



# St Patrick's Catholic Church

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## SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER – 19<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2020 Year A

Saturday	18 Apr	10.30am	Ray Todd (RIP); People of Zimbabwe on their national day
Sunday	19 Apr	10.30am	
Monday	20 Apr	10.30am	
Tuesday	21 Apr	10.30am	Fr Brendan Dunning (RIP)
Wednesday	22 Apr	10.30am	Srs Kathleen, Anne, Bee, Maria and Chad
Thursday	23 Apr	10.30am	People of England on their national day
Friday	24 Apr	10.30am	Maureen Kinsey (RIP)
Saturday	25 Apr	10.30am	Ray Todd (RIP); Ton Igoe (RIP)
Sunday	26 Apr	10.30am	Shirley Sugrue (RIP)
<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions): No Confessions until further notice</b>			
<b>Devotional Candles:</b>			
<b>Sacred Heart:</b>		<b>Our Lady:</b>	
<b>Divine Mercy:</b>		<b>St Joseph:</b> Special Intention (BK)	
<b>St Anthony:</b>			

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Those who have died recently, those who mourn for them and those whose anniversary occurs around this time. We especially remember those who have died from Covid-19. Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord. May they rest in peace.

### THE SICK OF THE PARISH

Your prayers are asked for the sick and lonely of the parish, those in hospital and the housebound, especially:

Tom Ruddy	Rosemary Doherty
Eileen Connolly	Annie Neville
Veronica Griffin	Maureen Noone
Breda Somers	Maureen Bird
Noreen Hegarty	Rita Keogh
Bridie Guilfoyle	Hazel Hancock
Theresa Smith	

May God grant them healing, comfort and ease of pain. We remember also all those who are suffering with Covid-19.

### ASSISTANCE

If any of our parishioners are in need of help with shopping, please let us know by calling the parish phone number: **07706400871**. We have a few volunteers who are more than happy to assist you.

### THE DIVINE MERCY

On the night of Sunday, 22nd February 1931, shortly before the outbreak of World War II, a simple, young, uneducated Polish nun, Sr Faustina, received a special calling. Her diary entry for this date reads:

*'In the evening, when I was in my cell, I saw the Lord Jesus clothed in a white garment. One hand was raised in the gesture of blessing, the other was touching the garment at the breast. From beneath the garment, there were emanating two large rays, one red, the other pale. In silence I kept my gaze fixed on the Lord; my soul was struck with awe, but also with great joy. After a while, Jesus said to me: 'Paint an image according to the pattern you see, with the signature: Jesus, I trust in you.'* (Diary, 47)

Jesus would continue to appear and speak to Sr Faustina and for four years she recorded His words, her visions, and her own thoughts and prayers in her personal diary. Among all the elements of the devotion to The Divine Mercy requested by Jesus through Sr Faustina, the Feast of The Divine Mercy holds first place. Pope John Paul II, a native of Poland, had great affinity towards this devotion and, by virtue of a decree issued on 5th May 2000, authorised it in the Liturgical Calendar of the Catholic Church. The Liturgical Feast of The Divine Mercy is celebrated on the 2nd Sunday of Easter.

## READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY

**1st Reading** Acts 2:42-47

**2nd Reading** 1 Peter 1:3-9

**Gospel John** 20:19-31

## REFLECTION ON SUNDAY'S GOSPEL FROM FR GEORGE

Easter is the fulfilment of Jesus' ministry, the completion of God's promise to us, his creation. In Christ's rising a new meaning to our lives began. We are reminded each year of this pivotal moment in the history of our salvation and celebrate with renewed eagerness our call, as Christians, to follow in the footsteps of the master.

This year we find ourselves united with Jesus' disciples in the upper room with that same sense of unease that they were feeling. It is comforting to know that while isolated from their normal life the disciples are anxious over what is to happen next. So when Thomas returns to the room and hears of Jesus's visit he is naturally reluctant to believe. They are living in strange times and things are hard to understand. When Jesus returns, his reaction to Thomas is not to be angry or frustrated at his disbelief, but instead to invite Thomas to share this revelation with him.

So like Thomas we find in our isolation that same invite from Jesus. To allay our disquiet in our strange times and to begin, in our Eastertide, to grow into a new understanding that will form our lives in how we embrace the hope of the resurrection. In Eastertide we make that journey from uncertainty to courage given in the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

Like Thomas we are encouraged to accept God's mercy this weekend and come like Thomas to accept his profession of faith,

"My Lord and my God."

## MASS INTENTIONS & DEVOTIONAL CANDLES

If you would like to submit any Mass Intentions and devotional candles, please do so by calling the parish phone number.

## PRAYER 2020

Next Monday is **20<sup>th</sup>** of the month. Let's pray at **20:20** for **20 minutes** for the needs of our work.

## PARISH PRAYER

Father, pour out your Holy Spirit on each member of our parish.

Warm our hearts with your love, so that we can follow you more closely.

Enlighten our minds so that we can understand the truth of your word.

Protect and strengthen all marriages and family life.

Make our homes places of prayer, peace, harmony and welcome.

Inspire us to work together with enthusiasm and build our parish into a loving and caring community.

We make our prayer through Christ Our Lord.

Amen.

## DONATIONS TO THE CHURCH

Several people have phoned to ask how they can give their weekly donation to the parish during this time of not being able to attend Mass. I know that it is a difficult time financially for many and do not want to put any added burden on anybody but the church does still have bills coming in so if you would like to give I suggest you email the parish on [stpatricks.covty@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:stpatricks.covty@rcaob.org.uk) and ask for the bank details. You can then give by direct transfer. Alternatively, you can put your collection money aside each week and give it when you return. As I said, I do not want to anybody to feel pressured by this so only if you are able.

## WHAT IS EASTERTIDE?

We are all very aware of the Season of Lent and, of course, the great celebration of Our Lord's Resurrection on Easter Sunday. What we often tend to forget is that Easter is celebrated for seven weeks right up to the feast of Pentecost.

During this time Jesus continued to appear to his disciples and to show them the reality of his resurrection in his glorified body. This was not a matter of resuscitation from the dead, where he would have to die once more, but Resurrection to eternal life. Here is our hope for ourselves and our loved ones in life and death.

The disciples, despite witnessing Jesus' appearances, were afraid and hidden from the authorities in case they too suffered the fate Jesus had endured. The Holy Spirit, at Pentecost, changed their fear into courage and gave them the desire to go out and tell others of what they had seen and heard .... That Jesus, the Son of God, lived among us, he suffered, died and rose again to give us a new life. The life we live we live in faith is of a different order because of this feast.

May this Eastertide continue to bring us support in our isolation and hope that we will come through it soon.

**Pope Francis says:** "We proclaim the resurrection of Christ when his light illuminates the dark moments of our experience, and we are able to share it with others."