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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> 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 Third Sunday of Easter - Cycle A

Sat 25 th Apr	Margaret Eccley	
Sun 26 th Apr	Nanette O'Donoghue	
Mon 27 th Apr	Teresa Mulligan	
Tues 28 th Apr	Eamon Gallagher	
Wed 29 th Apr	Feast of St Catherine of Siena, Patron of Europe	Sean Kennedy
Thurs 30 th Apr	Jenny Bromfield	
Fri 1 st May	Mick Gamble	
Sat 2 nd May	Memorial of St Athanasius, Bishop	Dennis Doherty
	FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (Day of Prayer for Vocations)	
Sun 3 rd May	Bernadette & Anita Taylor: Celia Hanna	

Message from Fr Peter

We only use permanent markers when we risk losing something - by having its importance to us fade away. The Bible tells us we are God's own precious possession and that he has used 'indelible ink' to remember us, always:

"I have engraved you on the palms of my hands." (Isaiah 49:16)

A famous hospital doctor once told me that she drew great strength from this verse, as she walked upon the holy ground of God's presence in each ward. I often think of what she said - especially at the present time.

I pray for her and all the tremendous NHS staff.

It's Good to Talk

This week, I've had the great joy of reconnecting with an Anglican priest friend of mine. We worked together when I was a university chaplain. He is now based in an international parish in Switzerland. We'd lost touch 20 years ago and I found myself thinking of him on Easter Sunday. I searched the internet and sent an email. He rang me up and told me he had often thought about making contact as well - particularly during lock down. I'm sure you have similar stories to tell. One of the benefits of this stressful time is we think of people we haven't spoken with for ages, but always meant to. In light of this, 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: sjfcov.org

Thank you for continuing to visit the site and accessing its updated posts, diocesan and national links and articles. I have written various reflections entitled Springtime for the Soul and Fashioning a Forest of Faith - a piece about the native American Saint Kateri Tekawitha. I have also written a meditation based on the writings of Saint Teresa of Calcutta for the Adoration at Home section.

The Parish Twitter Account @sjfcov

I have set up a parish twitter account, thanks to the help of the Romero Academy. My IT skills are on a massive learning curve at the moment! You can see what is being tweeted via the website 'blue bird' icon or by putting in the search term @sjfcov

You don't need to have a twitter account to read them, but do sign up and then you can get them sent to you directly. This is another way in which we can stay connected at the present time.

Moving Forward in Faith, Hope and Love

Our prayerful gratitude continues for the inspiring example that our parishioners who are key workers, are giving us, of courage and generosity in the present challenging and tragic circumstances.

With my prayers for you all and your families.

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

Words of Encouragement from the Saints

Let nothing trouble you. Let nothing frighten you. Everything passes- God never changes. Patience obtains all. Whoever has God wants for nothing. God alone is enough. St Teresa of Avila

*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*

Lamp Lit at Sacred Heart Shrine:

This week: Veronica Dickinson & family
Next week: Bernadette Taylor

Lamp lit at Our Lady's Shrine:

This Week: Julie Constable & Family
Next week: Anne & Larry

Lamp Lit at St Joseph's Shrine

This week: Mary & Jim
Next Week: Anita Taylor

Lamp Lit at St Anthony's Shrine

This week: Andrew Quinn
Next Week: Ints of IM

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

Zygmunt Wicik
Kathleen Seenan
Martin Kavanagh
Lucy Barwell
Stephen Sedgley
Margaret Corcoran
Bishop Leo McCartie

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

March 100 + Club Winners: 1st: £100 No.99 2nd: £50 No 66

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 Szarnowski, 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

SUNDAY 26TH APRIL – THE FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL

Traditionally, on the Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel, we are invited to pray for the protection of unborn children in the United Kingdom.

NOVENA TO ST ANTHONY: THIRD 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.

3rd Tuesday:

*Blessed St Anthony, I greet you in the name of the Holy Apostles and the Disciples of Christ. I thank God for choosing you to preach the Gospel and spread the faith. I ask you to pray with them and for me so that God may grant my request.
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