



# St. Vincent de Paul (Osterley) Newsletter



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Website: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/osterley/> or Google St Vincent de Paul Church, Osterley  
This parish is part of the Westminster Roman Catholic Diocese Trustee Registered Charity No. 233699

## 9<sup>th</sup> August 2020

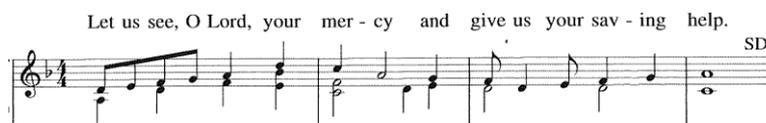
+19<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr A Vol. 2 (Pg. 114)

**1 Kings 19:9,11-13. Stand on the mountain before the Lord.** The word of the Lord came to Elijah like the sound of a gentle breeze.

**Romans 9:1-5. I would willingly be condemned if it could help my brothers.** Paul lists the privileges of the people of Israel. They were adopted as children of God's family, they were given the glory and the covenants, and the promises were made to them.

**Matthew 14:22-23. Tell me to come to you across the water.** Peter comes across the water to Jesus, and on beginning to sink in the waves, calls out to Jesus and is saved.

**PSALM 84: Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help.**



**Fr. Robin Burgess has prepared a homily for today  
You can read it on our website in the section entitled 'Homilies/Pastoral'**

Dear Parishioners,

Life in the parish is returning to a new normal. This week we scheduled eight baptisms, and a number of weddings will take place in September. Vanessa Coutinho has now scheduled our readers and will shortly be training some new readers.

As we are finding out as a nation however the threat posed by the Coronavirus has not gone away and so from this Sunday we have to wear masks when attending mass (see below for full details). It is important to comply with such regulations with good grace.

We have all been struck by the events in Beirut this last week. Such events can leave us feeling helpless. We can always do something to help however. We can pray for the dead and injured and those helping with the aftermath. We can donate to the many appeals which have been launched including one by Cafod at <https://cafod.org.uk/About-us/Where-we-work/Middle-East/Lebanon> . We might tell our politicians that we support the overseas aid budget.

I want to take this opportunity to send greetings to all parishioners who cannot attend mass for whatever reason and to ask God to bless you in your homes. You are a vital part of the parish and you are in my thoughts and prayers.

I would encourage Parishioners to read Fr Robin's homily in the "Homilies" section of the website. I always find these thought provoking and interesting.

Yours in Christ,

**Fr Mark**

## **FACE COVERINGS**

From Saturday 8th August parishioners must wear a face covering when attending church unless they are exempt from doing so. You do not need to wear a face covering if you have a legitimate reason not to. This includes (but is not limited to):

- young children under the age of 11 (Public Health England do not recommended face coverings for children under the age of 3 for health and safety reasons)
- not being able to put on, wear or remove a face covering because of a physical or mental illness or impairment, or disability
- if putting on, wearing or removing a face covering will cause you severe distress
- if you are travelling with or providing assistance to someone who relies on lip reading to communicate
- to eat or drink if reasonably necessary

Face coverings can be unlooped to receive Holy Communion.

Osterley church has a mechanical ventilation system. This system draws in fresh air from outside at the back of the church and expels air via the church tower at the front of the church. No air is recirculated and this system frequently changes the air in the church thereby reducing the risk of airborne transmission of the Covid 19 virus. This has been confirmed by a chartered engineer. There is no drinking water in church so bring your own during this hot weather. Toilet facilities are available. Children are of course very welcome but must remain with their parents at all times. Stewards will direct you when you come to church.

## **Booking to attend Masses from 1<sup>st</sup> August**

From the 1<sup>st</sup> August parishioners may book two Sunday masses per calendar month. In addition, parishioners may book any Sunday mass the day before it takes place if there are places available.

From the 1<sup>st</sup> August parishioners may book any weekday mass.

Both of the above can be done online OR by phoning 078 9989 5483 only if you do not have access to the internet.

There have been unfilled places at some Sunday masses so do check on Saturdays in case there are places available. This will allow those parishioners who do so to attend more often than twice a month.

The purpose of this system is so that all parishioners who are medically able can attend at least two masses per month without being in competition with other parishioners.

The obligation to attend mass remains suspended but for Catholics attendance at mass is a joy and a privilege rather than an obligation.

## **Confessions**

Confessions have resumed being heard in the parish at the new time of 9.00am – 9.45am on Saturday mornings. You can also make an appointment for the priest to hear your confession by ringing 078 9989 5483. Please leave a message if there is no reply and we will ring you back.

## **Baptism**

The parish can now resume baptisms. These will take place on Saturday mornings at 11.00am or Sundays at 3 pm. If you have asked to have your child baptised the parish will contact you in the next week to arrange a date.

## **Funerals and Weddings**

In addition to reopening for mass permission has been given to have funerals and weddings of no more than 30 people including ministers etc. We, the church wish to play our part in controlling Coronavirus so our leaders will ensure that we observe what social distancing measures are necessary.

## **Other Services**

In recent weeks our focus has been on reopening safely for mass. The parish will now look at how we can resume bringing Holy Communion to the housebound. In due course we will also communicate about celebrating First Holy Communion and Confirmations which have been delayed. We will also look at whether we can resume devotions such as the Rosary and our prayer Group.

### **Readers, Altar Servers, Ministers of the Eucharist.**

We thank these ministers for all they do. Currently we are contacting ministers on an ad hoc basis. Over the next few weeks we will be in touch to put rotas in place for these ministers to resume their roles in the liturgy should they be willing to do so. Thank you for your patience.

### **Practicalities of resuming Sunday & Weekday mass**

1. The parish has employed four young part-time cleaners/stewards to clean the church after every service. This work is quite strenuous and given the importance of this task and the training involved (which includes the use of PPE) this seems the most appropriate arrangement.
2. The parish is also thankful for everyone who has volunteered to Steward. Our volunteer stewards complement the work of our paid staff and enables us to open the church for mass and prayer more frequently.
3. Our regular volunteer cleaners will continue to give the church and other buildings their normal cleaning routine.
4. The parish is currently operating a 2.0 metre social distancing policy.
5. The parish has carefully calculated the capacity of the church when being filled in a socially distanced way by different sizes of groups. There are 77/76 tickets available for each mass.
6. We will only make available a number of tickets consistent with maintaining social distancing.

### **Private Prayer in Church**

Times of Opening for Individual Prayer for week commencing the **11th August 2021**.

You can attend with other people who are considered to be part of your household.

***Tuesday & Thursday, 11 am -12 noon***

***Saturday 9 am – 10 am***

### **Hygiene precautions taken by the parish.**

The parish is following all government and diocesan procedures to be as safe as possible. Sometimes pictures say this better than words so there are pictures at the end of this newsletter of the following:

1. Battery operated (more to come) and pump action hand sanitizers.
2. One-way system in the church.
3. Touch bins replaced with pedal bins.
4. Seats roped off to maintain 2.0 m distance.
5. No kneeling allowed to maintain social distancing.
6. Hand towels instead of driers.

This is not a complete list but provides an idea of the practical steps we are taking.



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

Since resuming mass many parishioners have returned planned giving envelopes or made cash donations. There are collection baskets located at the front of the church at both Sunday and weekday masses for parishioners to make their weekly offerings. We are grateful for all those who supported the parish by standing order or electronic donations during lockdown and to all those who have contributed as mentioned above.

The parish relies on your support, not least to pay for the sanitizing equipment we have bought and to pay the 4 young part time cleaners who are ensuring the church is safe for us all to use. Details of the collection are published in the collection details further on.

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 ran 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*

### **Planned Giving Boxes**

If parishioners wish to donate to the parish when they visit the church, please do so using the new drop safe in the lobby. This can be used for planned giving envelopes.

We have sent out new boxes of planned giving envelopes (which start from the 12<sup>th</sup> April 2020) by post.

The parish appreciates that the ability of parishioners to contribute to our collections may have been adversely affected by the current pandemic. Please just give what you can.

**MASS INTENTIONS:** Mass intentions can be requested at church and 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. Masses offered prior to the reduction in weekday masses will be allocated to the nearest free mass.

**SERVICE TIMES & INTENTIONS**  
**9-16 August 2020**

**ADMIN**

**New Mass Times**

<b>SUNDAY 9</b>	9.00 am	People of the Parish
	11.30 am	Helen Griffin RIP (Birthday Anniv)
	6.00 pm	Birthday Intention Caroline Willis
Tues 11	7.00 pm	Mass
Thu 13	7.00 pm	Intention Molly Carver 100 <sup>th</sup> Birthday
Sat 15	10.00 am	Mass
<b>SUNDAY 16</b>	9.00 am	Mass
	11.30 am	Helen Griffin RIP (Anniv)
	6.00 pm	Mass

Thank you for your generosity last Sunday

Loose	Envelopes	S/Order	Total
£414.27	£777.40	£1407.00	£2598.67

**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.

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

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

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

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

• **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.

**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.

**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

**CONTACTS**

• **SAFEGUARDING REP:** Mrs. A. Trigger. Tel. 07764482186

Email: [osterleysq@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:osterleysq@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

• **WEST MIDDX HOSPITAL RC CHAPLAIN:**  
Tel. 020 8321 5447.

**New Sanitising equipment  
in the parish.**



