9:30am; commencing with the Rosary.**

**Celebrated by Canon Sean Grady.**

**Closing Liturgy of Thanksgiving at 5pm.**

**Bishop David McGough.**





The Angelus.



V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary. R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit. (Hail Mary.....)

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord. R. Be it done to me according to your word. (Hail Mary.....)

V. And the Word was made flesh. R. And dwelt among us. (Hail Mary.....)

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God. R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray: Pour forth we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy Grace into our hearts that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ, Thy Son was made known by the message of an angel, may by His passion and Cross be brought to the glory of his Resurrection, through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen.

**The Hail Holy Queen.**



Hail holy Queen, Mother of mercy; hail 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 towards 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 Gd: That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

The Memorare.



Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my mother: to thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother is the Word incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in Thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

The Regina Caeli.



Queen of heaven, rejoice, Alleluia,  
For whom you did merit to bear, Alleluia,  
Has risen as he said, Alleluia.

Pray for us to God, Alleluia.

Let us pray:

O God, who by the resurrection of your Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, have  
promised to gladden the whole world, grant we beseech you, that through the  
intercession of the Virgin Mary, we may attain the joys of eternal life.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Mysteries of the Rosary.



## THE ROSARY

On August 14<sup>th</sup> 2004, Pope St John Paul II came to the Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes as a Sick Pilgrim. When you pray the Mysteries of Light, as he did that day, you may do so in front of the Rosary Basilica meditating on the mosaics.

The Rosary is a prayer known and loved by countless millions of people around the world. It is a simple, yet significant and profound prayer. The beauty of the Rosary is the way it invites us into the journey of the Christian life and encourages us to 'put out into the deep' and look to Jesus as the goal of human history.

The Rosary is, of course, a deeply Marian prayer but also profoundly focused on Jesus. It contains the very depths of the gospel and offers an overview of salvation history. The Rosary is an echo of Mary's Song of Praise, the Magnificat and an overflow of thanks and praise for God's gift of the Incarnation and Redemption. It is, if you like, an opportunity for us to learn about Christ in the school of Mary. To pray the Rosary is to receive an abundance of grace and blessing as individuals, families, parishes and the wider community.

Pope St John Paul II always had a special devotion to the Rosary. From his youth it has played an important part in his spiritual formation and development. He said that praying the Rosary has comforted and helped him immensely, especially during times of difficulty or struggle. On 29 October 1978, two weeks after his election as Pope, he said: 'The Rosary is my favourite prayer. A marvellous prayer. Marvellous in its simplicity and its depth.' For Pope St John Paul II the Rosary brings us right into the heart of the main events in Jesus' life.

To say the Rosary is to contemplate with Mary the face of Christ. It goes to the very heart of the Christian life and offers us a wonderful opportunity for personal contemplation, communion, mission and the new evangelisation. The beauty about praying the Rosary is that when Mary is honoured the Son is worshipped and glorified. It is a perfect way of contemplating the entire Christian mystery. There is a great need for Christian witness distinguished above all in the art of prayer. Through praying the Rosary our homes, parishes and communities become genuine schools of prayer.

The Rosary is also a prayer for peace, and to discover it is to immerse oneself in contemplation of the mystery of Christ who 'is our peace (Ephesians 2:14). In saying it we make a clear commitment to advancing peace in the world. Blessed John Paul was calling for a revival of the Rosary in the family so that the family unit can withstand the onslaught and attack so often unleashed upon it.

Many saints loved to say the Rosary. St Louis Marie de Montfort and St Padre Pio had a special devotion to it.

### **The Joyful Mysteries** -said on Mondays

1. The Annunciation, Luke 1:26-38

2. The Visitation, Luke 1:39-56
3. The Nativity, Luke 2:1-20
4. The Presentation, Luke 2:22-39
5. Finding in the Temple, Luke 2:42-52

**The Luminous Mysteries (The Mysteries of Light)** said on Thursdays

1. The Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan, Mt 3:17
2. The Wedding Feast at Cana, Jn 2:10-11
3. The Proclamation of the Kingdom and the Call to Repentance, Mk 1:15
4. The Transfiguration of the Lord, Matt 17:2
5. The Institution of the Eucharist, Mk 14:22-24

**The Sorrowful Mysteries** -said on Tuesdays and Fridays

1. The Agony in the Garden, Luke 22:39-44
2. The Scourging at the Pillar, Matt 27:26
3. Crowning with Thorns, Matt 27:28-31
4. Carrying of the Cross, Luke 23:26-32
5. The Crucifixion, Matt 27:33-50

**The Glorious Mysteries** -said on Wednesdays, Saturdays, and Sundays

1. The Resurrection, Matt 28:1-20
2. The Ascension, Luke 24:50-51
3. Descent of the Holy Spirit, Acts 2:24
4. The Assumption
5. The Coronation

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

