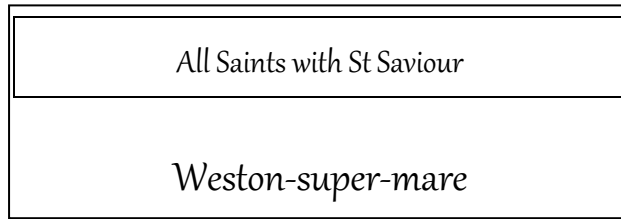




Arms of St Saviour



Arms of All Saints

Easter 2 - 2024

Dear friends,
Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

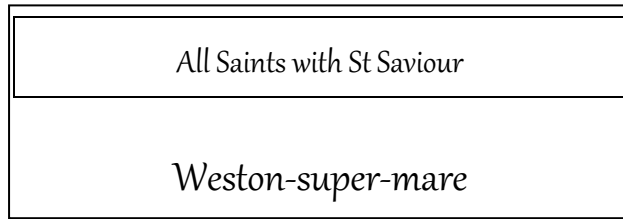
The Apostle Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 13 *'Now we see a dim reflection in a mirror; but then we shall be seeing face to face. The knowledge that I have now is imperfect; but then I shall know as fully as I am known.'* Paul here is talking about **our destiny**, the reason God made each and every one of us, that in the end we shall see him face to face, and know him as we are known by him. That is Christian anthropology in a sound bite!

And that anthropology we rehearsed liturgically during Holy Week. What wonderful liturgies were enjoyed, and what a wonderful preacher and celebrant in Fr Darren Smith. I am told that if you missed the liturgies, you missed a treat, no several treats. Huge thanks from me to everyone working behind the scenes to make all of that happen, not least our Sacristan and Head Server, Janice, the flower arrangers, the choir and the readers. Thank you.

This Sunday our attention turns to 'doubting Thomas'. And we have an innovation. There will be a Sunday Vigil Mass offered at 6pm on Saturday evening at St Saviour's Hall. This is a pilot project during Eastertide only for now, a chance to see if there is a Saturday/Sunday congregation.



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And it is there for people who find it hard to get up the hill on Sunday morning or are doing family things on Sundays, or fancying a lie in!

Writing on Divine Mercy Sunday Blessed Pope John Paul II writes:

'It is important that we accept the whole message that comes to us from the Word of God this Second Sunday of Easter, which is called 'Divine Mercy Sunday.' Christ has taught us that 'man not only receives and experiences the mercy of God but is also called 'to practise mercy towards others: "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy" (Mt5:7). It is the Spirit who heals the wounds of the heart, pulls down the barriers that separate us from God and divide us from one another, and at the same time, restores the joy of the Father's love and of unity.'

This is the call to be loving and merciful. May we find it in our hearts to be so, to model this behaviour, and be agents of transformation in our community.

With Easter love and prayers,
Fr Brendan