



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

philipknights@rcdow.org.uk

01763 243117

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

<https://www.Instagram.com/roystoncatholic>

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

facebook @roystoncatholic

Mass this Sunday: Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B) 4th July 2021

Today's Readings

Ezekiel 2:2-5 Ezekiel tells the rebellious people that whether they respond or resist, they will know that a prophet has been in their midst.

2 Corinthians 12:7-10 Paul boasts of his weaknesses: he proclaims that when we are weak, we can be strong in the Lord.

Mark 6:1-6 On his return to Nazareth, Jesus finds that a prophet is not welcome among his own; and so he cannot work many miracles there.

Mass This Week

Saturday 3rd 6:30pm

Sunday 4th 9:00am

10:30am

Tuesday 6th 7:30pm Weekday

Wednesday 7th 9:15am Weekday

Thursday 8th 9:15am Weekday

Friday 9th 9:15am St Augustine Zhao Rong

Intention

Alice & Fred Bristow (RIP)

For Our Parishioners

Our Cathedral

In Thanksgiving (JO)

Roger Stables (anniv)

Health and Care workers

The Church and People of China

PLEASE BOOK IN FOR ALL THE SUNDAY MASSES AT parish.rcdow.org.uk/royston/events

Volunteers Your willingness to help has been key in enabling us to open and worship together safely. If you can help please volunteer at <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1iQtlA2N9UxRBqDiABO2uL-Sei4XX8uj9HkGfRN2cd5c/edit?usp=sharing> or sign up on the paper copy in the Sacristy

The Sanctuary Lamp burns for Pope Francis

Sacrament of Reconciliation by appointment only

It is extraordinary that we have got to July already!

It may even be that the welcome end of statutory restrictions is in sight and we can start to think beyond the emergency health protocols.

We will have an **open meeting on Zoom on Wednesday 14th July at 7pm** to plan our immediate next steps and begin to look forward to September.

Amongst things we shall need to discuss are:

- What we can and shall do after July 19th. It is hoped that by 14th July we should have greater clarity on advice from the Government and guidelines from the Diocese and Bishops Conference. It is unlikely that there will be a 'big bang' return to pre-pandemic ways of doing things but we may have more options. Maybe we will be able to return to congregational singing at some point, maybe we can re-order the

church and remove the limit on numbers attending, maybe the wearing of face-coverings will become optional rather than mandatory and maybe we can return to Communion under both kinds for the congregation. Certainly we will need to publicise our decisions by 17th/18th July to be up and running for their implementation on the weekend of the 24th/25th.

- Our summer programme: in a 'normal' summer, we have a bit of an aestivation during the holidays, with many people away and various activities just ticking over and managing with far fewer regular volunteers – this year might be different but late July and August are still likely to be quiet.
- Planning some appropriate liturgical marking of this extraordinary time and giving an opportunity to reflect on what we have been through and what we would wish for in the future.
- Considering how to appropriately continue our digital offerings and livestreams.
- It is probable that we should think of planning a complete reset of our parish activities and our full 'welcome back' after the school summer holidays, i.e. the first weekend of September.
- The re-introduction of (safe) home visiting and regular home communion, reviewing who would be able to do this ministry and who would appreciate visits. (If you know of people who would wish to be visited please let Fr Philip know.)
- The training and refreshing of our servers, readers, ministers of Holy Communion and welcomers and the re-introduction of more formal rotas for these and other ministries.
- A parish General meeting, probably in September, to formally review our activities, consult on the next year's programme and elect new members of our Parish Pastoral Council.
- Setting up our sacramental programmes and other events for 2021/2022.

The Parish Office is open. However, we are **NOT** yet open to visitors please contact by phone or email.

Peter's Pence: This weekend, following the feast of St Peter and St Paul is the annual worldwide collection for Peter's Pence. The Peter's Pence Collection provides Pope Francis with the funds he needs to carry out his charitable works around the world. You are aware of the growing needs, especially in mission countries, and the requests for aid that come from peoples, individuals and families in precarious conditions. Many expect Pope Francis to give them the support they often fail to find elsewhere. In this perspective, the Peter's Pence Collection is a true and proper participation in the work of spreading the Good News, especially if one considers the meaning and importance of concretely sharing in the concerns of the universal Church.

The gesture has not only a practical value, but also a strong symbolic one, as a sign of communion with the Holy Father and attention to the needs of one's sisters and brothers on the margins of society, including victims of war, oppression, and disasters. We have not found a way of giving online, so there will be a retiring collection after the masses this weekend which will be counted after a 72 hour quarantine.

Counters As we gradually move to more normal times we do need to begin again the important regular rota of counters. If you are willing to help please let the Parish Office know.

Prayers of the Faithful We are now permitted to have bidding prayers at Mass. It is always a good thing when the Prayers of the faithful are prepared by the faithful! If you would be willing to be on a rota to help with this please let Fr Philip or the Parish office know.

Sea Sunday: Sunday 11th July Next week is Sea Sunday, when the Church prays for all those who live and work at sea. Without them, we would not have most of the items we buy in the shops. Stella Maris (Apostleship of the Sea), is the Catholic Church's official maritime welfare agency. It supports seafarers both practically and spiritually and is dependent on voluntary donations. To donate and for more information, please visit: www.stellamaris.org.uk/donate or text 'SEA' to 70460 to donate £5. Thank you.

Holy Fathers Prayer Intentions for July:

Social Friendship We pray that, in social, economic and political situations of conflict, we may be courageous and passionate architects of dialogue and friendship.

Foodbank Please remember that non-perishable food donations are gratefully received and can be placed in the pink box outside the sacristy. We have been advised that the Foodbank are currently appealing for tinned meat, particularly meatballs, rice and pasta sauces, and coffee. Donations of pasta are not required at present. Many thanks for your continued generosity.