

Supply Priest
Fr Peter Conley
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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

During these difficult and uncertain times, the weekly newsletter will continue to be published. It can be found on the new parish website <https://sjfcov.org>, the school websites and the Coventry Deanery website.

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 (<https://coventry-catholicdeanery.org.uk>)

Fr Peter will celebrate a private Mass during Holy Week on Monday to Maundy Thursday. On Good Friday and Holy Saturday morning, when mass is not celebrated, he will be praying the Stations of the Cross and other traditional devotions for the parish. He will be watching before the Blessed Sacrament on Maundy Thursday evening privately. Details of where you can see these services live-streamed locally and at St Chad's Cathedral are to be found at the new parish website <https://sjfcov.org>

Today We Celebrate Palm Sunday - Cycle A

Sat 4 th Apr	Oliver Muldoon, Bridget Coyle
Sun 5 th Apr	Fr Bob (Month's Mind): Thomas Dullard, Nikki Coyle
Mon 6 th Apr	Kathleen Clay
Tues 7 th Apr	Nicola Coyle
Wed 8 th Apr	Betty Dean
Thurs 9 th Apr	Maundy Thursday Sister Theresa: Kath & John Conley
Fri 10 th Apr	Good Friday
Sat 11 th Apr	Easter Saturday
	SOLEMNITY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD
Sun 12 th Apr	Fr Bob: Buckley & O'Donnell families

Message from Fr Peter

I continue to remember all of you and your loved ones in my prayers, thoughts and masses. We are entering the most painful week of Jesus' life. This reminds us that in these traumatic times He suffers with us, so we are never apart from Him whatever we are going through. The message of Easter Sunday is that the reality of His resurrection means that He is wherever we are. We are also strengthened through the prayers of Fr Bob and all of our loved ones who have gone to their eternal rest. They are joined by all of the angels and saints in the presence of God to intercede on our behalf.

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.

An increasing number of parishioners are keeping in touch with me by the parish mobile and are enjoying the new web site: <https://sjfcov.org>. Here you will find under the heading 'Help to Pray' a series of sub-headings. 'Words of Encouragement contains inspiration from St John Fisher and other Saints. A Bite Size Stations of the Cross' by a St Patrick's parishioner and a 'Teacup Rosary' by me for daily drinks breaks, which focuses on the Sorrowful Mysteries for Holy Week.

I hope to write more shortly. There is also a section entitled 'Fr Peter Reflects' with short thoughts from me. Let me know what ideas you have for the development of the website.

I am in regular contact with Mrs Williamson and Mrs Marshall from St John Fisher and St Gregory's Schools. I thank them and their staff for their dedication at this time. As well as expressing, on your behalf, our appreciation of the many parishioners who devote themselves to the care of the sick in the NHS and other emergency services. Let us always remember them and their families in our prayers.

Maybe hold onto Jesus' promise to be with us always.
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

Words of Encouragement from the Saints

St John Fisher

O sweet Jesu, possess my heart, hold and keep it only to thee.
O Blessed Jesus, given to me grace heartedly to thank thee for thy benefits.

St Teresa of Avila

When you do not receive communion and you do not attend mass, you can make a spiritual Communion, which is a most beneficial practice; but it the love of God will be greatly impressed on you.

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

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

**Eileen Gavin (Redditch)
Brenda Kavanagh**

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

Lamp Lit at Sacred Heart Shrine:

This week: Thomas & Tom Dullard
Next week: Tina & family

Lamp lit at Our Lady's Shrine:

This Week: Fr Bob
Next week: Fr Bob

Lamp Lit at St Joseph's Shrine

This week: The Buckley family
Next Week: John Buckley

Lamp Lit at St Anthony's Shrine

This week: Fr Bob
Next Week: John Meikle

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, Kath Feenan

And pray for the priests of the Archdiocese especially Fr Michael Stack, Mgr Tony Wilcox and Fr Anthony Conlon

MARCH 100 CLUB WINNERS: 1st. £100: No 4 2nd. £50: No 107

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.

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*

USEFUL WEBSITES

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

Archdiocese of Birmingham [www. birminghamdiocese.org.uk](http://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk)

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

Papal Masses [www. vatican.va](http://www.vatican.va)

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

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