



St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Ansdell

Parish Priest: Fr. David Burns.

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4th (Laetare) Sunday in Lent

22nd March 2020

*I am the light of the world; says the Lord
whoever follows me will have the light of life.*

Please see the Statement over the page from the Bishops' Conference of England & Wales, issued last Wednesday 18th March, regarding public worship in our churches in the light of the Corona Virus outbreak.

Following that statement, the church is longer open for public worship from the evening of Friday 20th March until further notice. That is to say, we cannot gather for Mass, which will now be celebrated in private by priests without a congregation. The obligation to attend Sunday Mass is, therefore, suspended until further notice.

There are also severe restrictions on funerals, weddings, baptisms and other forms of liturgy or celebration. Please contact Fr David for details.

The Church will still be open as usual for private visits and prayer, daily from about 9.30am until about 6pm

Individual Confession will still be available:

In church: Sat 4.30 – 5.30pm and Tue 9.30 – 10am (and also on request)

Fr. David's Holy Communion visits to the sick:

these will no longer take place, but can only be made on request when someone is very ill.

The Weekly Bulletin will continue to be printed and will be available from Saturday morning from the back of church. There will also be other notices and printouts made available from time to time.

St Joseph's Care: If you, or someone you know is in need, St Joseph's Care has a helpline and we have volunteers who will be in a position to provide basic support such as shopping. The number is:

07840 112 265 (9am – 7pm daily). We thank those extra volunteers who have given their names and are prepared to provide help for those who need it in these difficult times.

Live Streaming of the Mass:

Our Lady Star of the Sea & St Michael, Workington follow: <https://www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/christ-the-good-shepherd>

For Our Lady of Furness, Barrow follow: <https://camsecure.co/httpswebcam/owenbayliss/owenbayliss5.html>

The following are the intentions for Masses that Fr David will offer in private during the next week:

Sat 21 st Vigil:	St Peter's Parish
Sun 22 nd Morning	St Joseph's Parish
Sun 22 nd Afternoon	Margaret McKeon RIP
Mon 23 rd	---
Tue 24 th	Florence Lilian Lutas (Ann)
Wed 25 th	St Peter's Intention
Thu 26 th	St Peter's Intention
Fri 27 th	Thomas Patrick Gibson (Ann)
Sat 28 th Morning	St Peter's Intention
Sat 28 th Vigil:	St Peter's Parish
Sun 29 th Morning	St Joseph's Parish
Sun 29 th Afternoon	George Costello RIP

Mass Intentions may be posted through the door at St Joseph's Presbytery

Please pray for:

Lately Dead:

Don O'Toole

Those who are sick: Sr. Josephine Mary (Hying), Brid José, Kitty O'Dea, Joyce Russell, Michael Cookson, Pat Quaile, Simon Muller, Susan Standing, Margaret Spillane, Maureen Lundy, Christopher Hill, Christopher Hunter, Pat Marion, Paul Meskell, Anne Meyer, Phil Winstanley, Frances Kendrick, Bobby Kelly, Judith Cross, John Weaver, Andrew Cox, Roseanne Evans, Alex Walker, Emmanuel Zammit, Bob Osachuk, Rosaline Fox, Alan Watkins, Alison Singleton, Vincent Lutas, Rod Beirne.

Those whose anniversaries occur about this time:

Peter Charles, Nancy Rought, Joseph Michael McKenna, Thomas Patrick Gibson, Nicholas Anthony Debono, Edmund Tracey, Thomas Pinder, Gilbert Hayhurst, Michael Markey, George Rankin, Daisy May Nawrocki, Norman Gregg, Mollie Sheridan, Stanislaw Gosik, Mary Wilson, Christine Dale.

Foodbank: Collections are needed more than ever. **Please bring any donations to the Hall between 11am and Noon each Monday morning** for the time being. Many thanks

Thank you for the collection last week:

Offertory	St. Joseph's Care	<u>£15.00</u>
Gift Aid		£201.97
Non-Gift Aid		<u>£384.45</u>
		<u>£586.42</u>

New Gift Aid Envelope Boxes: These are available at the back of church.

Letter on public worship in Catholic Churches in England & Wales in light of COVID-19

In response to the Coronavirus pandemic, so many aspects of our lives must change. This includes the ways in which we publicly express our faith. It is very clear that, following official advice and in order to keep each other safe, save lives and support the NHS, at this time we must not gather for public acts of worship in our churches. This will begin from Friday evening, 20th March 2020, until further notice.

Our churches will remain open. They are not closing. They will be a focal point of prayer, where you will find solace and strength. In visiting our churches at this time, we will observe with great care the practices of hygiene and the guidance on social distancing.

However, the celebration of Mass, Sunday by Sunday and day by day, will take place without a public congregation.

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.

We want everyone to understand that in these emergency circumstances, and for as long as they last, the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days is removed. This is, without doubt, the teaching of the Church (Catechism of the Catholic Church 2181). This pandemic is the 'serious reason' why this obligation does not apply at this time.

You will find more details about the pathway of prayer and sacramental life we are now to take in the accompanying document and on the Bishops' Conference website (www.cbcew.org.uk). Your own bishop and parish priest will provide further support, encouragement and information about our way of prayer together in the coming weeks.

The second 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; contributing to our local food banks; volunteering for charitable initiatives and organisations; simply keeping in touch by all the means open to us.

During these disturbing and threatening times, the rhythm of the prayer of the Church will continue. Please play your part in it. The effort of daily kindness and mutual support for all will continue and increase. Please play your part in this too. For your commitment to this, we thank you.

"The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want."

May God bless us all.

Vincent Cardinal Nichols President, Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales

Archbishop Malcolm McMahon OP Vice-President

From Bishop Paul Swarbrick:

You are already aware through statement issued from the Bishops' Conference that we live in exceptional times and much is being asked of us. Whatever restrictions are imposed on us cannot restrict the Grace of God, rather we are invited to grow more confident and trustful of his abiding presence. The witness we give as Catholics in such circumstances is priceless. A major opportunity here is to encourage and develop practices of personal and family devotion in the home. This is not the first time in Lancashire or Cumbria that this has been the case, we have a rich and heroic heritage on which to reflect and draw strength. Having said that, we resist any temptation to withdraw into ourselves. We remain part of the Catholic Church, and daily we commend the World Community not just the Diocese of Lancaster to God's loving mercy.

It is highly likely that I will be celebrating the Holy Week Liturgies in the Cathedral in relative physical isolation. Do rest assured that the Liturgies will take place and the Liturgical actions will benefit all.

With my prayers and blessing, keep well."

Rt Rev Paul Swarbrick, Bishop of Lancaster

From Fr David: During this difficult and challenging time, we turn to our faith in the Lord, who has conquered all things, and who promises to be with us always, even to the end of the ages. Although there will not be access to Mass and the Eucharist, we can stay close to the Lord in prayer – and to one another – and He will be close to us. He is the light at the end of the tunnel, the light that the darkness cannot overcome. Nothing can separate us from the love of Christ. We will stay together through our love and our prayers for one another.

Various Prayers: Please take a copy of the sheet with various prayers that may be helpful at home at this time.

Catholic Voice: Please take a copy of The Voice for April, keeping us in touch with Catholics across the diocese. Copies of the **Wednesday Word** are also available.