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SAINT JOHN FISHER PARISH

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Part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: *Registered Charity No 234216* Deanery website: www.coventry-catholicdeanery.org.uk

Today We Celebrate the 5th Sunday in Lent - Cycle A

During these difficult and uncertain times, the weekly newsletter will continue to be published. It can be found on the Coventry Catholic Deanery website - <https://coventry-catholicdeanery.org.uk>

MAGNIFICAT ONLINE

As there are no public Masses for an indefinite period Magnificat online is allowing free access to enable you to follow the Mass, daily prayers, readings etc at home. Log in at www.magnificat.com/free

Contact Margaret (02074483607) or Paul (02074483618) for more information or to order hard copies

Fr Peter will celebrate a private Mass each day for the following intentions:

Sat 28th Mar	Marie Stanford: Sean Gavin: Martin, Molly & Patrick Hoban
Sun 29th Mar	Walter Hewkin: Billy Heffernan: Joe Buckley
Mon 30 th Mar	John Coyle
Tues 31 st Mar	Breda ring, Bill Cantillon
Wed 1 st Apr	Sheila Sedgley
Thurs 2 nd Apr	Tom McSharry
Fri 3 rd Apr	Nellie Daly
Sat 4 th Apr	Oliver Muldoon, Bridget Coyle
	Palm Sunday
Sun 5th Apr	Fr Bob (Month's Mind): Thomas Dullard, Nikki Coyle

For live streaming of daily Mass in other local parishes who have the facility: eg Christ the King, St Thomas More, see the Deanery website for the links.

Celebration of the other Sacraments during this time

The Bishop's Conference Guidelines (for more details see <https://coventry-catholicdeanery.org.uk>) have stated:

- **Baptisms** can only take place when there is serious necessity (danger of death).
- **Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)** Given Government guidelines, it is not possible to offer Confessions at this time. The Bishops remind the faithful that they are only obliged to receive Communion once a year. They recommend that the following Act of Contrition be regularly said:
My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Saviour Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In his name, my God have mercy.
- **First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion** These celebrations are postponed.
- **Weddings** should be deferred.
- **Funerals** The funeral service should take place at the graveside or at a crematorium, subject to the conditions laid down by the cemetery or crematorium authorities. Arrangements should be made for a Mass to be celebrated in memoriam when congregations are allowed to gather.
- **Anointing of the Sick** will continue under special guidelines.

*No Pastoral Visits can be made to people who are self-isolating but phone support can be offered.
Visits to people in Care Homes and Hospitals will follow advice from the staff*

Message from Fr Peter

All of us need the prayers of each other in these deeply upsetting and painful circumstances. I think of you and your loved ones frequently, especially during mass and times of quiet reflection before a lighted candle.

We rely on Jesus' promise to be with us always.

Supporting Each Other By Phone

Telephone support is vital at the present time. We all need encouragement throughout our lives -but especially now. Making and receiving calls helps sustain us. It is a key way of keeping the parish together. Do continue to ring any parishioners you know -particularly those who may be on their own. You can contact me at the presbytery Tel(02476 443 459). I also have a dedicated parish mobile Tel (0790 8817 344). Please pass this number on to parishioners who are elderly or housebound.

The New Parish Website

Thanks to the Romero Academy, I have arranged for a website to be built. This should be available shortly. In the meantime, the newsletter can be found on the deanery website as well as posted on the Romero pages. Parish news and other information and thoughts from me will be shared through the Academy and St John Fisher and St Gregory's School social media.

With Much Gratitude

We are all inspired by the Dedication of so many parishioners who work so tirelessly for the NHS and emergency services. As well as the teachers who prepare online lessons for our children and look after our young people's education in general and the well being of key workers families now. Generosity and self-giving is at the heart of being a Christian. Let us all help others in whatever way we can. I know you are already doing this and may God bless your goodness and mercy. Inspired by memories of Fr Bob's Christ-like example we journey forward, praying for him as he does for us.

Fr Peter

YEAR OF THE WORD: The God Who Speaks

The Bishops of England and Wales have asked us to focus on the Gospel of Matthew. For help to do this, www.cbew.org.uk/home/events/the-god-who-speaks/celebrating/how-to-do-lectio-divina-holy-reading

What would happen if we treated the Bible like we do our mobile phone? If we went back to retrieve it when we forgot it at home? If we took it out several times a day; if we read God's messages in the Bible like we read our messages on the mobile phone? Pope Francis.

We need the Lord, like ancient navigators needed the stars. Let us invite Jesus into the boats of our lives. Let us hand over our fears to him so that he can conquer them. Pope Francis

Daily Prayers

Morning

Christ has no body now on earth but yours:
No hands but yours: no feet but yours.
Yours are the eyes through which we must look out
Christ's compassion on the world.
Yours are the feet which He is about doing good.
Yours are the hands with which he is to bless men now.
St Teresa

Afternoon

Thanks be to Thee, my Lord, Jesus Christ,
For all the benefits which Thou hast given me;
For all the pains and insults which Thou hast borne for me,
O Most Merciful Redeemer, Friend and Brother.
May I know Thee more clearly,
Love Thee more dearly,
And follow Thee more nearly
St Richard

Evening

God be in my head, and in my understanding:
God be in mine eyes, and in my looking:
God be in my mouth, and in my speaking:
God be in my heart, and in my thinking:
God be at mine end, and at my departing.
Salisbury Cathedral

Night

May He support us all the day long,
'til the shades lengthen
and the evening comes
and the busy world is hushed
and the fever of life is over
and our work is done:
then in His mercy
may He give us a safe lodging
and a holy place to rest
and peace to the last.
Cardinal Newman

Lamp Lit at Sacred Heart Shrine:

This week: Anne & Larry

Next week: Thomas & Tom Dullard

Lamp lit at Our Lady's Shrine:

This Week: Fr Bob

Next week: Nikki

Lamp Lit at St Joseph's Shrine

This week: Fr Bob

Next Week: The Buckley family

Lamp Lit at St Anthony's Shrine

This week: Nasey & family

Next Week: Fr Bob

Candles will continue to be lit in church for your intentions.

Candles are available in April - £3.50.

Please put envelope containing intentions and donation through presbytery door

Prayers have been requested for the sick of our parish community:

Please contact the church to add a name to the Sick List

Anne Gillies; Hugh McAteer; Margaret Buckley; Cath O'Toole, Tom McGrath, Patrick Maughan, John Maughan, Anthony McDonagh, Rose Maughan, Derek Coyle, Kirsty Coyle, Iain Connell, Michael Ward, Jim Ward, Stefan Szwarnowski, Eileen Barnes, Michael Kelly, Thomas Hewitt, Mindi Devi, Peter Charman, Elaine Watkins, Arthur Watkins, Michael Butler, Cathy Grant, Garry Hole, Eric Holt

Please pray for the repose of the souls of those who have died recently

Brenda Kavanagh, Liam Connolly and Ann McCarthy

May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen

MARIAN DEVOTION

This Sunday at Walsingham England will be rededicated as the Dowry of Mary. You can follow the events through the shrine website

NOVENA TO ST ANTHONY: Advance Notice: This has been ongoing in the parish since 1983. Prayers are said on 9 consecutive Tuesdays leading up to the Feast of St Anthony on 13th June, beginning on Tuesday 14th April. This year, we urge you to join in from your home and will be publishing the prayers to be said each Tuesday in this newsletter.

MISSION BOXES: Thank you to everyone who donates using the red Missio Boxes. The total raised in 2019 was £1622.86.

USEFUL WEBSITES

Catholic Bishops' Conference <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/>

Archdiocese of Birmingham www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk

St Chad's Cathedral is now live streaming services from Sunday www.stchadscathedral.org.uk

Papal Masses www.vatican.va

For a helpful leaflet of prayers and bible readings 'Inspiration in Times of Isolation' and a reflection series 'Encouragement from St John Henry Newman' (written by Fr Peter) see Alive Publishing