

**AT THE MOMENT SOME CHURCHES AND CHAPELS IN THE
ARCHDIOCESE ARE ONLY BEING OPENED FROM TIME TO TIME FOR
PRIVATE PRAYER**

Please **wait** for information about the resumption of public Masses, thank you.
SOLEMNITY OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL, APOSTLES (TRANSFERRED)
This Sunday, 28 June we keep the **Solemnity of the Apostles, Peter and Paul** as we celebrate our spiritual links with our Holy Father, Pope Francis and the life of the Church in Rome. **Mass will be celebrated at 10.00 am; please pray for the intentions of the Holy Father at Sunday Mass on that day.**

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You may be interested to know that, forty years ago on this day, I was ordained to diaconal ministry in the Church of England in Coventry Cathedral, and twenty-three years ago today I was ordained as a Deacon in the Catholic Church in the Chapel of St. Mary's Seminary, Oscott. Please join with me today in thanksgiving, Deo Gratias!

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As you will all be very aware, throughout the year, there are various occasions when our spiritual life is directed to Rome, and our links with our Holy Father, the Pope. We keep the dedication of the Basilicas of St Peter at the Vatican and St Paul outside the Walls; St Mary Major and the Holy Father's Cathedral, St John Lateran. In February we keep the Feast of the Chair or See of St Peter, celebrating the world-wide primacy of the Pope and our spiritual links with all our fellow Catholics.

On 29 June each year we keep the Solemnity of the Apostles, Saints Peter and Paul. Tradition links them both with Rome, and the sites of their martyrdom at The Vatican and at Tre Fontane. The Solemnity this year is transferred to this Sunday.

The scriptures for this day, give us an opportunity to reflect on both saints.

Before the tradition that he was held in Rome at the Mamertine Prison, the Acts of the Apostles tell us that King Herod, after the execution of St James, the first Apostle to be martyred, imprisoned Peter in Jerusalem. As a result of the Church's prayer he was sent a messenger, an angel from God, enabling him to escape. The ministry of angels in our own lives is celebrated in today's psalm, and as another psalm puts it, 'he will give his angels charge over you.' St Paul, reflecting on his own life, is conscious of his many sufferings and a life to be poured out like a sacrificial offering. He is able, however, to rejoice in the sense of the abiding presence of God in his life.

Peter's future suffering is made explicit in St John's gospel, yet here in St Matthew's at Caesarea Philippi, we hear of Peter's ministry as the rock on which the Church is built. Jesus says this after he had asked his disciples, 'Who do you say I am'? You are the Christ, the Messiah, the Anointed One, Peter says. What is our **own** answer to that question today, I wonder, and what are we prepared to do in response to our answer?

I hope that you and your family will have some blessed times together in spite of all the present difficulties.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Members of the SVP are distributing paper copies of the weekly parish newsletter to parishioners who do not have access to the online version. If you are aware of anyone who would benefit from receiving a copy, please phone S. McMahon on 01926 858 436.

SVP – FOOD BANK COLLECTIONS

In the present circumstances, many more people are becoming unemployed, and demand on the local food banks is increasing. They require non-perishable foods and household items, including tinned potatoes, instant mash, tins of meat, small bags of sugar, and washing up liquid. **This Sunday, between 11.30am and 1.00pm**, members of the SVP (Kenilworth) will be collecting items for the food bank, in the car park of St. Francis Church – appropriate social distancing will be maintained. Your donations will be gratefully received. (For more information please 'phone 01926 858 436.)

ALISON RAND RIP

Alison, a member of St Nicholas's congregation, the wife of Peter Rand, died last Monday morning. Well known to us all in the parish, Alison and Peter have been involved in the spiritual and social life of the parish for over forty years. The parish Catenian Circle has been enriched by the contribution of them both and their unstinting support. Alison has faced bravely the situation of poor health in recent times. Fr David joins me in extending to Peter, to Jonathan his son, and to all the family, the deepest sympathy of all parishioners and the assurance of our prayers. May she rest in peace.

SUNDAY 12 JULY 2020 IS SEA SUNDAY

Although in Kenilworth we are as far from the sea as it is possible to be in this country; at this time each year we are reminded of our dependence on the sea and sea transport, for so much (about 95%) that we enjoy in our daily lives. We are also encouraged to pray for the work of the Apostleship of the Sea in its outreach to seafarers, particularly in this, the Centenary Year – congratulations to all concerned! Chief Executive, Martin Foley, says that seafarers are among the heroes of the pandemic and are key workers who deserve our continued support.

"This is a particularly difficult time for seafarers who have continued to work throughout the pandemic to ensure that our society continues to function; to ensure that our supermarket shelves are stocked. So, we owe a great debt of gratitude to seafarers'.

It may not be possible to have a second collection this year, Donations may be sent to: Apostleship of the Sea, 39 Eccleston Square, London, SW1V 1BX.

VACANCIES

St Augustine's Catholic Primary School is currently still looking for a Site Manager and Teaching Assistant. Further details can be found on the school website:

<http://www.staugustineskenilworth.co.uk/staff-governors/job-vacancies>

Please do pass the message on to anyone you know who may be interested in applying.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES

These envelopes and other donations may be posted through the Presbytery inside letter-box. Thank you for this sign of kindness and generosity.

**MAY OUR LORD BLESS YOU ALL DURING THESE DIFFICLT AND
CHALLENGING DAYS, FATHER KEVIN**