



ST. EDMUND'S CHRONICLE



St. Edmund of Canterbury Catholic Church
Tel: 020 8894 9923 Email: whitton@rcdow.org.uk
Website: parish.rcdow.org.uk/whitton
Parish Priest: Fr Nigel Griffin

Co-ordinator of Lay Ministry: Chiara Aletti (On furlough)

Parish Safeguarding Representative: Vivien Rimmer **Safeguarding Administrator:** Anne Jones
If you have any concerns about the safeguarding of children and vulnerable people in our parish call **07779 288 867**

SUNDAY MASS AND DAILY MASSES ARE NOT BEING SAID IN PUBLIC

Divine Office: Psalms Week I

EASTER SUNDAY

12TH APRIL 2020

We meet in Christ's name from many different backgrounds and circumstances to acknowledge our complete dependence on him and to receive from him the strength we need to serve him faithfully in the world.

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| Sunday 12 th April EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION | PRIVATE (11:15) | People of The Parish | PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Baltasar Domingues, Ann Doherty, Ann Singleton, Richard Pereira, Katherine Pereira, Vartkes Keshishian, Emily Cleary, Mary Hegarty, Arthur O'Neill, Connie Hewson, Ricky Langham, John Simpson, Roy Edwards, Rachael Boyle, Phillip Dear, Peter & Anne Rutzler, Nick Rutzler, Freida Batshon, Min Wilde, Jacqueline Turner, Frances Kelly, Teresa Gilbert, Geordie Powell Snr, Gary Davies, Michael Garvey, Pat Scammell, Bridget Martin, Mary Hepworth, Colm Brennan, Brigid Lonergan, Justina Nathan, Kevin O'Neill, Jim Tobin, Parul Peters, Charmaine Peters, Ken Stalder, Steve Simpson, Veronica Lapworth, Mollie Cundy, Neri Fernandes, Anna O'Keeffe, Rose Fox, Patricia Corry, Christian Gibbins, all who are sick at this time and the families who care for them. Please pray for the repose of the souls of Esther D'Souza, Chris Bairstow, Fulvio D'Amico, Pat Rayner, Thomas O'Driscoll, Sam Bell, Sarah Reilly, all those whose anniversaries occur at this time, all who have recently died and the families who mourn. |
| Monday 13 th April Easter Octave | PRIVATE (18:00) | Lena Attew (RIP) Ann. | |
| Tuesday 14 th April Easter Octave | PRIVATE (18:00) | Noah Hill (RIP) 1 st Ann. | |
| Wednesday 15 th April Easter Octave | PRIVATE (18:00) | Alicia Yolabde Perez (RIP) Ann. | |
| Thursday 16 th April Easter Octave | PRIVATE (18:00) | Chaz Maine (RIP) | |
| Friday 17 th April Easter Octave <i>No Abstinence</i> | PRIVATE (18:00) | Chippy Holmes (RIP) | |
| Saturday 18 th April Easter Octave | PRIVATE (18:00) | Ana Dolores Cadenas (RIP) | |
| Sunday 19 th April SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY) | PRIVATE (11:15) | People of The Parish | |

During the month of April we pray for the priests and people of Hampton Hill

MESSAGE FROM FR NIGEL

Surely has to be the most unusual of Easter Celebrations ever. Who amongst us could have predicted that this year we would not be able to celebrate the Sacred Triduum together. But this new reality is where we are; however despite these challenges I am forever humbled by the simple acts of kindness and love that are all around us. I know that behind the scenes there are many parishioners who are keeping an eye on our more vulnerable parishioners and on behalf of St. Edmund's, I say thank you. How would we have behaved that first Easter Day? Our reaction would most probably have been very much like that of Mary Magdalen. Arriving at the tomb on Easter morning and finding it empty, she looked for a logical explanation - someone must have moved the body. Saint Peter, too, when summoned is confused, not knowing how to read the signs. It is John, the youngest of the disciples, the one

closest to the Lord's heart, who clammers inside the tomb, weighs up the evidence, and as the gospel testifies: "*he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of Scripture that he must rise from the dead*" (John 20:9). But what has John seen? The simple answer is not very much. The grave cloths are there, neatly folded, but the body which they had covered is not. This was a very different scene from the hurried burial of the damaged and bloody corpse, that lifeless thing, which John had handled two days before. All then had been chaos, confusion, people hardly able to look each other in the eye in their distraught state. John's intuition on Easter morning is of something very different. This is no longer like a crime scene: the atmosphere has changed. Clearly something momentous has taken place within this confined space. He senses it. He does not yet understand the detail, but something deep within him triggers the leap

of faith. Instinctively, he perceives the truth, and later in the day his intuition will be proved right. Easter stands at the heart of the Christian Gospel. As Saint Paul reminded the Corinthians: *"if Christ be not risen, then our preaching is useless and your believing is useless"* (11 Corinthians 15:14).

Faced with the witness of the empty Tomb, most people will have the initial reaction of Mary Magdalen and Peter, rather than that of Saint John. When confronted by something which takes us beyond our normal boundaries, our human understanding encourages us to look for logical explanations. And yet, as Saint John was the first to realise, we are dealing here with a totally unknown phenomenon: Easter can only be comprehended by reaching beyond everything that has been received either before the event, or after it. Jesus's risen life reveals *"an evolutionary leap, a new possibility of human existence, a new kind of future for mankind"* (Benedict XVI). In that Jerusalem tomb 2000 years ago, something happened which re-defined our humanity – which gave it back a transcendence which had been lost. What is held out to us is a new dimension of human existence – eternal life in Christ, with Christ. Where our Redeemer has gone, we are now able to follow.

Fr Nigel

PARISH OFFICE

For the present, the Parish Office is closed. For mass requests, enquiries etc., send email to whitton@rcdow.org.uk

SENIORS

With the current restrictions on movement, all meetings are cancelled until further notice. Look after yourselves and have a good Easter.
Jean 020 8898 4484

HOLY BAPTISM

Baptisms and baptism preparation meetings for parents have been suspended until further notice. New arrangements for cancelled baptisms will be made in due course.

MARY'S MEALS BACKPACK APPEAL

The current restrictions on movement mean it will no longer be possible to collect backpacks on Palm Sunday. A new appeal date will be arranged when more normal times have returned

WHITTON FOODBANK

The Whitton Foodbank (Friday mornings at the Whitton Community Centre) is open for collection of food parcels, on production of a voucher obtainable from the Parish Office. Please phone or email in advance.

CARDINAL'S LENTEN APPEAL 2020

Cardinal Nichols thanks you for your generous support for the Cardinal's Lenten Appeal, which is make funds available for projects helping those most affected by the pandemic and associated measures.

Online donations can still be made at <https://rcdow.org.uk/donate/cardinals-appeal/>

DAILY SPIRITUAL GATHERINGS

Let's pray together and continue our daily "spiritual gatherings" to virtually gather together and pray for all those affected by the coronavirus (Covid-19). We will spiritually gather in prayer every day at 3pm and you can join us wherever you are with the prayer you like best. Please spread the word, God bless you.

CATECHETICAL ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMMES

Due to the latest Government announcements concerning the Covid-19 emergency all our catechetical activities and programmes (Liturgy of the Word, FHC, Confirmation, Soul Bistro, ABC) are currently suspended until further notice.

THANKSGIVING FOR MATRIMONY

In the present circumstances it has been decided to cancel the scheduled mass in Westminster Cathedral for those celebrating significant wedding anniversaries this year.

MASS INTENTIONS

As there will only be one mass said on Sundays, which is for all the people of the parish, the booked Sunday mass intentions have been transferred to weekdays. The Parish Office will contact those concerned. Daily mass intentions can still be booked whitton@rcdow.org.uk

KEEP IN TOUCH

The Chronicle will continue to be published each week on St Edmund's Parish website: parish.rcdow.org.uk/whitton We also have a St Edmund's Facebook page and group: www.facebook.com/StEdmundWhitton/

Are you living alone? Are you over 70? And taking time out during this difficult time? Would you like a call, someone to chat to and someone who may be able to help with things that you would normally do out and about yourself.

You may not feel you need to chat or have a little support right now but during the weeks ahead if you do please do not hesitate to call us. Please note the contact number below and give us a call during the coming weeks.

Please call Fr Nigel **07809667562**.