



ST IGNATIUS CATHOLIC CHURCH

THE RECTORY, GREEN STREET, SUNBURY-ON-THAMES, MIDDLESEX TW16 6QB

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RECTOR: FR CHRISTIAN DE LISLE

ADMINISTRATOR: LAVINA MENEZES E FERNANDES

NEWSLETTER

14TH FEBRUARY 2021, + SIXTH SUNDAY IN OT

MASS TIMES

WEEKDAY MASSES: (*No Mass on Monday & Tuesday*) Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday: 9:30am.

WEEKEND MASSES: Saturday Vigil Mass 6pm & Sunday 9:30am & 11:30am

Church Opening Times: (*Church closed between Wednesday 10th and Tuesday 16th inclusive*) Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday: 8am-5pm. *Thursday: Church closed.* Saturday 9:30am-6:30pm. Sunday 8am-1pm

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: Saturday 10:30am – 11:15am followed by Benediction.

CONFESSION: Saturday 10:30am -11:15am (in the Sacristy) or by appointment.

ASH WEDNESDAY -17TH FEBRUARY 2021 MASSES AT 9:30AM & 6PM

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

Year B Ps Week 2

First Reading: Leviticus 13:1-2,44-46

Responsorial Psalm: *Psalm 31(32):1-2,5,11*

Response: *You are my refuge, O Lord; you fill me with the joy of salvation.*

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1

Gospel: Mark 1:40-45

OUR CHURCH'S COVID PRECAUTIONS:

Please note that we have taken every recommended precaution to ensure that the church is a safe place where the virus cannot spread. All congregants are asked to wear a face mask, sanitise their hands on arrival and maintain a distance of over one metre with anyone who they do not live with at all times. The church has been marked up to indicate which seats may be sat in and ensure the use of a one-way system to prevent people unnecessarily passing too close to each other in the aisle. Communion from the chalice has also been suspended.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Thank you for your generous donations

6/7 February 2021

Envelopes	£ 156.00
Loose	£ 90.20
Total	£ 246.20

Parish Cleaning Team 2: J O'Connell, J Sellings, P Goodfellow (Friday)

PARISH NOTICES

Fr Christian will be resting from Wednesday 10th to Tuesday 16th February 2021.

There will be **NO weekday Masses** on Thursday 11th, Friday 12th, Monday 15th & Tuesday 16th - Church will remain closed.

Fr Michael will celebrate the weekend Masses on Saturday 13th & Sunday 14th February. There will be NO Confessions and Benediction on Saturday.

Ash Wednesday at Home

For those who cannot attend Mass on Ash Wednesday because of COVID the following prayers have been authorised by the Archbishop:

1. Gather together and start with the Sign of the Cross.
2. Read the Gospel for today. It is from St Matthew's Gospel, 6.1-6 and 16-18.
3. Say together the prayer given in this Pastoral Letter.
4. Make the Sign of the Cross on each other's forehead, using the words you choose.
5. Pray together: the Our Father; the Hail Mary; each one with his or her own prayer or intention.
6. Conclude with the 'Glory be to the Father...'
7. Give each other a sign of peace.

So Lent begins!

Church Cleaning – We urgently need more cleaners as we are down to only two teams with only one cleaner under 70. If you think you could help once a month, please contact the Parish office. Thank you!

Lockdown 3: Because churches have proven themselves safe places where the virus does not spread and because worship is a vital activity our church will remain open for both public and private prayer during this latest lockdown. The only further restrictions are that we are not permitted to perform weddings or baptisms except in an emergency. All catechesis will happen by telephone or via the internet.

Baptisms during the lockdown: If you wish to have a child baptised please contact the parish office. Although baptisms will not happen during the lockdown registrations and classes for parents *will* continue so it is still worth contacting the parish.

Donations to the Church: COVID has created some financial difficulties for all, our parish included. To be continue to support the church when you are not able to come to Mass, please consider creating a "**Standing Order**." If you wish to set up your offertory through standing orders, please complete the form available at the back of the Church and put it through the Rectory's letterbox. You do not need to be a tax payer in order to have a Standing Order. If you are a tax payer, please consider joining the Gift Aid Scheme. You could also email the Parish Office at sunburyonthames@rcdow.org.uk for more details. Thank you!

Blue Envelopes: At the back of Church you will notice a new set of Blue envelopes. These are the new donation envelopes and have been put together to make donating as easy as possible. It also allows you to Gift Aid things which have not been previously Gift Aided: Mass Intentions, Holy Souls, Building Fund Donations and Stipends for the Sacraments. Please do not forget to complete the slip and enclose it in the envelope along with your donations. The slip will help us to allocate your donations for the right purpose. With this new system, we should be able to receive a larger tax rebate in the future.

REGULAR NOTICES

Funerals: To book a funeral please contact the Parish Office.

Anointing of the Sick: If you know of someone in the parish who is very ill please contact Fr Christian to arrange a visit.

Parish Registration: If you are new to the parish and would like to register, the Parish Registration (Green) forms are available in the Church porch or please email the Parish Office.

Mass Intentions: If you would like to offer a Mass, the brown envelopes are available in the Church Porch. Please drop your Mass intention envelopes through the Rectory - Letterbox or email the Parish Office.

Westminster Year Book 2021: Copies are available at the Parish office, priced at £4.50.

Minister's Rotas: The new *Stewards & Ministers of Word rota* is displayed in the Church Porch and is available on the Parish website.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMMES

Baptism: To arrange for the baptism of any child under the age of seven please contact the Parish Office to book a meeting.

All parents will need to complete a short course on the Sacrament of Baptism, usually held at noon on Saturdays. A child's baptism can be booked for any Saturday which works, again at noon.

First Holy Communion 2021: Classes are on Saturday's during school termtime between 4:45pm and 5:45pm.

Confirmation 2021: Registration for Confirmation in 2021 has not begun. Please keep an eye out for updates in the newsletter.

Becoming Catholic 2020-21: Welcome home! Please contact Fr Christian by telephone or email to organise a meeting.

Marriage: Please contact Fr Christian by telephone or email to organise a meeting.

CAFOD Lent Appeal: Abdella lives in an extremely remote and mountainous part of Ethiopia. It takes him ten hours a day to collect water. He says his life is being wasted as he has no time for anything else. Give today to reach vulnerable communities around the world with water and to provide other vital support. Donate online at cafod.org.uk/lent or by using a CAFOD envelope. You can also give via text. Text LENT to 70460 to donate £10*. *Texts cost £10 plus one standard rate message you'll be opting in to hear more about CAFOD's work and fundraising via telephone and SMS. If you'd like to give £10 but do not wish to receive marketing communications, text LENTNOINFO to 70460.

ARCHBISHOP'S HOUSE, WESTMINSTER, LONDON, SW1P 1QJ

Pastoral Letter for the Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

13-14 February 2021

Shortly it will be Ash Wednesday, a day rich in associations and symbolism. It marks the beginning a Lent, a time for turning again to the practice of our faith, in prayer, self-denial (fasting) and practical generosity (almsgiving). Ash Wednesday is the doorway into this season of renewal.

As we cross this threshold we customarily receive ashes on our foreheads, in the sign of the cross. This is a public mark of our turning again to God, seeking his mercy, forgiveness and help. We use these words: 'Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return'. Yes, we cannot pretend otherwise. Or: 'Repent, and believe in the Gospel'. Yes, we seek the one thing that is absolutely necessary: the grace of God.

This year receiving ashes in church is going to be difficult. Yes, our churches are safe if the protective measures are fulfilled. But we must all be very careful about travelling too far. Some churches will of course be open for the celebration of Mass as usual. But I have asked them not to make extra provision for Ash Wednesday. We must be so careful and cooperative in the measures we must take, to protect ourselves and to protect others.

I now want to emphasise an important point. Receiving ashes is an outward sign of an inner step, a movement of the heart towards our beloved Lord. This year I invite you to concentrate much more on this inner, spiritual movement than on its outward manifestation in the imposition of ashes.

My suggestion is this: celebrate Ash Wednesday at home, with your family, in the household or 'support bubble' of which you are a part. Gather for a while. Read the prayer which I offer. Bless each other by making the sign of the cross on each other's forehead. Spent some time praying in a way that you know. But please, make this a prayer of your heart for God's mercy upon this world struggling to cope with the terrible pandemic and the devastation it is bringing.

Here is a prayer:

'Lord God, with all our hearts we beseech you: have mercy on your people; spare your people; strengthen all people in the struggle against the havoc of this pandemic. Lord our God, without you we are so weak and our courage so limited. Give us your strength; give us your love; give us wisdom and skill to continue this fight. Spare your people, O Lord we pray. Comfort those who mourn and gather into your kingdom all who have died. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord, who died and rose to life, who lives and reigns with you, for ever and ever. Amen.'

Then, bless each other, using one of the two traditional formulas I have quoted earlier in this letter. Then continue with your own prayers. A pattern is suggested at the end of this letter. As a child, my mother or father used to come to my bedside each night to settle me for sleep. I was kissed goodnight and then, either my Mum or Dad would make the sign of the cross on my forehead. They gave me their blessing. This brought me such security. I remember it to this day. Then I slept in peace.

So please do not hesitate, within your household or 'bubble', to bless each other on this Ash Wednesday. We do well to remember together our need of the good Lord. Together, and through each other, he wants to comfort and reassure us of his loving presence. If, on this day, we set aside every pretence that we can do everything of ourselves, then we create in our hearts and lives the space for God's grace and strength to find a home in us.

This is the great invitation of Ash Wednesday and of the weeks of Lent which follow. Please do take up this invitation. Open your hearts to the gift of God's presence to support, comfort and strengthen you. This year, it may be best to do this, not by going to church, but by sharing the prayer, the blessing and this moment of dedication within the love of your family and friends.

Please do include me in your prayers, too. May God bless you all,

+ Vincent Nichols

Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster

THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Please pray for our recently departed parishioners:

Mrs Josephine May Childs, Mrs Tanya Louise North, Mr Patrick Thomas Oliver Jordan, Mrs Clare Link, William Albert Hayler, Jim Izzard.

+Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. Amen+