

# St. Vincent de Paul (Osterley) Newsletter

Parish Priest: Fr. Mark Leenane, 2 Witham Road, Osterley, TW7 4AJ.

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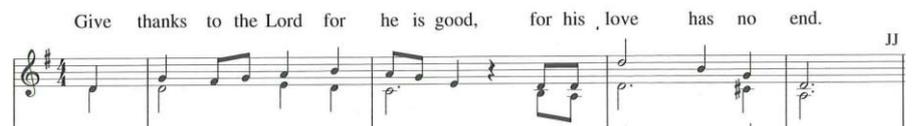
## 19 April 2020 SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

**Acts 2:42-47. The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common.** St. Luke provides a portrait of the model Christian community.

**1 Peter 1:3-9. In his great mercy he has given us a new birth as his sons by raising Jesus from the dead.** Those who are being persecuted for their faith by hostile pagan neighbours are encouraged to put their faith in God.

**John 20:19-31. Eight days later, Jesus came.** The risen Lord nourishes the faith of the apostles, especially that of Thomas. He bestows the Holy Spirit upon them and sends them out in the same way that he himself was sent by the Father for the forgiveness of sins.

**Psalm 117: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.**



**Fr. Robin Burgess has prepared a homily for today  
You can read it on our website (when posted) in the section entitled  
'Homilies/Pastoral Letters' or scroll to the end of this page.**

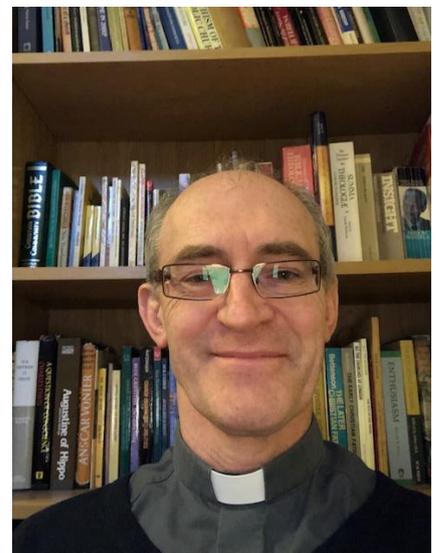
*To protect all people, the church is closed until further notice. We continue to pray privately, in our homes and online in union with the church worldwide.*

*19 April 2020*

Dear Parishioners,

Today is the second Sunday of Easter and the end of the Easter Octave, eight days of special solemnity which began on Easter Sunday. After each mass this week (celebrated without a congregation present physically) I have extended my hands over the church and hopefully over all our parishioners and given the solemn Easter blessing permitted during the octave.

If you have been enjoying Easter eggs during this period then that is fine, the church encourages us to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus for the whole fifty days of Easter up until Pentecost (coming from the Greek word for fifty). We can always rejoice in the Lord even in the midst of pain and difficulty.



In today's Gospel Jesus tells the apostles "For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain they are retained".

On this Divine Mercy Sunday we recall that there are many ways we can experience God's mercy and forgiveness.

We can say sorry and "make up" with those we have hurt us as the early Christians did.

At the beginning of mass, we acknowledge our sins and hear the priest ask for God's mercy. We can do this ourselves even when we cannot attend mass.

For serious sin or for patterns of sin we can go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation, confess our sins and receive absolution from the priest. Pope Francis at this time has said "If you don't find a priest to go to confession, speak to God. He's your Father. Tell him the truth: "Lord I did this and this and this. Pardon me" Ask his forgiveness with all your heart with an act of contrition, and promise God, "afterward I will go to confession" you will return to God's grace immediately"

On Monday night with the Confirmation Catechist I will hold a Zoom meeting with the Candidates for Confirmation (15 of them) and we will discuss the sacrament of Reconciliation. It is a pleasure to still be able to see and teach the candidates. Please pray for them.

I would encourage you to read Fr Robin's homily for this week which I will post in the Homily section when I receive it. I am sure you will find it nourishing as I do.

I send particular greeting to those who are sick or living alone. You are in my thoughts and prayers. We also pray for those who have died, may they rest in peace, and for those who mourn, may God console them with Easter hope. Please remember in your prayers Fr John Seabrook Parish Priest of Grove Park (Chiswick) who died peacefully this week in Hammersmith hospital after a long illness.

Life in the parish goes on despite there being no public services. As I intimated above I say mass each day on behalf of the parish. There are also many financial, HR and administrative tasks to be done. I see these tasks as part of caring for the fabric of the parish and by extension caring for my parishioners. These are tasks properly shared with staff and parishioners.

One of the tasks this week was sending off the Lent Fast Day collection for Cafod. You contributed a magnificent £2,255.96 (before Gift Aid is added). We know that Cafod will be able to make a real difference to people's lives with this amount. Thank you!

Like many of you I and my sister Miriam have clapped for all Key Workers on Thursday nights. The rattle we use on Good Friday has come in useful. As we are in Eastertide I might try a large gong I have in the sacristy next week. Fr Harry Hamill, late of this parish left us a good book collection so I have used it as a backdrop to a selfie I took of myself to grace this note to you.

Whilst we wait patiently to be re-united in body as a community, I ask God to bless you all in the following words. (Your response is four times Amen!)

May Almighty God bless you this Eastertide and keep you free from sin.

**People:** Amen

Through the resurrection of Christ may you be given new hope, healed in body and spirit and, in the fullness of time, enter into eternal life.

**People:** Amen

The sufferings of Christ which we have recalled have given way to the joy of his resurrection.

May this joy remain in your hearts until you see God face to face.

**People:** Amen

May almighty God bless you.

The Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit

**People:** Amen Alleluia! Alleluia!

## **SUNDAY OFFERING AND SUPPORTING THE PARISH:**

Dear Parishioners,

We are conscious that many parishioners may be struggling financially, if however, you are able to continue your weekly donations please see how to do this below:

- 1) On Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April those who give by planned giving envelopes will run out of envelopes. It is not currently possible to distribute new boxes of envelopes.

If possible, please set up a Standing Order to replace your Planned Giving Envelopes. To see how to do this electronically please See "Donate to our parish" on our website. Should you wish, you can change this back to planned giving envelopes when they are distributed and movement restrictions lifted.

- 2) If you give cash you can set up a standing order in favour of the parish electronically. For our bank details please see "Donate to our parish" on our website.
- 3) You can use the donation facility on our website to make your donation each week by credit or debit card. See "Donate to our parish" on our website.
- 4) If you do not already do so, you can Gift Aid all your donations. This increases your donation by 25% at no costs to you. You simply have to pay sufficient tax to cover 25% of your donations to the parish. If you do so the government will refund this money direct to the parish. Please follow the instructions on the parish website under "Donate to our parish"

We know that those who are able, will sustain the parish financially during this challenging time and enable us to minister to our parishioners and those in need.

If you have any queries you can contact the parish bookkeeper Steve McEvoy on [osterleybk@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:osterleybk@rcdow.org.uk) or 079 3278 3647. Thank you. Fr Mark

**EASTER OFFERINGS:** The salary for parish clergy comprises the Christmas and Easter offerings, donations for baptisms, weddings and funerals and offerings for masses. Envelopes for Easter offerings will be available after movement restrictions are lifted.

**300 CLUB:** The lucky winner of the February 2020 Draw for the 300 Club is Linda Ewan, Ticket No. 726 Congratulations!

**POPE FRANCIS:** Pope Francis called for all Christians to respond to the coronavirus pandemic "with the universality of prayer, of compassion, of tenderness", adding, "Let us remain united. Let us make our closeness felt toward those persons who are the most lonely". Speaking after the traditional recitation of the Angelus, the Holy Father called on all Christians to join together in prayer. "In these trying days, while humanity trembles due to the threat of the pandemic, I would like to propose to all Christians that together we lift our voices towards Heaven

**MASS INTENTIONS:** *Mass intentions can still be requested via e-mail or by ringing the parish office. Please leave a message and phone number if there is no reply from the office. Offerings for such masses can be made using the online donation link on the website or submitting it to the parish only when movement restrictions are lifted. Masses offered prior to the reduction in Sunday masses will be allocated to the nearest free mass.*



*Painting of our Lady by German Prisoners of War held in Osterley Park during the second world war. Given to Osterley Parish in 1946 in thanks for religious services provided by the parish. Now hanging in the parish House*

**SERVICE TIMES & INTENTIONS  
19- 26<sup>th</sup> May 2020**

<b>SUNDAY 23 APRIL</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter	Christopher Joseph RIP
Mon 20: Easter Feria	Peter Costa RIP
Tues 21: St Anselm	Cristantino Godinho RIP (anniv)
Wed 22: Easter feria	
Thu 23: St George	Fr John Seabrook RIP
Fri 24: Ss Erkenwald and Mellitus Bishops	
Saturday 25 April St Mark Evangelist	People of the Parish
<b>SUNDAY 26 APRIL</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter	

**PARISH OFFICE:**

Please do not call to the parish office without an appointment. Enquiries can be made by telephone or you can e-mail the parish at [osterley@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:osterley@rcdow.org.uk)

- **PARISH ADMINISTRATOR:** Mrs. L. Faria
- **PLANNED GIVING CO-ORDINATOR:** Mr. Steve McEvoy
- **PARISH BOOKKEEPER:** Mr. Steve McEvoy  
To contact Mr. McEvoy by email: [osterleybk@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:osterleybk@rcdow.org.uk)
- **300 CLUB:** Enquiries to Parish Office.

**ADMIN**

• **PARISH WEBSITE ADDRESS FOR ONLINE NEWSLETTER:**

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/osterley/>

• **PARISH REGISTRATION:** Please take a Welcome Pack from the lobby when the church re-opens in due course. Completed Registration and Planned Giving forms should be posted through the door of the Parish house. Thank you.

• **BAPTISM:** Contact Fr. Mark to arrange a baptism date and attend a course. Please complete a form (available in the lobby or online) and submit to the Parish Office. Next course: TBA.  
NB Unfortunately courses are now cancelled until further notice.

**CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE:** This parish operates a system of Mass Attendance Cards. This is only applicable for parents who wish to send their children to a Catholic primary or secondary school. Attendance at 75% of masses at which stickers are given out will be deemed to comply with the conditions for receiving a Certificate of Catholic practice. Parents can apply to Catholic schools without a Certificate of Catholic practice but will usually be considered after those who possess one. The Certificate of Catholic Practice should be downloaded from our website. (Do not use the form provided by the school). Please print one for every school to which you are applying.

Parents/Guardians should begin collating forms two years before the closing date for their child's application to Nursery, Reception, Secondary and 6<sup>th</sup> Form.

**IMPORTANT UPDATE: Mass attendance stickers were not distributed on Sun. 15/3/2020.**

They will not be distributed in the near future until further notice. These weeks will be omitted in our calculation of the 75% attendance for school admission

•**MARRIAGES:** 6 months' notice required. Please ring the office for initial discussion with Fr. Mark.

#### **CONTACTS**

•**SAFEGUARDING REP:** Mrs. A. Trigger. Tel. 07764482186  
Email: osterleysg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk  
•**WEST MIDDX HOSPITAL RC CHAPLAIN:** Tel. 020 8321 5447.

**CONFIRMATION 2020:** Sessions will continue online as advised to candidates. The celebration of the sacrament of Confirmation is a wonderful time for families to gather and is often very important in the lives of grandparents and the extended family. With the present uncertainty about the length of time that the pandemic will last, and both the travel and social restrictions will apply, the confirmations in parishes that were scheduled for April and May have been postponed. A new date will be arranged in due course.

**REDEMPTORIST PUBLICATIONS** bring the Sunday Holy Mass, celebrated by Fr. Denis McBride into your home every Sunday. Each Sunday service will be accessed at: <https://www.rpbooks.co.uk/holy-mass-online> Visit their BLOG section for a variety of reflections.

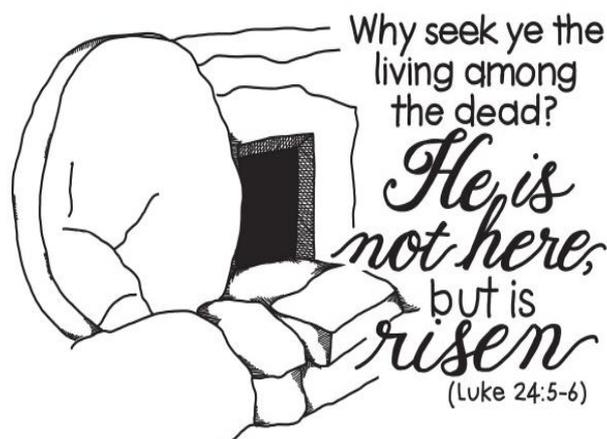
**Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.**

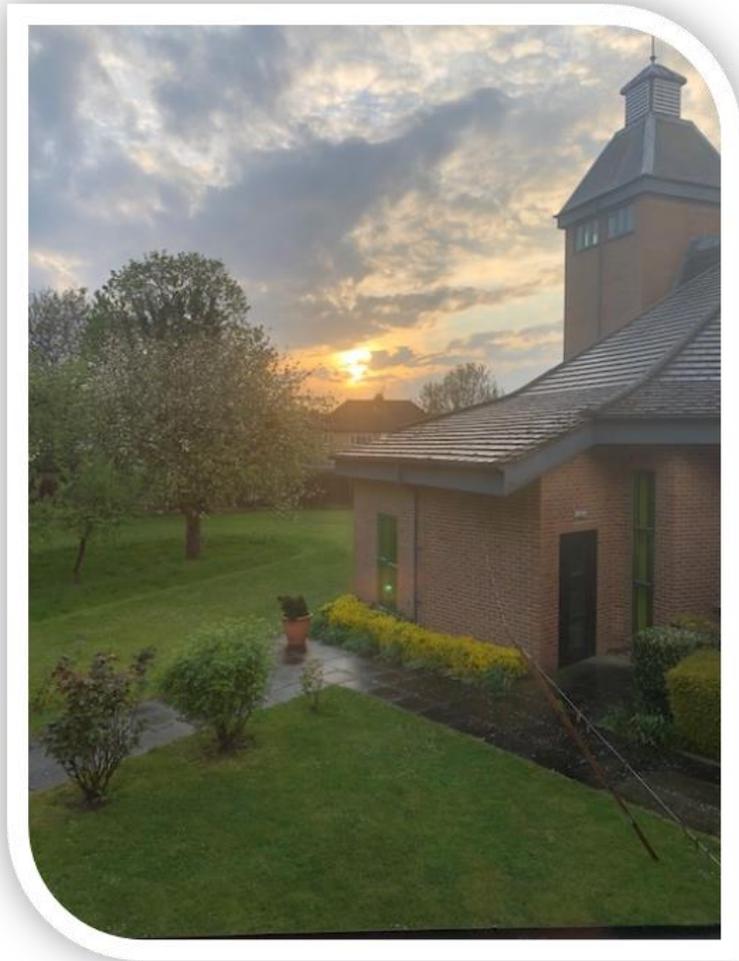
**Cardinal Vincent Nichols has written to the Priests of the diocese and asks us to publicise the items below which I am very happy to do. He writes:**

“Two practical things have emerged in recent days which I would like to put before you.

The first is a small initiative agreed by the bishops in England and Wales that every Thursday evening, at 7pm, a bishop, in turn, will celebrate Mass in his cathedral, live streamed, for all those frontline workers in the NHS and care homes, for the sick and their families. This will begin next Thursday with Mass in our Cathedral. There will be publicity about this initiative which I ask you to share. More importantly I would like every priest to celebrate Mass for this same intention each Thursday, if possible.

Secondly, Mgr. John Armitage, with his true entrepreneurial spirit, is going to conduct an on-line retreat for eight days from the evening of 19 April to 26 April, with conferences at 10 am and 4pm each day given on the [walsingham.org.uk](http://walsingham.org.uk) website. This is something that many may want to follow, including ourselves. Please do give it both publicity and consideration yourself.”





Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2020



Collage by Nicolette Robson