

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Weekday Morning Prayer - 9.45am

Sunday 22nd March

6.00pm (*Vigil of Sunday*)
9.00am
10.30am
12 noon
4.00pm
5.30pm

Fourth 'Lætare' Sunday of Lent

All Parishioners
Victoria Di Michele RIP
The Intentions of Kathy Emerson
Mass in Italian
Stations of the Cross
Alan Thompson RIP

Monday 23rd March

10.00am
10.30am-1.00pm

Monday of the Fourth Week in Lent

Holy Souls
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Tuesday 24th March

7.00am
10.00am
10.30am-1.00pm

Tuesday of the Fourth Week in Lent

Tom Murray RIP
Patrick Craig Waller RIP
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday 25th March

10.00am

11.00am-1.00pm

The Annunciation of the Lord

Private Intention
Stations of the Cross
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursday 26th March

10.00am
10.30am-1.00pm

Thursday of the Fourth Week in Lent

John Flood RIP
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Friday 27th March

10.00am
10.30am-1.00pm
7.00pm

Friday of the Fourth Week in Lent

Geoffrey Ambrose RIP
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Stations of the Cross

Saturday 28th March

10.00am
6.00pm (*Vigil of Sunday*)
7.45pm

Saturday of the Fourth Week in Lent

Linda Lupton RIP
Sisinio Montenegro RIP
Mass in Portuguese

Sunday 29th March

9.00am
10.30am
12 noon
4.00pm
5.30pm

Fifth Sunday of Lent

All Parishioners
Norah Maria Donald RIP and Derek Bradbury RIP
Mass in Italian
Stations of the Cross
Sean Flaherty RIP

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

By appointment only.

Readings: Cycle A for Sundays & Solemnities Year 2 for Weekdays

DIARY FOR THIS WEEK

Cancelled Alpha

Saturday 21st March

Sunday 22nd March

Monday 23rd March

Tuesday 24th March

Wednesday 25th March

Thursday 26th March

Friday 27th March

Saturday 28th March

Sunday 29th March

Cancelled Baptism Preparation Meeting

Cancelled Icon Painting Group

Cancelled Toddler Group, Needles and Craft Club, RCIA

Cancelled Lent Lunch

Cancelled First Holy Communion Meetings

**Please note that all services will be Live Streamed at
st-dunstans.org/streaming/**

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ST DUNSTAN'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

St Dunstan's Catholic Church,
Shaftesbury Road, Woking, Surrey, GU22 7DT.
Father Peter Andrews, Parish Priest
Father Simon Hall

Deacon Russell Young

Website: www.st-dunstans.org Diocese: www.dabnet.org

Live Streaming at: www.st-dunstans.org/streaming

Tel: 01483 760652 E-mail: woking@abdiocese.org.uk

Twitter: St Dunstan's Catholic Church @stdunstanchurch

Facebook: St Dunstan's Parish @stdunstansparish

Instagram: stdunstansparish

22nd March 2020

Fourth 'Lætare' Sunday of Lent

Please note that all services listed on the back page of this newsletter will be Live Streamed

Coronavirus—COVID-19

The Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales has issued Liturgical Advice in the light of the pandemic. This can be accessed at www.dayforlife.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Liturgical-Advice-to-Bishops-COVID19-180320.pdf. A further letter signed by Cardinal Nichols can be found at www.cbcew.org.uk/43836-2/.

In summary, the following arrangements will apply from Saturday 21st until further notice.

- MASS will continue to be celebrated at all the normal published times but there will be no congregation. The Masses will be live streamed so that anyone can attend virtually. The faithful can join in spiritual communion with the priest – see the prayer below. Although the church will be locked during these celebrations and during Stations of the Cross, *it will otherwise remain open for individual private prayer*. In visiting our churches at this time we will observe with great care the practices of hygiene and the guidance on social distancing.
- ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT will take place after morning Mass every weekday until 1.00pm. On Wednesdays Adoration will start after Stations of the Cross. *Please note that this replaces the usual times for Adoration on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.*
- BAPTISM will be deferred until congregations can gather safely. In case of necessity, baptism will be celebrated with all necessary hygiene precautions.
- RECONCILIATION may be offered on request, observing hygiene and social distancing requirements.
- FIRST RECONCILIATION AND FIRST COMMUNION will be postponed and a separate notice has been given to those involved.
- CONFIRMATION preparation will be postponed until gathering is safe again.
- WEDDINGS will be postponed but where that is not possible, special arrangements will be made.
- ANOINTING OF THE SICK No pastoral visits will be made to those who are self-isolating until the isolation period ends. They will receive telephone support (please make sure that the priest is aware of the self-isolation).
- HOLY WEEK SERVICES Further guidance will be issued at a later date.
- FUNERAL SERVICES will take place either at the graveside or at a crematorium.
- MASS INTENTIONS will continue to be celebrated at the Masses celebrated by the priest.
- SCHOOL SIGNING IN has been suspended until further notice

Act of Spiritual Communion

In the current circumstances, and for as long as they last, the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days is removed (CCCC 2181). Knowing that the Mass is being celebrated; joining in spiritually in that celebration; watching the live-streaming of the Mass; following its prayers at home; making an act of spiritual communion: this is how we share in the Sacrifice of Christ in these days. These are the ways in which we will sanctify Sunday, and indeed every day.

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.

Amen.

St Alphonsus Maria de'Liguori

Parish Finances

Although congregations will not be gathering, parish expenses will continue. Given that parishioners are sadly unable to attend Mass currently, those of you who donate by way of the offertory basket collection or by Gift Aid envelopes, will be unable to do so. In order to keep parish finances in good health, we are offering parishioners a number of options to continue regular giving:

You will see in the Narthex that there are 3 "in-the-wall" cash boxes, one of which is situated on your right as you come through the main door and one the right of the entrance to the church & baptistry. These can be used to make cash, cheque or Gift Aid envelope donations when the church is open. When the church is closed, you may donate using the letterbox located on the wall to the left of the outside doors.

There will also shortly be a donate facility on the St Dunstan's website at www.st-dunstans.org where you can make one-off, occasional or regular donations. These can also be done direct to your bank, with the parish bank details being: St Dunstons Woking, Sort Code 40-05-20, Account Number 41077325.

You may also like to consider joining the parish Gift Aid scheme, which enables the parish to receive an additional 25% in tax for all the monies donated by taxpayers. You can either set up a Standing Order to donate a regular sum or by using the Gift Aid envelopes to donate any sum at any time. If you would like more details as to how to join the Gift Aid scheme, please see the link on the parish website, as above, where downloadable forms will shortly be available or take the paper forms from the table located under the screen in the Narthex. Either way, please then complete, sign and return these forms in a sealed envelope. Please contact our Gift Aid organiser Ian White on 01932 340747 or at ianwh236@gmail.com for more information. Thank you.

Resources

Daily Mass from Bishop Robert Barron's chapel wordonfire.org/daily-mass

Magnificat (temporarily free) at magnificat.com/free

Spiritual resources from The Catholic Herald catholicherald.co.uk/video-masses-prayer-apps-and-virtual-retreats-spiritual-resources-for-this-time/

All church papers including A&B News www.ChurchPaper.co.uk

A litany to pray at a time of health crisis www.praytellig.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/A-Litany-to-Pray-Frequently-in-Time-of-Health-Crisis-B.pdf

There are many useful and inspirational websites being developed to help people with prayer and spiritual reading. Please do take advantage of these, but we regret we don't have space to list them all.

A message from the Presidents of Churches Together in England

National Call to Prayer

This Mothering Sunday, 22nd March, we are calling all churches to a National Day of Prayer and Action. At such a time as this, when so many are fearful and there is great uncertainty, we are reminded of our dependence on our loving Heavenly Father and the future that he holds.

At 7pm this Sunday, light a candle in the windows of your homes as a visible symbol of the light of life, Jesus Christ, our source and hope in prayer.

Whether you are continuing to worship as congregations or not, we have the great privilege and freedom to be able to call upon God, wherever we are, individually and corporately, for healing in our nation. We would pray for all in leadership at this time, making decisions about the containment of the COVID-19 virus, for those working in health and social care, and especially for the most vulnerable, whether elderly or those with underlying health conditions.

The Rededication of England as Mary's Dowry

How will the restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 virus affect the Rededication of England as Mary's Dowry on March 29th? Will it be 'called off'? The simple answer is no. The Rededication was never about an event but about a personal dedication, each of us taking up the call to be part of the living tradition of England as 'Mary's Dowry' and taking up our own *fiat*. This Rededication was always intended to be deeply personal for each of us. The Rededication will be able to continue in the same spirit in which it was always intended. The planned gatherings at cathedrals, churches and institutions throughout the country have been cancelled. Individuals can however go to the website www.behold2020.com and unite themselves to The Rededication, hosting not only as a parish or a cathedral but also as a home. It will be possible to download the prayers, uniting us all together wherever we are. We feel this is important and we want to ensure that whatever happens, it will still be possible for everyone to take part in this historic moment in the life of the English Church.

This is a profoundly unexpected context for the Rededication to take place. No longer is it a unifying moment in the heat of the divisiveness of Brexit, but a spiritual turning to Mary the Mother of God, and our Mother, at a time of crisis. In Rome, Pope Francis has sought the protection of Mary, uniting the Church in prayer to her 'O Mary, you shine continuously along our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who at the Cross were near to the pain of Jesus, keeping your faith firm.' Please pray that all of the preparation that has been done bears great spiritual fruit. Please pray for any who are suffering from the COVID-19 virus.

A Note from the Confirmation Team As our much anticipated Away Day could not take place last Saturday, all non-perishable items purchased by the parish for lunch were donated to Woking Foodbank.

OFFERS OF HELP—COVID-19

We have received a number of offers of help from individuals and groups within the Parish and also a lot of information from local groups and organisations who are assisting with deliveries to the homes of those who are struggling with daily life. If we have specific requests we will try to facilitate help from among those who have offered, but we don't have the resources here to be an organiser of such activities. We are liaising with other organisations as much as possible. Is there anyone willing to organise a WhatsApp group for those who have volunteered, so that they can be contacted easily when needs arise? We do intend to keep in contact, by phone, via the SVP and other volunteers with anyone who is known not to have support at this time, family or otherwise. Please inform us if you know of such individuals. Please all take care of yourselves and look out for those living close to you.

The following meetings and events have been postponed or cancelled

School signing-in, First Holy Communion preparation meetings, Confirmation preparation meetings, RCIA meetings, Alpha, All Youth Alive Activities, Needles and Craft Club, Icon Painting Group, Toddler Group.

CTIW Good Friday Act of Witness, Rise! Take up your mat and walk (the prayer and discussion session at St Mary's Church on Monday 23rd March), Epworth Choir Concert (Saturday 21st March).

ACT OF WITNESS

It is with much regret that the Act of Witness due to take place in Woking on Good Friday morning has been cancelled due to the current Coronavirus situation. Please pray that those who may have been encouraged to turn to faith by our witness may encounter the Lord through other ways at this time.

A Note from Youth Alive

We are going to play our part minimising the spread of Coronavirus by suspending all Youth Alive activities until further notice. For all young parishioners: keep up with the school work you have been set, call or Facetime older relatives if you can't meet them in person, offer your parents help around the house. These are testing times for all of us, but whatever we do, let us root it in prayer! Now is a good time to sit with the Lord and trust in his healing mercy.

"Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you." (1 Peter 5:7)

Food Bank

In the light of the current government guidance, the foodbank will be drastically changing how it operates from Monday. We will no longer serve visitors at any of our distribution centres, but will be working hard to put in place a delivery service, using pre-prepared emergency food parcels.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK especially for those whose names are on our prayer board.

Readings for the 4th Sunday of Lent

1 Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13

Samuel, also known as Kings, is a narrative about the so-called great and the good in Israel. Much of it concerns political corruption, treachery and murder – generally carried out by proxies. Sadly, at present we are not unfamiliar with murders and serious crime carried out by proxies on the streets of our capital city.

Psalm 22 The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want.

Ephesians 5:8-14

Here St Paul is urging the Ephesians to live virtuous lives – lives of goodness, justice and truth. Further on in the chapter he exhorts husbands and wives to love each other. However, he also suggests in the same context that the wife should fear her husband. An attempt can be made to explain this comment as intelligible in the cultural environment in which it was written. Today such a view is rightly regarded as unacceptable as – unless fear is interpreted to mean love and respect – indeed it always was and is.

John 9:1-41

Here we find two attitudes, that of cooperation and that of rejection. The blind man allowed Christ to touch his eyes with the clay and spittle. He also followed Christ's instruction to wash in the pool of Siloe. From the Pharisees there was nothing but rejection. They refused to believe the blind man's account of the incident. Nor would they accept the version given them by the blind man's parents. One is reminded of the truism: 'There are none so blind as those who are determined not to see'. All of us are given the opportunity to accept or reject the gift of faith, grace, God's friendship.

Readings Next Weekend: Ezekiel 37:12-14, Psalm 129, Romans 8:8-11, John 11:1-45

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Justice and Peace

A new coordinator is needed for the St Dunstan's Justice and Peace Group. If you are interested please contact Kate Levy (Kate.a.levy@gmail.com).

For those visiting the church, please feel free to take a copy of the A&B News and a parish newsletter.

Thank you for last Sunday's Offertory collection of £4,409.65 (the cash offertory plus the average of the standing orders).

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF:

Josephine O'Donnell RIP
(mother of Margaret),
Abbe Augustin Kalmogo RIP and
Archbishop Emeritus Peter Smith RIP
*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.
May they rest in peace.*