

AMPLEFORTH ABBEY

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT (A)

When Martha heard that Jesus was coming she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord if you had been here, my brother would not have died, but even now I know that God will grant whatever you ask of him.' Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said: *'I am the resurrection. He who believes in me, even though he die, will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?'* 'Yes, Lord, she said. 'I believe that you are the Christ, the son of God, the one who was to come into this world.' When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in a low voice, 'the Master is here and wants to see you. Hearing this, Mary got up quickly and went to him.

(John 11:20-29)

A CALL TO WAKE UP



The raising of Lazarus takes the 'signs' of Jesus' power presented in St. John's Gospel to a completely new level. He has already been shown changing water into wine, and curing the man born blind. Once an undeniably dead man has been brought back to life, a decision is needed about who this 'wonder-worker' is – and what the implications are for everyone else. And so it remains for us today. Jesus' challenge to Martha: *'Do you believe this?'* echoes down the ages. In infinitely varied ways it recurs for each individual believer (or *would-be* believer). Just as Lazarus arises from the deepest 'sleep', so we are called to shake off the chains of doubt and fearfulness which weigh us down, and respond in loving trust. After all, as St. Benedict says: *'What can be sweeter to us than this voice of the Lord calling to us?'*

MASS TIMES IN THE ABBEY CHURCH

Sun.	10 April	FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT	10.00
Mon.	11 April	Feria	09:00
Tues.	12 April	Feria	09:00
Weds.	13 April	Feria	09:00
Thurs	14 April	Feria	09:00
Fri.	15 April	Feria	09:00
Sat	16 April	Feria	09:00

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SPRING CHAPTER MEETING



In recent years, the monastic community has moved to having three separate Chapter meetings annually – rather than the previous annual week-long Chapter in August. All monks in solemn vows attend – unless otherwise agreed in advance. The new schedule permits briefer meetings (generally 1.5 days) on specific areas of the Community's work - also helping to keep monks working in diverse activities in regular personal contact. The most recent meeting (April 7-8) included reports from our individual parishes, from Hospitality and the Procurator. Chapter next meets in mid-August.

SMA RETREAT – THE CROSS IN COLOUR



Pupils at St. Martin's Ampleforth had a richly varied two-day annual on April 4-5. Based on the theme *Lent: A time for Change*, it included a personalized touch: each pupil painted a figure of Christ pre-cut by Fr Edgar Miller (pictured). These were blessed at the final Mass. Fr Edgar taught carpentry for many years at Gilling Castle. He continues to share his wide experience with pupils who cross the valley each week for woodwork classes at St. Joseph's Workshop. Lampstands and other items produced over the year so far were on show in the main hall of St. Martin's - a gentle reminder not to forget to pack them for the journey home!

WEEKDAY MONASTIC OFFICE IN THE ABBEY CHURCH

6.00 a.m. Matins

7.30 a.m. Lauds

8.45 a.m. Little Hour

6.00 p.m. Vespers

8:15 p.m. Compline