



Church of the Most Sacred Heart

73 Pembroke Road, Ruislip, HA4 8NN
Tel: 01895 632739



22nd March 2020

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Masses are suspended in our Church until further notice.

Church will be open for private prayer at the following times:

Monday – Saturday

8.30am – 12noon

Sunday

8.30am – 12noon

5.30pm – 6.30pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Every day

Sacrament of Reconciliation

By appointment only

Collections

Envelopes	£	962.31
Loose	£	573.84
Total	£	1536.15

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

This week our suggested intention to focus are those suffering from the coronavirus.

First Holy Communions and Confirmations

Our Parish First Holy Communions and our Confirmations are postponed to later in the year. We will advise you when these celebrations will be taking place.

Children's Liturgy Dates

Children's liturgy and catechetics are all suspended until further notice.

Parish Office

The parish office is closed to visitors until further notice. Please contact Anne by email anneconnor@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Priest: **Fr. Duncan M. Adamson**

Assistant Priest: **Fr. Sebastian Joseph**

Seminarian: **Francis Thomas**

Parish Administrator: **Anne O'Connor**

Catechetical Co-ordinator: **Jo Marsh**

Pastoral Youth Worker: **Siobhan Denny**

4th Sunday of Lent

Fr. Duncan writes: The fourth Sunday of Lent 'Laetare Sunday' is named from the opening words of the Entrance Antiphon of today's Mass 'Rejoice Jerusalem'. Today, we celebrate in a special way the joy of knowing that we have been reconciled to God through Jesus Christ. We are invited to reflect on the times when we have received and given forgiveness, reminding ourselves that our faith is the source of true happiness. As we give thanks today for all his blessings we ask the Lord that we also may be lights of hope and love to the people we meet in our daily lives.

This Sunday is also Mothering Sunday, when we focus our prayer on our mothers. We thank God for all the blessings we have received from our mothers, for the love and example they have shown us. Let us pray, especially today, for all mothers as they strive to bring up their children in today's world, with so many pressures and difficulties. We remember in a special way all mothers who have died and celebrate this day in the company of Mary, Mother of God, Mother of Jesus Christ, Mother of the Church.

Coronavirus – Covid 19

Last Wednesday, we heard from the Bishops Conference that all public Masses and other celebrations in the church are to be suspended throughout the country until further notice. Both Fr Sebastian and I will continue to celebrate Mass each day privately, that is without a congregation. In the letter we received from the Bishops Conference, they wrote; *Knowing that the Mass is being celebrated; joining in spiritually in that celebration; watching the live-streaming of the Mass; following its prayers at home; making an act of spiritual communion: this is how we share in the Sacrifice of Christ in these days. These are the ways in which we will sanctify Sunday, and indeed every day.* Our church will be open each day for private prayer from **8.30am to 12.00 noon**. There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament each day. On Sundays, the church will also be open from **5.30pm to 6.30pm**.

It is important that during this time when visiting our church, we will observe with great care the practices of hygiene and the guidance on social distancing. We are also reminded that in these emergency circumstances, and for as long as they last, the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days is removed.

In his letter to the clergy last Wednesday, the Cardinal wrote:

It breaks my heart to know that Catholics in this country are now being deprived of the consolation of attending the Holy Mass personally, and that this will be the case for some time to come. I know you will be bearing the same sorrow and frustration. Yet this is what we must do. The reasons are perfectly clear and compelling. It would be irresponsible and potentially scandalous not to follow the formal and official advice we have received.

This is a particularly difficult and challenging time for us all. A vital aspect of these challenging times is our care for each other. There are so many ways in which we are to do this: being attentive to the needs of our neighbour, especially the elderly and vulnerable.

Can you help? Do you need help?

If you can help people living near you, please let us know in the parish, telephone **01895 632739** or email ruislip@rcdow.org.uk.

If you need help, please let us know and we can find someone to help you. But, **BE AWARE** do not open your door to casual callers. We will let you know who to expect and when to expect them.

Please look at the Parish website and the Diocesan website for details of different resources that are available to help and support you at this time. You will find details where and when Mass is celebrated in different locations which you can access on-line. There are also opportunities to join prayer and discussion groups on-line or by 'conference call' (cost of a local call).

Parish Office Hours: Mon, Tues, Thur, Fri 9.00am-1.00pm

Parish Office Closed on Wednesdays

Parish Website: parish.rcdow.org.uk/ruislip

Parish E-mail: ruislip@rcdow.org.uk

anneconnor@rcdow.org.uk 01895-632739

jmarsh@rcdow.org.uk 01895-673983

siobhandenny@rcdow.org.uk 07908 111796

Act of Dedication to Mary

On the Sunday following the Feast of the Annunciation this year, **29th March**, we are being invited to join an Act of Re-dedication to Mary. This gift of the personal faith of the people of our parish will unite us to the country as we seek once again the prayers and protection of the Mother God. In order to prepare for the Re-dedication, the statue of Our Lady of Walsingham from the Slipper Chapel has been visiting every Catholic Cathedral in the country. **A suggested prayer format will be available during the week.**

With Deepest Sympathy

We offer our sympathy and prayers to the family and friends of Pat Butler whose committal at Breakspear Crematorium takes place on **Wednesday 1st April**. A remembrance Mass will be offered for his soul later on in the year. May he rest in peace.

Food Bank Collection

The SVP will continue to hold a collection in Lent for the Hillingdon Food Bank. The coordinator of the Independent Food Aid Network (IFAN) said *"Dedicated volunteers have been depended on to provide emergency food parcels to those in need for too long. The spread of coronavirus means there's a possibility that we may now no longer be able to count on their good will and generosity to keep food banks open."* Donations of the following food items: long life juice / squash, UHT milk / powdered milk, tinned fruit, tinned meat and fish would help our local foodbank to remain open and support those in need. Any help you can give will be much appreciated. Many thanks

Planned Giving Boxes

Thank you to all those who collected the new boxes of envelopes for planned giving last week. They are available again this weekend. They should **NOT** be used until the Easter weekend of **11th/12th April**. If you wish you may drop your weekly planned giving envelopes through the presbytery door during this time until Mass offertories can be resumed. If you would like to change and make your regular donation through Bankers Order, please complete a form, available in the Church foyer and return to the presbytery or set up online and advise the parish office.

Please check your envelope number (same as last year), and your name as you collect your envelopes and email Anne in the office if there are discrepancies. I wish to thank all those who use either planned giving envelopes or standing orders to make their contribution to the running of our parish. This is a great help to me and the Finance Committee in planning for the future needs of our parish. I know that people are very generous in their offerings, but there may be some who wish to take this opportunity to reflect on what they give to the Church. For what it is worth, the late Cardinal Hume suggested that everyone might consider the equivalent of one hour's income as the basis for deciding how much to give each week. Many still give loose change. As you can imagine the bills for our buildings for repair and maintenance, electricity and heating are enormous and those buildings are here for you. May I ask everyone to consider how much they are giving to the Church and whether some could not give a little more by:

• **Adding 25p to every £1.00 that you give through Gift Aid. Please sign up to Gift Aid if you do not already do so, or if you are not sure whether you have filled a Gift Aid Form in the past. If you are a tax-payer or make a regular donation, we can claim back the tax, which will add an extra 25p to every £1.00 at no cost to you. It only involves a simple form.**

Mass Intentions

2 daily Mass intentions will be said privately by Fr. Duncan and Fr. Sebastian as they will continue to say Mass every day in our Church but without the faithful. We will try and keep all the anniversary Masses to the nearest date possible. Lists of Mass intentions will be posted on the Church noticeboard and on our parish website.

E-Alerts:

If you would like to receive a copy of the weekly parish updates straight to your inbox, please sign into the parish e-Alerts on our parish website.

Mass Intentions for the Week: 21st – 29th March 2020

Saturday 21 st March	Keith Smith, R.I.P. (Ann.) Michael Egan, R.I.P.
Sunday 22 nd March 4th Sunday of Lent	Pauline Garsed, R.I.P. (Ann.) & For you the people Thomas Condon, R.I.P. (Ann.)
Monday 23 rd March	Personal Intentions Personal Intentions
Tuesday 24 th March	Nancy Murphy R.I.P. Personal Intentions
Wednesday 25 th March The Annunciation of the Lord	Patrick & Marion Redmond, R.I.P.(Ann.) Personal Intentions
Thursday 26 th March	Personal Intentions Aggie Walsh, R.I.P.
Friday 27 th March	Fr. Cormac Rigby, R.I.P. (Ann.) Brendan Cole, R.I.P. (Ann.)
Saturday 28 th March	Personal Intentions James & Agnes Adamson, R.I.P. (Ann.)
Sunday 29 th March 5th Sunday of Lent	For you the people Patrick Meegan, R.I.P. (Ann.)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND:

Harry Butler, Lily Fehin, Carmel Galanty, Doreen Jones, Rose Pick, Marjorie Shaw, Caroline Titley, Claire Wilson, Edna Winwright, Mary Worley, Bernadette Campbell, Danny Sheppard, Susan Acton, Bernadeta Herrera, Fiona O'Leary, Nora Bond, Livia Emmanuel, Pauline Walsh, Simon Mott, Claire Wilmshurst, Mary Walsh, Edward Vivier, Carmel Keane, Janet Smith, Sheila Morrison, Andrew Wilson, Barbara Steadman, Christine Andrews, Wendy Davies and Kevin Horner.

AND FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARY OCCURS ABOUT THIS TIME:

Keith Smith, Pauline Garsed, Thomas Condon, Patrick Redmond, Pat Taylor, Hannah Flaherty, Fr. Cormac Rigby, Lorraine Fagan and Brendan Cole.

**God Bless,
Fr. Duncan**