

ST DUNSTAN'S CHURCH WOKING NEWSLETTER

Father Peter Andrews, Parish Priest
Father Simon Hall
Deacon Russell Young

April 25th 2021
Fourth Sunday of Easter, Year B



DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Sunday April 25th is 'Good Shepherd' Sunday and we are asked to pray for Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life. The purpose of the World Day of Prayer for Vocations is to fulfil the Lord's instruction to, "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest" (Mt 9:38; Lk 10:2). It affirms the primacy of faith and grace in all that concerns vocations to the priesthood and to the consecrated life. While appreciating all vocations, the Church concentrates its attention this day on vocations to the ordained ministries (priesthood and diaconate), consecrated life in all its forms (male and female religious life, societies of apostolic life, consecrated virginity), secular institutes in their diversity of services and membership, and to the missionary life.



NUMBERS ATTENDING MASS AND BOOKINGS

Over the last few weekends the numbers coming to the Sunday morning Masses have gone up to the point where, at times, it has been difficult to ensure that the social distancing guidelines required by the Government are being followed. We have stewards at all Masses and they are doing a wonderful job in helping to keep everyone safe during these challenging times.

This weekend: If you are planning to come to Mass at either 9.00 or 10.30 am this Sunday – 25th April – please consider whether you could come to the Saturday or Sunday evening Masses instead. There is currently spare capacity at both of these Masses. ***From next weekend,*** Sunday 2nd May, and every weekend until further notice, if you wish to attend either the 9.00 or 10.30 am Mass then you must book in advance. This can be done by clicking on www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/sunday-morning-masses-tickets-152064491989. Bookings for each Sunday will open at about 7.00 pm on the previous Sunday evening and close at 4.00 pm on the Friday so that the lists can be printed for the Sunday.

If you know of someone who would like to come to the Sunday morning Masses but cannot book online then please offer to book a place for them. If you do book and then cannot come, please cancel your ticket so that you do not prevent someone else from attending. You can do this by going to your email confirmation and click on "view and manage your order online" and then click on "cancel order".

We all hope and pray that these measures will be short-lived but until that time when sufficient restrictions have been lifted we must do what is necessary to follow the law and guidelines in place.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE
SOULS OF

Magdalena Dutkiewicz RIP

(wife of Dennis Reid),

Gisela Griffin RIP and

Edmund Ryan RIP (husband of Tina).

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,

May they rest in peace.

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

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Weekday Lectionary Cycle Year 1, Sunday Lectionary Cycle Year B

Saturday 24th April, Saturday of the third week of Eastertide

10.00 am *Caetano and Maria Braganca, 50th Wedding Anniversary, in thanksgiving*
Rosary and Adoration
6.00 pm *Florence Bastiampillai RIP*
7.45 pm Mass in Portuguese

Sunday 25th April, Fourth Sunday of Easter

9.00 am *Terry McDonnell RIP*
10.30 am *All Parishioners*
12 noon Mass in Italian
5.30 pm *HRH the Duke of Edinburgh RIP*

Monday 26th April, Monday of the fourth week of Eastertide

10.00 am *Violet Lines*
Rosary and Adoration until 2.00 pm

Tuesday 27th April, Tuesday of the third week of Eastertide

10.00 am *Holy Souls*
Rosary and Adoration
1.00 pm Requiem Mass for Frank Crawshaw RIP

Wednesday 28th April, Wednesday of the fourth week of Eastertide

10.00 am *Winnie Flaherty RIP*
Rosary and Adoration

Thursday 29th April, St Catherine of Siena, Virgin, Doctor, Feast

10.00 am *Fr Brian Taylor RIP*
Rosary and Adoration

Friday 30th April, Friday of the fourth week of Eastertide

10.00 am *Ela and Jurek Pizskiewicz*
Rosary and Adoration

Saturday 1st May, Saturday of the fourth week of Eastertide

10.00 am *In Thanksgiving, from Cathy Emerson*
Rosary and Adoration
6.00 pm *Marie Edwards RIP*
7.45 pm Mass in Portuguese

Sunday 2nd May, Fifth Sunday of Easter

9.00 am *The Hays family*
10.30 am *For Vocations*
12 noon Mass in Italian
5.30 pm *All Parishioners*

All services will be Live Streamed at st-dunstans.org/streaming

Sacrament of Reconciliation

By appointment only.

Online Prayer Petitions - Click on the 'Submit Online Petition' link on the website. Thank you.

COVID-19 Indulgence: press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/pubblico/2020/03/20/200320c.html

READINGS FOR APRIL 25th 2021
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, YEAR B

Acts 4:8-12

News of the healing of the disabled man has reached the ears of the authorities, and Peter and John have been arrested. Before the “rulers, elders, and scribes ... Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, Johnathan, Alexander and all the members of the high priest families,” Peter makes his profession of faith in Jesus the Nazarene as the Christ, “the one you crucified, whom God raised from the dead... This is the stone rejected by you builders, but which has proved to be the keystone.” This is the name by which “this man is able to stand up perfectly healthy...”

Psalm 117:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28-29

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.

1 John 3:1-2

We are already the children of God – with the emphasis on “already” – but there is still more to come. God will not be out-done in wild and lavish generosity.

John 10:11-18

“I know my own, and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father...”. “Knowing” here means being caught up in one indivisible flow of divine life and love that is relational. We can’t get away from it – Jesus is relationship. To know Jesus is to have entered a loving relationship with him, and with his Father, but it also means simultaneously entering an inseparable loving relationship with all the other people who make up Jesus “own”, our brothers and sisters in the Church.

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Readings for the Fifth Sunday of Easter:

Acts 9:26-31; Psalm 21:26-28, 30-32; 1 John 3:18-24, John 15:1-8.

CHILDREN
Christ’s witnesses

Introduction

Jesus takes care of us just as a good shepherd takes care of his sheep. He knows each one of us and we know him and are glad to follow him wherever he leads.

Reflection

Jesus is our shepherd and we are his sheep. Jesus tells us the story of the Good Shepherd to make us understand that he cares for us as much as the shepherd cares for his sheep. He watches over us at all times, and knows each of us by name. He goes before us to guide us and keep us from all harm. He takes care of all our needs and we can trust in his goodness.

Activity

Draw a cloud shape on a piece of paper, fill in the cloud with cotton wool balls. Now add a ‘C’ shape for the sheep’s face and add four legs with a felt tip pen or a pencil. Repeat for each member of your family. Add the caption: Jesus’ flock. (‘A’ flock’ is the word for a group of sheep).

Closing prayer

Jesus, you are the Good Shepherd
And we are your flock.
Forgive us if we have wandered
Away from your path and
Guide us back to your love.
Amen.



PARISH UPDATE

It is strange, and somewhat salutary, to look back on the last year. Covid-19 has changed so many lives. There has been so much sadness. But, as in all history, God has brought forward many unexpected gifts and used the time to allow growth.

As the nation, families and individuals now start to move, slowly, from the lockdowns which have affected our lives during this time, we, as a Parish, can also start to look to the future. There is no magic button to press to return us to the way things were in early March 2020, nor should there be. We can, and should, start to reflect on some of the blessings we, as a parish, have received this last year.

Parish life now is very different from the way it used to be. Over the next few weeks, we want to reflect firstly on what has been happening during recent months and then to consider how we should move forward. Things will never be exactly the same again. Sometimes it is right to step back and allow change and new life to emerge. We have an opportunity now to think about the various activities that used to take place and, over the next few weeks, we will be inviting you to send us your thoughts about these and whether they should start again, as and when we are able to do so.

But first, what has been happening since last March?

Mass has continued to be celebrated at St Dunstan's every day, whether it be behind closed doors or with an open Church. The Live-Streaming facility which we had already installed proved to have been an inspired move. Thousands have been 'watching' Mass at St Dunstan's from all over the world during this time and through it many parishioners have remained engaged in parish life despite not being able to be here in person. In May 2020 we began daily Adoration and praying of the Rosary after Mass (except on Sundays).

Mass coordinators, stewards, cleaners, musicians, ministers of the word have all, whenever it has been safe to do so, provided much support to enable Mass to be celebrated in a way that is safe for those who are able to come. We thank them all.

At the beginning of this year we purchased an electric 'fogging machine' that sanitises benches, kneelers, floors etc without physical bending and stretching and in a fraction of the time. Phew!

We thank all of you who have prayed continually for one another throughout these difficult times. Without your prayers St Dunstan's parish family would most certainly be much poorer. Those prayer intentions which you have let us know about are written in a folder which remains on the altar and prayed for each day.

The SVP have been giving wonderful service to many people. Simple 'how are you?' phone calls to vulnerable parishioners and practical help where necessary. We cannot thank them enough for their continuous efforts.

Fr Simon and I have tried, whenever restrictions allowed, to visit the sick or housebound, sometimes standing on the doorstep in the rain! We have tried to offer the Sacrament of the Sick to those in need, though sadly neither of us have been allowed to visit the hospitals.

During the easing of lockdown last summer and autumn we were able to celebrate Confirmations, First Holy Communion and adult Baptisms and Receptions into the Church. All in unusual circumstances but nevertheless very special occasions for those involved.

Thanks to 'Zoom' we have been able to form and run a new RCIA course since last September. Though we could not baptise, receive and confirm those in the group at the Easter Vigil as usual we are planning that these events will happen during Eastertide, in late May. Please pray for those coming to the end of their preparation.

We have a large number of young parishioners now getting ready for First Reconciliation and Holy Communion this year. Parents are doing a wonderful job preparing their children at home. Zoom meetings in small groups with Catechists are helping them in this privileged role.

Confirmation has been postponed until November in 2021. We have a group of young people ready and waiting to begin their preparation.

Since lockdown began, we have been able to update our Parish Database to a more modern, efficient cloud-based system and have begun to use 'Flocknote' as a software application by which we send out the Parish Newsletter and communicate more effectively with groups within the parish. 'Word on Fire Engage' is an 'add-on' to Flocknote which we have invested in and through it, several hundred parishioners have been able to take up our offers of adult formation courses during Advent, Lent and currently during Eastertide. Signing up is easy – simply click on the relevant button in the newsletter email when something comes up that you may find interesting and the content will be 'delivered' directly to you, also by email.

If you do not receive the parish newsletter by email every week then it probably means that we do not have your current, correct email address. Please send us an email if this is the case. The more accurate our records are the more effectively we can communicate with you. (Generally, please do keep us updated if you move or change any of your contact details.)

Pepe, our indefatigable Property Manager, has deep cleaned the Church, Narthex, Toilets, Meeting Rooms etc and carried out numerous tasks necessary to maintain the fabric of the building and site.

Very sadly, I realised in the summer/early Autumn, that the role filled so well by Nanda Mee, our Youth Worker, was no longer realistic. With Covid-19 causing all face to face activities to cease I took the painful decision to make Nanda redundant.

I should like to take this opportunity to publicly thank her for the great job she had undertaken with such professionalism, energy and humour. On all your behalves as well, I wish her every success in whatever the future holds for her, and her family.

Fr Peter

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT

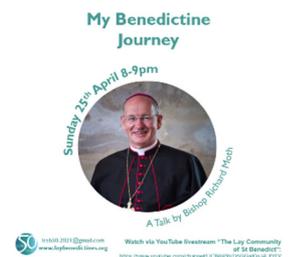
For those who are struggling with bereavement or loss, and feel it would help to have someone to talk to, our Deanery has a team of trained Catholic Bereavement Supporters available to listen and support people. Please contact Fr Peter if you would like to speak to one of the team. To find out more about Bereavement Support please contact the Marriage and Family Life Project Officer: 01293 651155, simon.south@abdiocese.org.uk.

ST DUNSTAN'S SVP

If you are lonely or have other concerns and need help, we can be contacted by leaving a message on our mobile 07947 714139.

A TALK BY BISHOP RICHARD MOTH "My Benedictine Journey"

This Sunday, 25th April, at 8pm Bishop Richard will be giving a talk about his Benedictine journey. Since Bishop Richard was a seminarian, he has been an oblate of Pluscarden Abbey. You are welcome to join the livestream on Youtube at www.youtube.com/channel/UCfRiPXjiTi5GGaI6gJ4UfyQ/.



THE CATENIAN ASSOCIATION

The Catenians is an association of Catholic men who are committed to Faith, Family and Friendship. We support the Catholic Church, young people and those in need. The Woking and District Circle is a vibrant and active part of our parish and aims to provide support to our priests, our parish, our schools and those in need. We would like to extend an invitation to all men in our parish to get in touch and find out more about our Circle which provides opportunities to make new friends, develop social bonds and support those less fortunate than ourselves. Please let us know should you like to know more by contacting Leon Caszo our Membership Secretary at ljaszo@hotmail.com or on 01483 770587.

APPEAL FOR HELP WITH DELIVERIES

ROC Woking are seeking volunteers to deliver envelopes to selected roads in the next week to 10 days in the Lakeview estate area (Goldsworth Park/Horsell fringe). Please email rocwoking@gmail.com or call Mark on 07981 374117 if you can help.

CAFOD – CLIMATE CHANGE PETITION

This year, the UK will host the largest gathering of world leaders ever to take place on British soil: the 'COP26' climate talks in Glasgow in November. As Prime Minister, Boris Johnson must push world leaders to show the ambition we need to keep temperature rises below the disastrous 1.5-degree threshold. This means that all countries must play their part. With the eyes of the world on the UK, we must urge the Prime Minister to make sure communities hardest hit by the climate emergency are listened to at COP26. Please sign our petition at cafod.org.uk/reclaim.

For those without internet access, petition cards can be ordered from the CAFOD Shop: 0300 011 5680. Thank you.

WORTH ABBEY - THE OPEN CLOISTER

Upcoming online retreats

Saturday 8th May: Wisdom of the Desert Fathers and Desert Mothers: the thoughts. Led by Fr Peter Williams OSB

Saturday 15th May: C S Lewis: a Prophet for our Time. Led by Robert Elliot

Saturday 29th May: The Post-Covid World: Pope Francis' vision 'Let us Dream'. Led by Austin Ivereigh

Saturday 5th June: The Wisdom of St Benedict. Led by Fr Martin McGee OSB

Fri 18th-Sun 20th June: The Motif of Feast in the Bible. Led by Viv Randall and Michael Woodward (both Lay Community of St Benedict)

Further information and to book your place online: worth.co.uk/retreats/online-retreats. For enquiries, please email: toc@worth.org.uk.

RETRouvaille

Covid 19—a very challenging time for many marriages

So much uncertainty around, health, income, employment, vulnerable family members, children, housing. Different ways of seeing things, coping with change, managing fears can be a source of conflict and stress. It can be difficult to talk, to listen to support and comfort when there is so much uncertainty. Being together all the time, brings different challenges. You wonder would we be better apart? Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples, it brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriageand you don't need to leave home, it comes to you! For confidential information about Retrouvaille', or to register for the next programme, a Virtual weekend commencing on 1st -4th July 2021 Call or text +44788 729 6983 or +44 797 338 0443. Email: retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com – or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk.

St Dunstan's Catholic Church, Shaftesbury Road, Woking, Surrey, GU22 7DT, 01483 760652.

Website www.st-dunstans.org

Diocesan website abdiocese.org

Email woking@abdiocese.org.uk

Twitter [@stdunstanchurch](https://twitter.com/stdunstanchurch)

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