

ST DUNSTAN'S CHURCH WOKING NEWSLETTER

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

April 4th 2021

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection



EASTER GREETINGS FROM FR PETER, FR SIMON AND DEACON RUSSELL TO ALL PARISHIONERS AND VISITORS

‘May the risen Christ fill our hearts and
our homes with new life and inspiration.’

Happy Easter

MONDAY ADORATION

There will be no extended Adoration after morning Mass and rosary on Monday April 5th as it is a Bank Holiday. Extended Adoration will resume next week, on Monday April 12th, starting after morning Mass, and continuing until 2 pm.

DISPENSATION FROM EASTER DUTIES

Many of the faithful will be aware of their Easter Duties: that is to receive Holy Communion during the Easter Season and, by custom, to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation beforehand. As it is not possible for the faithful to receive Holy Communion at this time, and into the future, the Bishops of England and Wales have dispensed the Easter Duties for the year 2021. The Bishops have asked that all should make a Perfect Act of Contrition at this time. Perfect contrition (or a Contrition of Charity) is true and real sorrow for our sins which is created when we realise the immense love of God for each one of us. We express this contrition when we realise how we offend God by our sinful words, deeds and omissions in contrast to the immeasurable love and mercy that he continually shows us.

This requires us to be contrite of heart for what we have done, know and be overwhelmed by the love and mercy of God for his children, and to approach this grace with humility and resolution not to sin again.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE
SOULS OF

Brendan Drohan RIP

(brother-in-law of Joan Ahern),

Armelle Ouedraogo RIP,

Joan Reid RIP (Aunt of Eugene McCloskey)

and **Fr Brian Taylor RIP**

(priest of our diocese)

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,

May they rest in peace.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK
especially for **those for whom we have
received prayer requests.**

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Saturday 3rd April, Holy Saturday

10.00 am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer
8.00 pm Easter Vigil

Sunday 4th April, Easter Sunday

7.45 am *All Parishioners*
9.00 am *All Parishioners*
10.30 am *All Parishioners*
12 noon Mass in Italian
No 5.30 pm Mass

Monday 5th April, Easter Monday

10.00 am *Tim Francis RIP and family*
Rosary and Adoration

Tuesday 6th April, Easter Tuesday

10.00 am *Molly and Maurice Andrews RIP*
Rosary and Adoration

Wednesday 7th April, Easter Wednesday

10.00 am *The intentions of Georgie Smith*
Rosary and Adoration

Thursday 8th April, Easter Thursday

10.00 am *Departed relatives and friends of Fr Peter*
Rosary and Adoration

Friday 9th April, Easter Friday

10.00 am *Rev Joseph Livesay*
Rosary and Adoration

Saturday 10th April, Easter Saturday

10.00 am *Private Intentions of Amanda Vassell*
Rosary and Adoration
6.00 pm *Paul Dolan RIP*
7.45 pm Mass in Portuguese

Sunday 11th April, Second, 'Low' Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)

9.00 am *Richard Greaney RIP*
10.30 am *Adam Dlugi RIP*
12 noon Mass in Italian
5.30 pm *All Parishioners*

Sacrament of Reconciliation

By appointment only.

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

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 4th 2021 EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION

Acts 10:34, 37-43 Peter crosses the threshold of Cornelius' house – a highly symbolic step – and in doing so the early Church crosses a threshold and the distinction between Jew (Peter) and Gentile (Cornelius) crumbles. In this daring step Peter is guided by a vision. Interestingly, although guided by his vision Peter must still use all his rational powers to interpret his vision. Significantly, the experience of others will confirm Peter's interpretation. This is surely instructive – interpretation is best done in the body, i.e., with and within the Church. Cornelius' household is full of expectation and as Peter sees the gathered family and friends he proclaims his faith in Jesus the Christ – “you must have heard about the recent happenings in Judea...”

Psalms 117:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 This day was made by the Lord: we rejoice and are glad.

Colossians 3:1-4 The author stresses the pre-eminence of Christ, encouraging believers to remain focused on Christ and on spiritual things. Although not part of today's readings, I'm afraid I can't pass this up! Of huge relevance is the author's questioning of those Christians who “like grovelling to Angels and worshipping them” (2:18). The author all but asks a question that is hugely relevant today: Why settle for angels when you have Christ? Can I really say that my true life – my primary life-motivation – lies hidden in my relationship with Christ in God?

John 20:1-9 This gospel reading leaves us with an empty tomb and we're left to wonder; did the penny drop? Certainly, the author implies it did – until that very moment (the sight of the empty tomb) we're told “...they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.”

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Readings for the Second Sunday of Easter: Acts 4:32-35; Psalm 117:2-4, 15-18, 22-24; 1 John 5:1-6; John 20:19-31.

CHILDREN

Introduction Today we celebrate the greatest event in human history – Jesus coming to life again, after lying dead in a tomb for 3 days. Jesus took all of our sins on Himself, with the cross, and left them behind in the tomb when He rose. We share in His new, risen, and eternal life through our baptism. This is why we give thanks and praise to Jesus for saving us from sin and death by His cross and resurrection. If you click on the following link, you will see a lovely cartoon version of today's Gospel called “The Empty Tomb”, which is only 5 minutes long. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xe50_LaJgWE

Reflection The last 40 days of Lent have been a time of preparing for today, our great feast of Easter, by being sorry for our sins, helping others, and praying. Now we change the purple sorry colours in church for white – to show joy and being pure. The bare church is also now filled with flowers and the Easter candle burns brightly. Throughout Lent we have not said “Alleluia”, which means “Praise the Lord”, in order to show our sorrow. But now we are grateful to let our Alleluias sound out loud again in worship of Jesus. In fact, Easter is so important to us that St Augustine called us “an Easter people” and we will celebrate Easter in church for 50 days.

Activity See if you can get your family to help you make an Easter garden, like the one pictured here, to remind you of the tomb left empty when Jesus rose to new life. You will need a shallow basin or tray, some soil, a small beaker or pot (for the tomb), a large stone or small rock (rolled to one side of the “tomb”), sticks to glue together (for the cross or crosses) and maybe some moss or grass or cress seeds. You may prefer to draw your own empty tomb picture or else draw the risen Jesus.



Closing prayer

Dear Jesus, We thank you for saving us from sin and death, through your own death and resurrection.
We praise and worship you as our saviour.
May we always share this joy with others. Amen.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES

You will only be able to attend the following services if you have booked:

Good Friday, Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Passion – 3 pm, 5 pm and 7 pm (in Italian)

Holy Saturday, The Easter Vigil - 8 pm

Easter Sunday Masses - 7.45 am, 9 am, 10.30 am, and 12 noon (in Italian) (no 5.30 pm Mass)

If you find that you cannot attend, please cancel your booking so that someone else may take your place.

EASTER COLLECTION FOR OUR CLERGY

Whilst the usual Easter Collection envelopes will be available in the Narthex for those wishing to donate by cash or cheque over the Easter period, you can also donate via contactless machine, using the Easter Collection option please. Should you be unable to attend church in person at this time, please go to the Donate page on the parish website in order to make a one-off donation quoting "Easter Collection" or send a cheque payable to St Dunstan's Woking. Thank you.

GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION FOR CHRISTIANS IN THE HOLY LAND

Each year, the Church takes up a collection on Good Friday to assist Christians in the Holy Land and help protect the Holy Places. In a letter addressed to the Bishops of the world, the Cardinal Prefect of the Congregation for the Eastern Churches calls on all Christians to offer their generous support to this year's initiative. His letter can be found at www.vaticannews.va/en/church/news/2021-03/cardinal-appeals-for-generous-response-to-holy-land-collection.html. If you donate online, please indicate that it is for the Holy Places. Thank you.

HE IS RISEN!

During the Easter Season there is an opportunity to sign-up to receive, weekly, a short film and reflection on a topic related to Easter by "Word on Fire". Topics include: Why is the Cross Important?; When a violent sceptic meets Jesus Christ; 3 words that sum up the purpose of Christianity. Please email the parish office if you would like to receive the emails, which are available in either English or Spanish.

PARISH MAGAZINE

The Easter edition of the Parish Magazine is now available. Paper copies are available from the Narthex or a pdf can be downloaded from the Parish Website.

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.

CHORISTER OPPORTUNITIES AT WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL CHOIR SCHOOL

Boys in year 3 with a love of singing are invited to enquire about trying out for Westminster Cathedral Choir. For more information please contact the Director of Admissions, Miss Lucy Auger, lauger@choirschool.com or visit www.choirschool.com.

INTERFAITH FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

Saturday 22nd May, 11.30am - 5.30pm

Book your team now for the Interfaith Football Tournament on Saturday 22nd May 2021 at Winston Churchill Sports Centre, Winston Churchill School, Hermitage Road, Woking, GU21 8TL.

Six-a-side teams (plus one substitute) will play in group games as they work their way towards the quarters and semis before the final.

Cost: £21 per team (£3 per player), Who: Anyone 16 years and over from Woking, When: 11.30 am - 5.30pm

Booking is essential. To enter a team please contact John West: treasurer@wpof.org.uk.

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

Website www.st-dunstans.org

Diocesan website abdiocese.org

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