



Parish Priest: Fr Philip Knights
6, Melbourn Road
Royston
Herts SG 8 7DB

philipknights@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Secretary: Sharon O' Toole

The Parish Office is open:

Tues 9:30am - 12:30pm

Wed 9:30am - 12:30pm

Fri 9:30am - 12:30pm

royston@rcdow.org.uk

01763 243117

<http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/royston/>

facebook @roystoncatholic

Mass this Sunday: Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) 23rd February 2020

Today's Readings

Leviticus 19:1-2. 17-18 The Lord commissions his people to imitate him in holiness, and shows that love is the heart of both divine and human law.

1 Corinthians 3:16-23 The heart of St Paul's teaching is the indwelling of the Trinity within us. Here he uses the illustration of our bodies being temples of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 5:38-48 Jesus renews the call to holiness and shows some of the practical applications necessary.

Mass This Week

Saturday 22nd 6:30pm

Sunday 23rd 9:00am

10:30am

Tuesday 25th 7:30pm

Weekday

Wednesday 26th 9:15am

Ash Wednesday

7:30pm

Thursday 27th 9:15am

Lent Weekday

Friday 28th 9:15am

Lent Weekday

Intention

Peter Brackenridge (RIP)

For Our Parishioners

Peter Haney (RIP)

Fr Charles McMenemy

Our keeping of Lent

Penitents

Spiritual Directors

Candidates for the Sacraments

Sacrament of Reconciliation 5:45pm or by appointment

The Sanctuary Lamp burns In Memory of Donato Angletta (RIP)

Last Week's Offertory This amounted to £397.74
Many thanks for all your generosity. **Text Giving** If
you wish to support the parish by giving £5 via your
mobile 'phone, just text PARISH ROYST to 70800.

The House of Prayer will next meet on Thursday 27th
February, 10 till 12, at 52 Cherry Drive.

CWL Coffee Morning The CWL will be serving
refreshments in the Parish Hall after the Sunday
morning Masses **this** weekend. There will be a cake
stall and gift stall, and tickets will be on sale for our
Easter Hamper raffle. Please come and support us.

RCIA Our next session will be at 10am on Wednesday
26th February in the Presbytery.

Lent is upon us this week!

- **Ash Wednesday** There will be Mass with the imposition of Ashes in Church at 9:15am and 7:30pm. There will also be a service including ashing in school at 11am.
- **Evening Prayer** There will be evening prayer in Church most weekdays (Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays) of Lent at 5:30pm
- **Stations of the Cross** We will pray the Stations at 9:45am on Fridays in Lent. If you are willing to volunteer to lead these, please sign up on the sheet at the back of Church.
- **Churches Together in Royston and District Lent Groups** Please sign up on the lists at the back of Church for the most convenient session for you.
- **Lent Penitential Service** 7:30pm Tuesday 10th March
- **First Reconciliation** Saturday 14th March 11am

Becket 2020 This year marks the 850th anniversary of the martyrdom of St Thomas of Canterbury and the 800th year of the establishment of his shrine. Ten representatives from our parish have been invited by the Archbishop of Canterbury and Cardinal Vincent to participate in an Ecumenical Choral Evensong in Canterbury Cathedral on July 5th. There is a sign up sheet at the back of church.

World Day Of Prayer This year, the Women's World Day of Prayer (now called the World Day of Prayer) Service will take place on Friday, 6th March, at 2.15pm at our Church here in Royston. The service has been prepared by the Christian women of Zimbabwe and the theme is "Rise! Take Your Mat and Walk". All are welcome - and refreshments will be served in the Parish Hall after the Service.

Alpha Course We have decided to work towards beginning the 11 week Alpha Course after Easter (April 22nd). We have a good nucleus of a team. We still need people to help (to move furniture, to prepare food, to acts 'hosts' and to be prayerful supporters). If you are interested please let Fr Philip know as soon as possible.. There will be a **training session at 7:30pm on Wednesday April 1st**. There is more information at: <https://www.alpha.org/catholic-context/>

Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 30th May 2019 at 3pm. The Cardinal will be inviting all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their 5th 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2020. If you are celebrating an anniversary and would like to attend, please give the parish office your details by 20th March at the latest.

Student Cross: we would like to ask people to open their doors and homes to our visitors for the night of Sunday 5th April. The pilgrims generally arrive around 5pm on the Sunday and have to be back at the church on Monday morning between 7.45am and 8am. Last year we had about 25 pilgrims so would expect a similar number again. Please could you email marion.kett@btinternet.com or telephone on 07511 009472 if you are able to help.

Post-Brexit Settlement Scheme The Catholic Church in England and Wales stands in solidarity with all European citizens who have made their homes here. They are a valued part of our parishes, schools and communities. All EU, EEA and Swiss citizens living in the UK are required by the government to apply through its Settlement Scheme to continue living, working and accessing services here. The deadline for applications is 30 June 2021. Details and links to the application process can be found at: gov.uk/eusettledstatus Please bring this to the attention of friends, family members and fellow parishioners who may need to apply. Information on assistance for those who may have difficulty applying is available at: gov.uk/help-eu-settlement-scheme

Cleaning Rota Monday – Ruth Friday – Vanessa



English as a language has lost the linguistic distinction between second person singular and second person plural: we use 'you' for both. When we read in our second reading 'you are God's Temple', our individual age may lead us to think that each of us personally is the Temple of God. (And, to be fair, later in the same letter, 1 Cor 6:19, St Paul does say 'your bodies are temples' – implying that each Christian should keep her or his body pure.) Here (1 Cor 3:17) 'you (pl.) are the Temple of God': we as a collective body are the dwelling place of God and the gathering place for worship. This is an astonishing claim, not least because, as we may deduce from the rest of the letter, the Corinthians seem beset by moral problems. Nonetheless, we collectively are called to be holy.