



# Our Lady of Grace & St Edward's Chiswick and St Dunstan's Gunnersbury with St Joseph's Grove Park

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For even more regular news on parish life and activities, check the Latest News page on the parish website [www.ourladyofgracechiswick.org](http://www.ourladyofgracechiswick.org) or follow the parish on Twitter @ourladychiswick or Facebook at Our Lady of Grace & St Edward, Chiswick, London W4

14<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2020

## THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST CORPUS CHRISTI

Fr Michael Dunne  
Fr Mike Maguire  
Sharon Bowden  
Mike Guthrie

Parish Priest  
Assistant Priest  
Administrator  
Seminararian

*Fr Mike writes:*

### COME IN PROCESSION

We are very much looking forward to welcoming you back to church from Monday as some of the lockdown restrictions are relaxed, allowing us to re-open for private prayer. This weekend, the Solemnity of *The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ*, would ordinarily have been our memorable parish *Corpus Christi* Procession, led by our First Holy Communion children, whom we keep very much in our prayers. Yet, it's this weekend's Solemnity which now leads us into a new epoch in the life of the Church, as we are hopefully beginning to emerge from this dreadful pandemic, and it is the very One we hunger for – in the Eucharist – who invites us afresh to 'come in procession' from Monday to our parish church and spend time in prayer with Our Lord, His Blessed Mother, the angels and saints. And I want to offer a word of thanks to all those volunteers who have generously stepped forward to help make this happen. **From Monday the church will be open every day between 11.00am to 1.00pm, and an additional period of opening on Saturdays and Sundays between 3.00pm to 5.00pm**, with the last entries at 12.45pm and 4.45pm respectively. As with most processions, there will be a queuing system from the church Main Doors – which will be managed by Stewards – around the corner onto Duke's Avenue, and social distancing markers will be in place. The safe maximum capacity we are allowed in church at any one time is currently 57 people, in order to maintain social distancing. Please sit only in the places marked with a green arrow and follow the Stewards' directions. In order to accommodate as many visitors as possible, we ask that you limit your time in church to a maximum of 20 minutes, especially when there is a queue waiting to enter. Entry will be via the Main Doors and the exit through the St Edward's Room. Please follow the arrows marking out the route through church, and remember the Stewards are there to help you. Those visiting solely to light a candle should go down either of the side aisles and then out via the St Edward's room exit. Finally, there are alcohol gel hand sanitizer stations at the entrance and exit of church, and alongside the candle stands. Please use them as you enter and leave the church and after you light a candle. Dear brothers and sisters, as we spend time again before the Blessed Sacrament may we truly feast on the Divine power, grace, forgiveness, love and charity that flows out from Our Lord's most Sacred Heart.

### CORPUS CHRISTI

Sat 13/6	St Anthony of Padua	•John, Catherin & Eckie O'Sullivan •Nora Hardiman & Family	RIP INT
Sun 14/6	THE MOST HOLY BODY & BLOOD OF CHRIST – CORPUS CHRISTI	•Elizabeth O'Leary  •People of the Parish living and deceased/ and Pat Edwards	ANN  INT/ ANN
Mon 15/6	Feria	•David Dinehart •Isobel Walsgrove	ANN RIP
Tues 16/6	Feria	•Simon O'Connell •Robert Byrne	
Wed 17/6	Feria	•Yvonne Charlton •Tommy Furlang	RIP RIP
Thurs 18/6	Feria	•Ian Connolly •Frontline NHS & Care Home Workers; the sick & their families	ANN  INT
Fri 19/6	THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS	•Andrea & Maria Beschizza  •Rose Braniff	ANN  ANN
Sat 20/6	The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary	•Dr. Ian Sparling  •Fr. Christopher Gawecki	ANN  RIP

### LET US PRAY

**For those who are sick:** Sandra Bocca, Cecil Pocock, Romeo Monthoy, Fr. Noel O'Boylan, Celine Duignan, Andy Cronin, Eulalie Raymond, Jim O'Grady, Greta Gribben, Jim Ryan, Mike O'Farrel, Bridget Hayden, Alaina Embling, Hannah Thomas, Lauren, Anna and Joseph Mullan, Ewa Blonska, Phoebe Rodriguez, John Moylan, Cyril McKeefrey, Wanda Jeziorska, together with all those suffering in the pandemic.

**For those recently deceased:** Elizabeth Davey & June Pearl. RIP

### STEWARDSHIP & CLEANING THE RE-OPENED CHURCH? –

The church is happily open from tomorrow because of the generosity of the volunteer Stewards and Cleaners who are there to ensure insofar as possible that the church is and will remain 'Covid-safe'. This is effected through social distancing measures and much sanitising and disinfecting. Conditional to re-opening is that we have volunteer stewards assisting, for instance, with access in terms of numbers, and with sanitising. Volunteer cleaners are needed as the church is being cleaned regularly through the opening hours with a full cleaning after closing each day. How long our church is open each day will be determined by how many volunteers we have to steward and clean as we cannot open without volunteers present. Volunteers must be in good health, under 70 years of age, and have no underlying health conditions. If you can offer an hour or two every few days or each week, please visit the parish website for information and a sign-up form [www.ourladyofgracechiswick.org](http://www.ourladyofgracechiswick.org) or phone or email the Parish Office. *Thank you!*

**LENT PROJECT TOTAL NEARLY £20,000!** – In what is an amazing testimony of parishioners' generosity in the face of the lockdown and the virus, the Lent Project appeal, which annually runs from Lent to Pentecost, has now been closed and the totals sent away. We had three charities to benefit from Lenten alms: the Cardinal's Lentern Appeal supporting projects in the Westminster Diocese received £3,152.88; the Cardinal Hume Centre, supporting homeless youth in London, received £3,371.63; and our overseas' charity, Friends of the Holy Land, received £6,251.28, with a further £100 after we had closed the appeal and £70 Gift Aid. This would have been a fine total in the lockdown circumstances of £12,945.79 but for some other generosity. Some wealthy patrons of Friends of the Holy Land had agreed to double any donation to the charity up until Pentecost Sunday. We therefore ensured that our £6,251.28 was received in good time and the charity confirmed it qualified for being doubled by their own patrons to £12,502.56! Thus, the total received by the beneficiaries of the three charities is **£19,197.07**. As ever, a tremendous result doing great good.

**FRIENDS OF THE HOLY LAND** would like to thank parishioners for their generous parish donations of £6251.28 to help Christians in the Holy Land. "Your kindness will help Christians in the West Bank and Gaza know that they are not alone as well as giving them money for basic necessities. The current situation for Christians in the Holy Land is very challenging and our team on the ground are providing hope and financial assistance to those most in need. Please continue to remember the work of FHL and the needs of the Christians in the Holy Land in your prayers".

**THURSDAY MASS for NHS & CARE HOME staff & the SICK** – The next live-streamed Masses to be celebrated by a Bishop on behalf of the Bishops' Conference at 7.00pm each Thurs are:  
18<sup>th</sup> June: Archbishop Bernard Longley, Birmingham Cathedral  
25<sup>th</sup> June: Bishop Alan Hopes, Norwich Cathedral  
2<sup>nd</sup> July: Archbishop John Wilson, Southwark Cathedral  
9<sup>th</sup> July: Bishop Tom Williams, Liverpool Cathedral

**BAPTISMS, FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION** – Even if we can open the church by 4<sup>th</sup> July the return to large and festal occasions such as First Holy Communion or Confirmation Masses is more distant. However, it is conceivable to see that soon after the re-opening of churches the Baptisms postponed could be rescheduled as social distancing would not be too difficult provided guest numbers were limited. Rescheduling the First Holy Communion and Confirmation Masses is going to have to wait for as near a return to normality as possible perhaps in the Autumn. The parish will swiftly contact parents and guardians of existing candidates for these sacraments as soon as authority is given.

**THE MEN'S GROUP** - Men of all ages are warmly invited to our next meeting on Thursday 18th June, from 8.30pm on the Zoom app. John O'Brien will give an introduction to Centering Prayer, a way of contemplative prayer. We are affiliated to [www.catholicman.uk](http://www.catholicman.uk) Email Stephen Donnelly at [donnellysm@hotmail.com](mailto:donnellysm@hotmail.com) for details.

**CENTERING PRAYER** – In the current lockdown the Centering Prayer group has found a new way to convene via the internet platform Zoom. The group is meeting EVERY Monday at 7.30pm so if you would like to join please phone or email John O'Brien who will be happy to assist: 07747611616 or [john@jobrien.co.uk](mailto:john@jobrien.co.uk)

**PARISH ASSOCIATION WITH THE CATHOLIC UNION** – Our parish has become the first in the country to have a formal association with The Catholic Union [www.catholicunion.org.uk](http://www.catholicunion.org.uk) and many more will follow where there is shared interest. Fr Michael much recommends going to the website to sign up for their news briefings directly emailed completely free of charge. The news from parliament is always interesting if often rather worrying with initiatives to challenge the common good.

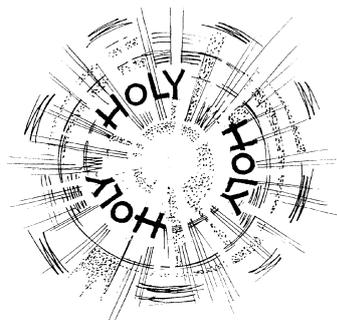
**FEELING VULNERABLE AND NEEDING HELP?** – Some parishioners are offering to shop and deliver groceries etc for any others who may not feel strong enough to shop for themselves. If you would like this help, please phone the Parish Office and leave a message. You are not alone! Help is at hand! 020 8994 2877

**CAN YOU OFFER HELP?** – If you'd be happy to volunteer to assist particularly elderly, isolated or isolating parishioners with just one or two errands each week as you are about your own, please also email or phone the Parish Office. You must be known to the priests and other parishioners from attendance at Mass. We'd be aiming to match postcodes of volunteers and recipient.

## GUNNERSBURY NOTES and GROVE PARK NOTES

With the long delayed joy of the Government's allowing churches to re-open for private prayer, it might be thought all three of our parochial churches could re-open just as before the virus. This is not the case. Any re-opening of a church has to be accompanied by stringent terms and conditions pertaining to social distancing, sanitising and cleaning, subject to objective standards and external scrutiny, without which churches are not allowed to open. Meeting these terms and conditions relies entirely on many volunteers as can be seen in the arrangements for Our Lady of Grace and St Edward's Church being open from Monday for just two hours a day every day and four hours on Saturdays and Sundays. Stewards must ensure social distancing and sanitising; cleaners must not only clean locally throughout the church where a visitor has been but must give a full domestic clean of the church each day after it closes. This is very generous volunteering! It is likely that these terms and conditions will also apply when churches may restart public liturgies such as Mass and Holy Hours. For the moment, therefore, St Dunstan's Gunnersbury and St Joseph's Grove Park will remain closed. Volunteers for stewarding and cleaning from these churches are very welcome to email and phone the Parish Office so that we can build up significant numbers of volunteers in the hope that we will be ready safely to restart liturgies in these churches when we are allowed to do so. Volunteers must be in good health, under 70 years of age, and have no underlying health conditions.

**CAFOD – UNITE AGAINST CORONAVIRUS PETITION** - As we cope with coronavirus in the UK, we think of those in developing countries who are facing this pandemic with fragile health systems, some of which have almost no intensive care beds or ventilators. Food prices have already risen with borders closing, the poorest are losing their jobs and income with wholesale shutdowns. Furthermore, inadequate healthcare, lack of access to washing facilities and limited ability to social distance will result in loss of life on an intolerable scale. The likely impact will be devastating. As we are one global family please consider signing the CAFOD petition to ask government to work with other world leaders to help the most vulnerable people in our world cope with this crisis. To sign the petition visit [cafod.org.uk/coronaviruscampaign](http://cafod.org.uk/coronaviruscampaign)



**SACRED HEART OF JESUS** – This Friday is the beautiful Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. Saint Bonaventure (1221-74) in a sermon on this feast writes: *You who have been redeemed, consider who it is who hangs on the Cross for you, whose death gives life to the dead, whose passing is mourned by Heaven and Earth, while even the hard stones are split. Consider how great he is; consider what he is. In order that the Church might be formed from the side of Christ as he slept on the Cross, in order that the word of scripture might be fulfilled 'They shall look on him whom they have pierced', God's providence decreed that one of the soldiers should open his sacred side with a spear, so that blood and water might flow out to pay the price of our salvation. This blood, which flowed from its source in the secret recesses of his heart, gave the Sacraments of the Church power to confer this life of grace, and for those who already live in Christ was a draught of living water welling up to eternal life. Arise, then, place your lips there to draw water from the wells of your Saviour. For this is the spring flowing from the heart of Paradise. From this source flows the river which makes glad the City of God so that with glad shouts we sing our hymns of praise.*