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Tues 9:30am - 12:30pm

Wed 9:30am - 12:30pm

Fri 9:30am - 12:30pm

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### Mass this Sunday: Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) 6<sup>th</sup> September 2020

#### Today's Readings

*Ezekiel 33:7-9* Ezekiel is told something which is crucial for an understanding of prophecy; the prophet has responsibility for passing on God's word to God's people.

*Romans 13:8-10* Love and debt are not normally equated with each other, but Paul insists that Christians have the debt of mutual love, which is the answer to each commandment.

*Matthew 18:15-20* In the community of Jesus' followers its members must take responsibility for each other. The purpose is to rescue a sister or brother from being a wrongdoer.

#### Mass This Week

Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup>	6:30pm	
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup>	9:00am	
	10:30am	
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	7:30pm	Nativity of The Blessed Virgin Mary
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup>	9:15am	St Peter Claver
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup>	9:15am	Weekday
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup>	9:15am	Weekday

#### Intention

For Our Parishioners

For the Care of Creation

For our First Holy Communion families

For St Mary's School

For John Henry Newman School

For Health Care Workers

For travellers

**Sacrament of Reconciliation** 5:45pm or by appointment

**The Sanctuary Lamp** burns for the intentions of the Holy Father

**The Church will be open for private prayer** for one hour after the morning weekday masses (9:45am-10:45am, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday and for Exposition from 5:30pm on Saturday (on the presumption there are sufficient volunteer stewards)

**THIS NEWSLETTER IS FOR SINGLE USE ONLY AND MUST NOT BE SHARED. IF YOU PICK UP A NEWSLETTER, IT IS YOURS AND MUST BE TAKEN AWAY WITH YOU.**

**The Parish Office** has now re-opened with its usual opening days and times. However, please do not visit in person. Should you wish to contact the parish office, it must be done by telephone or email only. If you have items for inclusion in the newsletter please make sure that they are in by Tuesday night.

**Last Week's Offertory** Many thanks for all your generosity.

**Our Finances** remain a major concern. Thank you to the generosity of those who have helped maintain some income during these very difficult times. We are still advised against receiving cash or cheques. Please, if you can, give electronically via your bank or <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/royston/donate/> We have installed contactless giving in the Sacristy.

**Volunteers** Thank you to all who have helped keep things going over the summer. [A sign up rota](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1H4qwiorMMd7z9kM7SICs1RbNWwitBs4epVfMWNCNX8/edit?usp=sharing) is available online for those who can help as cleaners, stewards, sacristans, readers and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion. Please note that this is an open document and so please protect yourselves and your private data by not giving your contact details but just your name or even initials. The rota is to be found at <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1H4qwiorMMd7z9kM7SICs1RbNWwitBs4epVfMWNCNX8/edit?usp=sharing>

**First Holy Communion 2020** Congratulations to all the children making their First Holy Communion this weekend. Please pray for all our young people receiving their First Holy Communion and their families.

**Red Box Holders** The time has come again to empty your red *Missio* mission boxes. If possible, please could you do your donation on line. Alternatively, there are envelopes in the sacristy for you to take home. Please put your name on the envelope, empty the box into it and return it to the red box in the sacristy. It will be much appreciated at this time.

**GENTLE REMINDER** To keep everyone safe, when coming to Mass, please:

- use the hand sanitiser provided, on entering the church.
- wear a face covering, over nose and mouth, all the time whilst in Church
- Follow the one way system for entering and leaving the Church
- We continue to operate a 'track and trace' system, so if you wish to attend a weekend Mass, please ensure you book in beforehand. **NB Volunteers will also need to book in through this system.**
- The 10:30am Mass on Sundays will be celebrated outdoors whenever possible, weather permitting.
- Do not come to church if you are feeling unwell.

**Back To School** All children and young people are welcomed back to school as they reopen fully. For many children this is the first time they have been in school since March! Please pray for them, for their teachers and for all involved in our school communities.

**Sacramental Preparation 2021** Over the next few weeks we shall be collecting names and contact details for First Holy Communion, Confirmation and RCIA next year. The forms are in the sacristy.

## Season of Creation

From the 1<sup>st</sup> September (*The World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation*) until the 4<sup>th</sup> October (*The Feast of St Francis of Assisi*), there is ecumenical agreement to keep a **Season of Creation**. The Conference of European Churches (CEC) and The Council of Bishops' Conferences of Europe (CCEE), are encouraging Member Churches to celebrate the "richness of the Christian faith as an expression to protect our common home."

In a statement issued by Cardinal Angelo Bagnasco, President of CCEE, and Rev. Christian Krieger, President of CEC, Creation is described as "a gift of God for mankind and for all living beings. It is, therefore, our responsibility to protect it as good and reliable stewards, and as faithful servants of God." (<https://www.ccee.eu/season-of-creation-2020-jubilee-for-the-earth/?lang=en> )

This year's theme is **Jubilee for the Earth**. "The concept of Jubilee," they note, "is rooted in the Bible and underlines that there must exist a just and sustainable balance between social, economic and ecological realities."

They also underline that "the lesson from the biblical concept of jubilee points us towards the need to restore balance in the very systems of life, affirming the need for equality, justice and sustainability and confirming the need for a prophetic voice in defence of our common home."

Pope Francis has responded to the theme of Jubilee in his Message for the World day of Prayer for the Care of Creation: "In the Holy Scriptures, a Jubilee is a sacred time to remember, return, rest, restore, and rejoice." [http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/pont-messages/2020/documents/papa-francesco\\_20200901\\_messaggio-giornata-cura-creato.html](http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/pont-messages/2020/documents/papa-francesco_20200901_messaggio-giornata-cura-creato.html)

The Holy Father has also made an impassioned prayer for ecological justice: <https://thepopevideo.org/september-respect-for-the-planets-resources/>