

Supply Priest
Fr Peter Conley
0790 8817 344

SAINT JOHN FISHER PARISH

Tiverton Road, Wyken, Coventry CV2 3DL
Tel: 02476 443459 : Fax: 02476 659554 / email: stjohnfishercov@yahoo.co.uk

Area Dean
Canon Tom Farrell
02476 591618

Parish Safeguarding Representatives: Cath McAnenny: 02476 275850 Tina Hastings: 07946481610
Diocesan Safeguarding Office: 0121 2306240

Parish Schools: St John Fisher, Kineton Road, Coventry CV2 3NR, Tel: 02476 443333: St Gregory's, Harry Rose Road, Coventry CV2 5AT, Tel 02476 445900
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://sifcov.org> 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 for your intentions.

Today We Celebrate The Second Sunday of Easter - Cycle A (Divine Mercy Sunday)

Sat 18 th Apr	Spec Int – Rose Trill	
Sun 19 th Apr	Douglas & Vilma Duffield: John Meehan	
Mon 20 th Apr	Graham Ease	
Tues 21 st Apr	Dec'd parishioners of SJF	
Wed 22 nd Apr	Spec Int - Joseph	
Thurs 23 rd Apr	SOLEMNITY OF ST GEORGE – PATRON OF ENGLAND	Kathleen Finnerty
Fri 24 th Apr	Spec Int – Pat & Phil	
Sat 25 th Apr	FEAST OF ST MARK, EVANGELIST	Margaret Eccley
	THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER	
Sun 26 th Apr	Nanette O'Donoghue	

Message from Fr Peter

All around us, the cherry blossoms have suddenly sprung into life and the sunshine bathes us with its light. In the midst of the struggles, worries and sufferings of the present moment, these signs in nature mirror the vision before us of the hope that the risen Christ brings. He came "to make the whole of creation new" he said. One of my favourite Bible stories is Jesus, appearing to come out of nowhere, to join the disciples on their way to a village called Emmaus. (Luke 24:13-35). Scholars point out that the exact location of this place is not known. What an important fact- it means that we too, can have that surprising and joyful sense of Jesus when we take our daily exercise. As he drew near "something prevented them from recognizing him" we are told. How often do we only realise Jesus has travelled with us by looking back at our experiences? The gospel records that the disciples only understood that the Lord had accompanied them much later on after he had left: "did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road?"

Can we think of times when the 'penny just dropped' like this for us during our lives? Maybe it has happened at mealtimes or at prayer. What about now, in chatting with our family, as we ramble along, sharing our joys and sorrows, swapping comforting memories-or gaining a greater sense of perspective with gentle humour? However we take our own 'Emmaus walks', physically or mentally, we should look out for Jesus' presence in our conversations, directing our thoughts, drawing us to appreciate world around us, and prompting us to spare a kind thought for those we see along the way.

Supporting Each Other By Phone

All of us benefit from friends and loved ones calling us more regularly right now. The same is true of keeping the parish together and developing our already strong sense of community. Thank you for continuing to ring parishioners that you know, especially those who are elderly or housebound, with no access to other means of communication, like the Internet, for the latest information about the parish. You can contact me on the Presbytery number: Tel (02476 443 459). I also have a dedicated parish mobile: Tel (0790 8817 344). Please pass this number on.

The Parish Website: sifcov.org

I am delighted to say that many, many parishioners are now visiting the website and seeing the new posts which I try change regularly during the week. Recently, for example, these include short reflective pieces like 'Living with Compassion' and 'Running with Saint Peter'. As well as the just completed Joyful Mysteries for The Cup of Tea Rosary. You will also find more 'Words of Encouragement' from the saints and others. Finally, I am enjoying reading about the life in the works of Saint John Fisher and will aim to share more of his thoughts with you. If you have any ideas about how to develop the site let me know

Moving Forward in Faith, Hope and Love

Growing to be more Christlike, as Saint Paul reminds us, is not a 'sprint' but needs the patience and fortitude of a marathon runner. Let us go forward in faith and courage with ever thankful hearts to those in the NHS and emergency services well as our school staff and those keeping the distribution networks of food and goods going. May they continue to be strengthened by Jesus who is with them, and us, always.

Fr Peter

THOUGHTS FOR DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Benedict XVI said that "closing our eyes to our neighbour also blinds us to God", and that love is, in the end, the only light which "can always illuminate a world grown dim and give us the courage needed to keep living and working". When we live out a spirituality of drawing near to others and seeking their welfare, our hearts are opened wide to the Lord's greatest and most beautiful gifts. Whenever we encounter another person in love, we learn something new about God. Whenever our eyes are opened to acknowledge the other, we grow in the light of faith and knowledge of God. (Evangelii Gaudium)

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

Words of Encouragement from the Saints

You know well enough that Our Lord does not look so much at the greatness of our actions, nor even at their difficulty, but at the love with which we do them. St Therese of Liseux

Charity is the sweet and holy bond which links the soul with its Creator: It binds God with man and man with God. St Catherine of Siena

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

Candles are available in May - £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

**Zygmunt Wicik
Kathleen Seenan
Martin 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: Norman Arnold RIP

Next week: Veronica Dickinson & family

Lamp Lit at St Joseph's Shrine

This week: Spec Int for Doctors & Nurses

Next Week: Mary & Jim

Lamp lit at Our Lady's Shrine:

This Week: Fr Bob

Next week: Julie Constable & Family

Lamp Lit at St Anthony's Shrine

This week:

Next Week: Andrew Quinn

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,

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

NOVENA TO ST ANTHONY: SECOND TUESDAY: 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. This year, we urge you to join in from your home.

O glorious St Anthony, safe refuge of all the afflicted and distressed, who miraculously revealed that all who piously invoke you on nine consecutive Tuesdays, will experience your powerful help, I, a poor sinner, encouraged by this promise, come to you, and with a firm hope implore your aid, your counsel and your blessing. Obtain help for me dear Saint, in my present necessity (mention it), but if it be opposed to the will of God and the welfare of myself, obtain for me such other graces as shall be helpful to my salvation. Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Say each Tuesday:

O gentle and loving St Anthony, in whose arms the infant Jesus ever loved to linger, grant your powerful aid, and at your word my prayer will be granted.

2nd Tuesday:

Blessed St Anthony, I greet you in the name of the Patriarchs and the prophets, and I thank God that like them, you were given the gift of divine knowledge and of seeing the future. Now I ask you to approach Almighty God with them and obtain for me my requests by your prayers. Our Father.... Hail Mary.....Glory Be To The Father.....

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

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

Papal Masses 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