



St Patrick's Catholic Church

Fr George Bennett PP
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SOLEMNITY OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL – 28th JUNE 2020 Year A

Saturday	27 Jun	10.30am	Ray Todd (RIP)
Sunday(Solemnity of SS Peter & Paul)	28 Jun	10.30am	People of the Parish
Monday	29 Jun	10.30am	Breda Somers (RIP)
Tuesday	30 Jun	10.30am	Alan Rushton (RIP)
Wednesday	01 Jul	10.30am	Mgr Louis McRaye
Thursday	02 Jul	10.30am	Fr John Ellis
Friday	03 Jul	10.30am	Fr John Dewis
Saturday	04 Jul	10.30am	Ray Todd (RIP)
Sunday	05 Jul	10.30am	People of the Parish
Devotional Candles:			
Sacred Heart:		Our Lady:	
Divine Mercy:		St Joseph: Special Intention (BK)	
St Anthony:			

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 **Breda Somers**, who died during the week and all 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
Maureen Bird	Theresa Smith
Noreen Hegarty	Rita Keogh
Bridie Guilfoyle	Hazel Hancock

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

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.

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 FOOD BANK

Several people have enquired about giving food to the poor or homeless. If you would like to donate, please feel free to drop food at the presbytery or the sisters' house (2, Stoneywood Road, off Woodway Lane). Ring the door bell and leave the food on the step and we will bring it in when you have gone. Sr Frances will take donations out every Monday.

We have received a thank you card from the Baptist Church Food Bank where we take our donations. They are very grateful for our support and their card will be on the notice board when the church re-opens.

READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY

1st Reading: Acts 12:1-11

2nd Reading: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18

Gospel: Matthew 16:13-19

REFLECTION ON SUNDAY'S GOSPEL FROM FR GEORGE

The great gift SS Peter and Paul offer us is their vast differences in ability and temperament. Had they been drawn together in any other way but by the Gospel, it would have been unlikely that they would have found such a unity of purpose. Paul the academic and Peter the fisherman seem an odd combination, yet both are crucial for the task they are to perform. Neither are of greater or lesser importance, but each adding to the way that vision of Christ is given.

As we begin to open the doors of our churches it is to draw us all as individuals to share that single purpose. Each in our own way are called to use our gifts to smooth the way forward. Above all, we need to be patient and measured in our journey as both our saints today had to learn.

As Peter and Paul made their journey into their new post resurrection world, so we as a people are learning to join our resurrection experience. So we celebrate this feast day with both excitement and caution as we follow their example.

Take Breda Somers off the sick list as she died. Under Please remember in your prayers: Those who have died recently, especially Breda Somer.

VOLUNTARY PART TIME ROLE IN THE ARCHDIOCESE:

The Archdiocese is seeking a voluntary part time Trust Secretary to assist the Trustees in good "corporate practices". Details can be found on www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/jobs and on the parish website.

DONATIONS OF CLEANING MATERIALS FOR THE CHURCH

Thanks to everyone who donated cleaning materials to help us during the last two weeks. Everything has been very useful. We are still in need of: **Dettol Spray, Dettol Wipes, Disposable cloths for single use e.g. a role of Jeye Cloths or kitchen towel.**

EXCITING NEWS FOR ALL OUR YOUTH

In case you don't know, our youth group is running on-line during lock down and some very lively discussions are happening every Thursday starting at 6.00pm. It is interactive, funny, and really interesting. If you have not already joined the group, please contact Oscar on oscar@sioncommunity.org.uk.

RE-OPENING OUR CHURCHES FOR MASS

Please take time to read the attached letter from the Bishops' Conference about us celebrating Masses together again. This is a real step forward and a sign of hope to all of us as the pandemic lessens.

We all know, however, that we cannot afford to be slack and that we cannot just return to "normal" again so quickly. For this reason, we need to assess our church and estimate our safe capacity.

To help us facilitate this exercise we are reducing the number of days that we will be open for private prayer next week. Instead of opening every day, we will open

Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9.30 to 10.30 and, if we are not ready to open for Mass next Sunday, we will open for private prayer from 9.30 to 11.30 as before.

One controlling factor in our readiness to open will be the availability of volunteers to help steward before and during Mass and cleaners to clean the church after each Mass. We still cannot accept volunteers over the age of 70 or anybody who is shielding or vulnerable due to health issues, but if you are not in these categories and could help to steward before and during Mass or give 15 minutes after Mass to help clean and sanitize benches, please contact Sr Frances on: spatricks.covty@rcaob.org.uk or Tel: 02476 612193.

We will keep you updated through the week as things become clearer so please check your emails, our Facebook page, or your post, if that is how you receive your newsletter. Please note, however, that the Bishops state very clearly in their letter that **there is no obligation whatsoever to attend Sunday Mass if you feel uncomfortable about doing so.** In particular, we ask our older members and sick members to consider really carefully before coming.

At this time, we would like to thank our own parishioners and the Sion Community who have stewarded the church during this time of private prayer.

Pope Francis says: "It is not creativity, however pastoral it may be, or meeting or planning that ensures our fruitfulness, even if these are greatly helpful. But what ensures our fruitfulness is our being faithful to Jesus, who says insistently: 'Abide in me and I in you' (Jn 15:4)