



ST. EDMUND'S CHRONICLE



St. Edmund of Canterbury Catholic Church
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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

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

10TH MAY 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.

Sunday 10 th May FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	PRIVATE (11:15)	People of The Parish	PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Baltasar Domingues, Ann Doherty, Ann Singleton, Richard Pereira, Katherine Pereira, Emily Cleary, Arthur O'Neill, Connie Hewson, Riky Langham, John Simpson, Roy Edwards, Rachael Boyle, Phillip Dear, Peter & Anne 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, Jeff De Haas, all who are sick at this time and the families who care for them. Please pray for the repose of the souls of Pat Rayner, Thomas O'Driscoll, Sam Bell, Sarah Reilly, Joyce Nunns, Vartkes Keshishian, Nick Rutzler, all those whose anniversaries occur at this time, all who have recently died and the families who mourn.
Monday 11 th May	PRIVATE (18:00)	Brett & Frawley Families (Intention)	
Tuesday 12 th May <i>St Pancras</i>	PRIVATE (18:00)	Linda Bligh (RIP)	
Wednesday 13 th May <i>Our Lady of Fatima</i>	PRIVATE (18:00)	George Widera (RIP)	
Thursday 14 th May ST MATTHIAS	PRIVATE (18:00)	Seehan Pillai Joseph & Andrew Mahendra Rajah (RIP)	
Friday 15 th May <i>Abstinence</i>	PRIVATE (18:00)	Tom Higgins (RIP)	
Saturday 16 th May	PRIVATE (18:00)	Masilla Many & Family (RIP)	
Sunday 17 th May SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	PRIVATE (11:15)	People of The Parish	

During the month of May we pray for the priests and people of St Margaret's, East Twickenham

MESSAGE FROM FR NIGEL

Who will be the human face of God's love for the people of our age? Who, if not those who call themselves disciples of Jesus and who through baptism and confirmation are so conformed to Christ that they almost become other Christs. In other words, that duty of being the human face of God today devolves upon us, upon you and upon me. It is for this reason that Pope Francis continues to call us to be the face of the loving and merciful God for everyone with whom we come into contact; and in doing so you and I are called to be people of faith, both touching the crucified Christ and being touched by the crucified Christ. Jesus reassures us that he will always be with us, and He has shown us the way to eternal peace and love. Jesus puts a human face on the love of God. Jesus gives us a glimpse of the divine. So we are called to fellow Jesus and to put a human face on the love of God for those we come into contact. Jesus wants us to try and be more forgiving, unselfish, caring, and

helpful so that we can bring God's love into the world. On VE Day Her Majesty the Queen, with her memories of the Second World War, reminded us "Never give up, never despair". Whether in the six year struggle of the war or in the current emergency, we must look forward with hope, without forgetting the anguish which many are suffering. While the past is important, and its lessons should never be forgotten, for Christians it is the future which is always of the greatest importance. Ours is a faith which is indeed rooted in God's action in history, but it also looks forward to the future. Our beautiful gospel today expresses just this. Speaking for us all, Thomas asks 'How can we know the way?' How indeed, when life can be so challenging. Well, the way is shown to us by Jesus Christ. In the meantime, it is for each and every one of us, while looking to the future, to lead lives now that are rooted in the teaching and love of Jesus Christ, the Way, the Truth and the Life.

Fr Nigel

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus,
I believe that you are present in this Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love you above all things and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever. *Amen* – **Prayer of St Alphonsus**

SAINT OF THE WEEK

The Acts of the Apostles records that *Saint Matthias* was selected by the early Church to replace Judas Iscariot in the ranks of the apostles. They nominated two men: Joseph Barsabbas and Matthias. They prayed and drew lots. The choice fell upon Matthias, who was added to the Eleven. What was the holiness of Matthias? Obviously, he was suited for apostleship by the experience of being with Jesus from his baptism to his ascension. He must also have been suited personally, or he would not have been nominated for so great a responsibility. If the apostles are the foundations of our faith by their witness, they must also be reminders, if only implicitly, that holiness is entirely a matter of God's giving, and it is offered to all, in the everyday circumstances of life. We receive, and even for this God supplies the power of freedom.

PARISH OFFICE

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

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.

CAFOD EMERGENCY APPEAL

The effects of coronavirus on developing countries where CAFOD works are devastating. Families without enough to eat and without access to clean water and healthcare are particularly vulnerable to coronavirus. The poorest and most marginalised communities will be pushed further into poverty. Your prayers and gifts are needed now more than ever to help protect the lives of those in poor communities. While we are not able to hold physical collections in our church, you can donate at cafod.org.uk/coronavirusappeal/.

WAYS TO GIVE

Like many organisation, the suspension of our public worship will make quite a hole in our parish finances. I realise that this will be the same for many parishioners, but if you are in a position to do so, it would be a massive help to contribute to our parish by monthly standing order. We do expect to 'take a hit' like most organisations, and we understand that this is a difficult time - both emotionally and financially - so please donate only if you can afford to do so, but what you can give will help us to continue to serve our parish community. We now also have a Virgin Money Giving account tiny.cc/StEdmundVM for online giving. Standing orders from bank accounts are still being received, and it is possible to give in this way by a new standing order, which can be created online directly with your bank. The parish account details are **WRCDT ST EDMUNDS CANTERBURY WHITTON, 40-05-20, 61094564**. You can also Gift Aid this, please send an email to whitton@rcdow.org.uk for instructions.

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**.

FRIENDS OF THE HOLY LAND

The impact of the Covid-19 virus on Christians in the Holy Land is devastating not least because so many rely on the income from pilgrimages and tourists. The FHL Pentecost Challenge aims to raise funds before Pentecost on 31 May. Three supporters have pledged to match fund the first £100,000, so every £1 you donate will have the impact of £2. Please donate at friendsoftheholylan.org.uk/pentecost-challenge

CHRISTIAN LEADERS

'We need to keep on praying.' Presidents of Churches Together in England are encouraging us to keep praying prayers of hope; the series of video messages is available at <https://rcdow.org.uk/news/christian-leaders-we-need-to-keep-on-praying/>