



Our Lady of the Annunciation

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Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday: 9am - 3pm Wednesday: Closed

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:
Weekdays after 10am Mass Every Saturday at 5pm Or by appointment

3rd May 2020 Fourth Sunday of Easter YEAR A

What does the image of Jesus the shepherd mean for us today? While sheep all look the same to us, a shepherd knows each of them individually. When a shepherd calls a sheep, the sheep recognises the voice and responds. Just as the shepherd knows the sheep, the sheep know and trust the shepherd. The shepherd guides and protects the sheep. The sheep go where the shepherd leads them.

We are not sheep! But the Lord knows and loves each of us as individuals. We are not all the same to the Jesus. He loves each of us personally and intimately. The Prophet Isaiah has a beautiful image of this when he writes, 'I have called you by your name, you are mine, do not be afraid. You are precious to me and I love you.' If a shepherd cares for his sheep with great love and devotion, how much more does Jesus love and care for each of us?

Jesus does not force us to listen to his voice when he calls us. He invites us to follow him freely. The choice whether or not to respond is ours. We may take our time in responding, but Jesus will never stop calling us by our name; he will wait until we do respond.

In the same way, Jesus does not call and ask us to follow him just for the sake of it. He offers us not only the fullness of life; he offers us the fullness of his life. Jesus came so that each of us may have life and have it to the full. This fullness of life is offered to us here and now, not some time in the future.

As we continue our journey through Easter in preparation for the celebration of Pentecost, may each of us realise how deeply and personally Jesus loves us. When Jesus calls us by our name, may we answer in faith, gratitude and gratefulness. May we follow wherever he leads us.



Fr Keill.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE PARISH OFFICE IS NOW CLOSED AS OUR STAFF ARE FURLOUGHED THROUGH MAY. WE WILL ADVISE YOU WHEN THIS SITUATION CHANGES. THANK YOU.

We will continue to livestream the 10am Mass each Sunday through our Facebook page. The link will also appear on our website under the LIVE MASSES tab.

Mass Intentions This Week

2 May: Saturday

10:00 Bill Rusk RIP
18:00 Thanksgiving for Andrew Alexander

3 May: FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

10:00 UCM: All First Holy Communion
Children & Families
12:00 Wellbeing of Lourdes Joseph

4 May: Monday

THE ENGLISH MARTYRS
10:00 Mary Foley RIP

5 May: Tuesday

10:00 Birthday Wishes for Francisco Fernandes

6 May: Wednesday

10:00 Owen O'Neill RIP

7 May: Thursday

10:00 June Cully RIP
19:30 Alexander Wood RIP

8 May: Friday

10:00 Michael Considine RIP

9 May: Saturday

10:00 Seamus Brady RIP
18:00 Ann Hughes RIP

10 May: FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

08:30 David Warner RIP
10:00 Christy Jordan RIP 3rd Anniversary

Please see our website for a full list of all Mass Intentions for May 2020.

OUR LADY'S SAFEGUARDING OFFICER - Ann Marie Christian. Contact email - addiscombesg1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

COLLECTIONS & OFFERTORY

All second collections have ceased until public worship resumes. Please see the notice overleaf regarding the offertory.

We pray for the sick in our Parish: Elizabeth Damsel, Fr David Peck, Lauren Horwood, Sharon Gillett, Dominic Audibert-Moloney, Elizabeth Casey, Jack Burke, Florence Okugbe, Ethan Patel, Fr Alan Sharpe

We pray for parishioners whose anniversaries occur this Week: Tricia Urwin, Win Moloney, Thomas O'Flanagan, Margaret Tuck, Johanna MEEK, Bridie Coombes, Denis Kelly, Rosario de Gomez, Ronald Thomson, Bruno Laskowski, Johanna Concannon, Lily Hopcraft, Peter Hulme, John Finigan, Norah Fowler, Rosa Piper, Colin Joseph, Michael Considine, George Stone, Claude Nasse, Gerald Zampa, Eamonn McPhillips, Beatrix Ann Martin, Christy Jordan

SOCIAL CLUB NEWS

A message from Ben Cahill - Chair of the Social Club

On behalf of the Social Club Committee, I hope that you are all safe and well!

Sheila & Garry Jordan would like to thank you for your magnificent support of *The Brain Tumour Charity* in memory of their son Christy. To date, **over £50,000.00 has been raised** for the charity. Please remember Christy's family & friends in your thoughts & prayers over the next week as they approach the third anniversary of his passing.

When the programme of activities at the Social Club (*the Ballroom of Romance*) was suspended because of the *Covid-19 Virus* it was decided that a *Keeping in Touch* email would be sent to all Members & their Friends. We are now sending the weekly document which includes general news, stories, poems and musical & video clips to 70+ families per week. If you would like to be placed on the circulation list, please send an email to Pat Winston (patrickwinston@yahoo.co.uk).

The Social Club Committee are available to help you in anyway; please make contact via the Parish Office. You may need assistance with shopping, collection of medication, transport to a hospital appointment et al. **No task is too small - please make contact.**

JOSIE BRADY & FAMILY: Would like to thank all friends, family and the whole parish community for their kind messages of support, prayers and Masses on the passing of her husband James. It has really been a great source of comfort at this sad time.

Obviously with the current lockdown situation, James' funeral is taking place privately at Beckenham Crematorium on 12th May.

However, the family look forward to remembering James at a memorial Mass with you all as soon we are able.

CONFIRMATION 2020

Bishop Paul will be celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation here on **Sunday 1st November at 12 noon**. Young people in year 8 or above who wish to join the programme this year, should download an application pack from the parish website. The candidate should complete and return it to the parish office (via the letterbox) no later than **Sunday 17th May**.

Obviously, given the current lockdown situation we are not certain as to when or how the confirmation programme will be delivered this year, but for now we will proceed as normal with applications, in the hope that restrictions are eased by the time the programme is due to commence (approx July).

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2020

Sadly, as you may have guessed, due to the extended lockdown period First Holy Communion at Our Lady's in May, has been cancelled. Any further information about this situation will be posted on our website, as soon as we have it, so please keep a look out. Many thanks.

CAN THE SVP HELP YOU?

During this difficult time of lockdown, our SVP members are asking if you, or anyone you know of in the parish that might appreciate a phone call or two during the week? If so, please send your/their details to the SVP, by emailing noelmsvas@hotmail.com and they will be delighted to add them to their list. Don't be lonely!

OFFERTORY

We have had a number of people ask how to make their weekly offering to church during this time of lockdown. There are a couple of ways you can still do this....

- You can put the money you would normally place in the plate to one side each week, and when we are worshipping together again, hand it all in at once.

- If you are a member of the Gift Aid scheme you can do the same with your filled envelopes, or drop them through our letterbox if passing.

- You might consider increasing your standing order at this difficult time for the church. **However if you do decide to do this PLEASE EITHER RING THE PARISH OFFICE OR EMAIL TO ADVISE US OF IT.**

- If you do not have a standing order but wish to make a **ONE OFF DONATION** via online banking, again **please ring the parish office who can then provide you with the correct details and reference needed to do this.**

EASTER OFFERINGS FOR YOUR PRIESTS - Will be deferred to a date later in the year.

MARYHILL: Huge thanks to those who have already given their donation for Maryhill. For those who have not yet done so, **please be advised that you can still hand in your donation through the parish office or presbytery letterbox, (without need to make contact with anyone) and it will be banked in the usual manner.**

Many thanks Angela Yates.

PASSING ON THE FAITH

Parents have a lot more time with their children at the moment. So we felt it timely to offer a programme we have run in the past in several parishes but now, as an online service for families. This is a programme to help parents with a most important task, answering the following questions. What are the fundamental aspects of our faith which need to be there from day one? How can parents answer children's questions in a way that makes sense to them? Reflecting about God and about faith is of necessity an intimate, one-to-one activity, so this programme, aimed specifically at parents, starts with the existence of God, then moves on to Jesus and then to prayer (how to do it really well). Christian morality/ethics come later. There will be input, worksheets and discussions with others who have children of similar ages, over several online sessions. *For more details email Lisette Blanchet-Ball on mflse@rcaos.org.uk*

REFUGEE SUPPORT - COVID 19

A number of people kindly filled out standing order pledges to support the community sponsorship scheme. We wrote to you in February to let you know we intended to activate the standing orders in April and to use our new bank account. In recent weeks we had a short list of potential properties and were close to finalising on behalf of the family. The home office has now advised us not to enter into any property lease commitments for the time being due to Covid 19.

With this in mind, it would be wrong to take your standing order donations at this time. Consequently, we will defer activation of the standing orders until a later date; hopefully by the Summer.

Addiscombe Welcomes Refugees would like to thank everyone who has given support to this amazing cause and we look forward to resurrecting the project as soon as the home office give us the go ahead.