

University of Warwick Chaplaincy

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

5th July, 2020

Catholic Chaplain: Fr. Harry Curtis

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www.sjtwcoventry.org.uk

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Prayer Before Mass

God our Father, you sent Jesus, our High Priest, to redeem us and you willed that His saving work should continue through the ministry of priests. Enlighten us to celebrate this Sunday Mass with our priest, so that, empowered by the Word of life and the Eucharist, we may be strengthened by the Holy Spirit to live to the full our Christian calling. We ask this through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, 5 th July Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time		10.00 am Anna Dalli
Monday, 6 th July <i>Op. Mem. of St. Maria Goretti, Virgin, Martyr</i>		Ann Doherty
Tuesday, 7 th July		Bridget O'Connell (Birthday)
Wednesday, 8 th July		Thomas Griffin (Anniversary)
Thursday, 9 th July <i>Op. Mem. of St. Augustine Zhao Rong, & Companions, Martyrs</i>	10.00 am	Betty Neary (Birthday)
Friday, 10 th July		Karen Lanigan
Saturday, 11 th July <i>Feast of St. Benedict, Abbot, Patron of Europe Day of Prayer for Europe</i>		The People of the Parish
Sunday, 12 th July Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.00 am	In Thanksgiving (JC)

Livestreaming of Sunday Mass from St. Joseph's on Youtube each week at 10.00. This will happen today, and it will continue after we re-open for public Mass. If I can master the technology (very doubtful) I may be able to upload the film of the 9.00 Mass so that you can watch it at 10.00. Go to our website (www.sjtwcoventry.org.uk) and click on "Sunday Mass". While you watch a live stream of Mass say this **Act of Spiritual Communion**:

"My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You."

Prayer. I know that when you are on your own, away from a faith community, it can be challenging to keep faithful to a pattern of prayer. If you want to chat or a bit of advice and encouragement, please contact me and I shall be delighted to hear from you.

Mary's Meals. If you remember, a few weeks before the lockdown started we had a visitor from Mary's Meals who told us about what they are doing and how you could help. Several people said that they wanted to get involved, but then came Covid-19 and everything stopped. Now the people who run Mary's Meals are creating a series of short films with updates on how they are feeding hungry children through this pandemic and personal reflections on how faith is bringing hope and comfort. The latest message is at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ek0x5FbAypk>. I recommend watching it if you would still like to be involved.

For most of you the "term" is now over and the holidays have begun. I hope you have a great time and I look forward to seeing you next autumn. If you are staying here over the summer I should love to hear from you. Please send me a message and let me know what you are doing and where you are living.

Re-opening St. Joseph's for the celebration of Mass

I have written a long letter to accompany this newsletter. Basically, the news is that St. Joseph's will open for public Mass next Sunday at 9.00 am. We are short of volunteers to help as stewards and cleaners at the 5.00 Mass, and therefore we cannot have Mass next Sunday evening. But I look forward to welcoming you next Sunday morning.

Let me repeat a few points I made last week:

- If you would be able and willing to help either as a steward or a cleaner at either the 9.00 or (especially) the 5.00 Mass, please contact the Parish Office THIS WEEK, identifying which job and which Mass you would be available for.
- When we do open we shall have restricted numbers of people in the church. To make sure that there will be a place for you, **you have to "book" your place**. Please let me know by telephone, email, letter, note through the letterbox, carrier pigeon, etc., which Mass you would like to attend. We can only accommodate 30 people, with social distancing, and if more than that number turn up, some people will not be able to come into Mass.
- The Bishops have said that the Sunday obligation to attend Mass is still suspended. You don't *have* to come to Mass on Sunday. This is especially the case if you are shielding or vulnerable in any way. I shall continue to stream the Mass and give as much support as I can so you can join in at home.

There is much, much more information on the attached letter, so please take time to read it.

On Thursday of this week we shall have a public Mass at 10.00 am. It will be followed by the opportunity for private prayer until 2.00 pm. You don't need to book for this Mass, but we shall only be able to take 30 people. It will be first come, first served.

As for the Chaplaincy at Warwick University, I don't think I shall be able to start celebrating Mass there before the new term starts at the end of September (if then). Firstly, the Chaplaincy building is under different authority and I have no authority to say when it will open, and in the second place we couldn't ensure a reliable system of stewards and cleaners over the summer.

Sea Sunday. Next Sunday is Sea Sunday, when the Church prays for all those who live and work at sea. For more about the work of the Apostleship of the Sea, visit www.apostleshipofthesea.org.uk.

Prayer in time of pestilence:

Almighty and eternal God, our refuge in every danger, to whom we turn in our distress; in faith we pray: look with compassion on the afflicted, grant eternal rest to the dead, comfort to mourners, healing to the sick, peace to the dying, strength to healthcare workers, wisdom to our leaders and the courage to reach out to all in love, so that together we may give glory to your holy name. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

A Youth Alpha Course, supported by the mission team at Alton Castle. We all have questions about life and faith, perhaps now more than ever. The Kenelm Youth Trust (the Diocesan office for young people, based at Alton Castle) are offering several ways to get involved with a youth Alpha online.

Act of Contrition. *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 should 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.*

Diocesan Trust Secretary. 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.

Adventure Holidays at Alton Castle: Fun for all the Family. This summer, why not experience a staycation like no other? At Alton Castle, they offer action-packed, outdoor family holidays, staying in a beautiful 19th Century castle, Mondays to Fridays. All stays are COVID-19 secure, so that you can relax and enjoy your holiday in your social bubble. For info ask erin.doughty@kenelmyouthtrust.org.uk

Tailpiece: As the parishioners were leaving the church one Sunday, a thoughtful person greeted the priest. "Father, today your sermon reminded me of the peace and the love of God!" The priest was thrilled. "No-one has ever said anything like that before. Please tell me why." "Well," the parishioner explained, "it reminded me of the Peace of God because it passed all understanding, and the Love of God because it endured forever!"

May God bless you and all those whom you love, and keep you safe. Fr. Harry.