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The Parish Office is open:

Tues 9:30am - 12:30pm

Wed 9:30am - 12:30pm

Fri 9:30am - 12:30pm

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## Mass this Sunday: Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) 18<sup>th</sup> October 2020

### Today's Readings

*Isaiah 45:1. 4-6* God has called each of us by name.

*1 Thessalonians 1:1-5* Paul tells his Thessalonian congregation that he prays constantly for them.

*Matthew 22:15-21* Jesus' enemies tried to trap him with a question about whether or not to pay taxes. Whichever answer he gave could catch him out and lead to his ultimate downfall.

### Mass This Week

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> 9:00am

10:30am *including adult baptism and confirmation*

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> 7:30pm Weekday

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> 9:15am Weekday

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> 9:15am Weekday

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> 9:15am Weekday

### Intention

Mary Daly (anniversary)

Ania Peksa (RIP)

For Our Parishioners

Sister Margaret (Intention)

Students at University

John Henry Newman School

St Mary's School

**Sacrament of Reconciliation** by appointment only

**The Sanctuary Lamp** burns for a Private Intention (V,S)

Exposition from 5:30pm on Saturday (on the presumption there are sufficient volunteer stewards )

### Keeping Covid Secure

Last weekend two of our Masses were booked to capacity. It is lovely to have a compact Church but at the moment it does mean that the risk assessment necessary for us to be permitted to function places a maximum of 50 people in the body of the Church. Do please book in online to check availability. If you have difficulty booking in online then either ask a friend to help or contact Fr Philip and he will book you in manually if there are spaces.

**Please let's look after each other's safety and wellbeing:**

- 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, ensure you book in beforehand at

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/royston/events/>

NB Volunteers will also need to book in through this system.

- **Do not come to church if you are feeling unwell.**

**Private Prayer** we have been opening the Church for private prayer but very few people have taken this opportunity. Clearly this places a considerable load on stewards, and this at a time when we are struggling to get sufficient volunteers. Therefore we will continue to offer the weekday masses but the only time that the Church will be open for private prayer is for Exposition from 5:30pm on a Saturday.

**The Parish Office** is open. 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. We are still advised against receiving cash or cheques. We have installed contactless giving in the Sacristy. Please, if you can, give electronically via your bank or <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/royston/donate/>

**Volunteers** Thank you to all who have helped keep things going. If you can help at this time when we need everyone to pull together please do volunteer. <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1H4qwiorMMd7z9kM7SICs1RbNwWitBs4epVfMWNCNX8/edit?usp=sharing>

**Servers** If anyone wishes to volunteer to serve at Mass please let Fr Philip know. This is a special call for those who have recently received their First Holy Communion, but volunteers of any age are welcome.

**Finance Committee** our Parish Finance Committee is due to meet on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October at 6pm. This will be via MS Teams. Anyone is welcome to attend but you will need to let Fr Philip know so that he can invite you into the meeting.

**Digital Reboot** One of the ideas floated at the Parish Pastoral Council was to review what we do and plan for the future so that we can be proactive rather than reactive in our mission. This will consider many things including our social media and internet presence. If you would like to contribute to a meeting about this please let Fr Philip know. We intend to meet via Zoom

**According to Thy Word** We have begun using the Faith Sharing resource for Autumn. If anyone else would like to join our Zoom group please let Fr Philip know. We will meet on Wednesday evenings at 7pm. There are still two copies of the booklet available.

**Sacramental Preparation 2021** We are collecting names and contact details for First Holy Communion, Confirmation and RCIA next year. Please can the forms be returned by next weekend.

**School Transfer** Several Catholic schools ask practising Catholics to provide *A Certificate of Catholic Practice*. If you are eligible for this and would request such evidence of your practice, please see Fr Philip after any Sunday Mass to arrange an interview.

**Missio** This weekend is **World Mission Sunday** and there will be a second collection; this is a yearly event mandated by the Holy See and is separate to the red boxes. Alternative ways of giving may be found at <https://missio.org.uk/donate> This year has proven difficult to collect red box money. Thank you to all red box holders for picking up an envelope and returning it, and to everyone that donated on line. Envelopes are still available in the sacristy if anyone still wishes to donate. Magazines and prayer cards are at the back of the church as you go out; please take your copy. Your efforts are much appreciated.

**To Our Catholic Universe And Catholic Times Readers In The Parish** At the moment if you are unable to collect your paper at Mass, you can get it delivered direct to your home every week, POST FREE. Please go to [www.thecatholicuniverse.com](http://www.thecatholicuniverse.com) or call them on 0161 820 5722 and they will arrange this for you. SPECIAL OFFER 3 MONTHS :-£22.00 or 12 Months :-£80.00

**November Month of the Holy Souls** Envelopes are now available for you to include any names of departed relatives, friends or benefactors (and any stipend you may wish to offer) to be prayed for at our altar in November

### **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults**

It is our joy this weekend to celebrate the Sacraments of initiation, baptism, confirmation and First Communion, with our Adult Candidates. In the ideal scenario this would have taken place at the Easter Vigil; but 2020 has been far from ideal.

The people of God, as represented by the local Church, should understand and show by their concern that the initiation of adults is the responsibility of all the baptised.

Every new Catholic is an Easter Celebration for all the Church. Please help the Candidates with your prayers, your friendship and your welcoming them fully into our community of faith.



**RCIA**  
*A Journey In Faith*