



OUR LADY & ST BENEDICT'S CHURCH NEWSLETTER

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13th - 14th March 2021

Fourth Sunday of Lent. Mothering Sunday

“God loved the world so much that he sent his only Son, so that through him the world might be saved.” John 3: 14-21

Fourth Sunday of Lent. Laetare Sunday, Mothering Sunday, Psalter Week 4

Pope's Prayer Intention for March: Sacrament of Reconciliation *Let us pray that we may experience the sacrament of reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the infinite mercy of God.*

Sat 13 th March	Vigil for Third Sunday in Lent Mothering Sunday) Divine healing for Maureen Walsh, Pat Crehan, Peggy Lennon, Michael Walsh, Andrew Doyle, Stan Linden. Archbishop's Pastoral Letter	Public Mass 5.30 pm Cathedral Maintenance Collection
Sun 14 th March	Fourth Sunday in Lent (Mothering Sunday) James Murray RIP Intentions for Mothers both living and departed. Archbishop's Pastoral Letter	Public Mass & Mass Online 10.00 am Live Stream via Zoom Cathedral Maintenance Collection
Mon 15 th March	Lent Feria	Mass 9. 00 am In Private
Tue 16 th March	Lent Feria Reception to Church Jim Murray	Mass 9.15 am In Private. 4.30 pm Live Stream via Zoom
Wed 17 th March	Feast of St Patrick Patron of Ireland, Patron of Nigeria, Funeral Mass Jim Murray	11.00 am Family invite Only. Live Stream via Zoom Stations of the Cross 6.30 pm Live Stream via Zoom
Thurs 18 March	Lent Feria	Mass 9.15 am In Private
Fri 19 th March	Solemnity of St Joseph Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Mass 9.15 am In Private
Sat 20 th March	Lent Feria	Mass 9.15 am In Private
Sat 20 th March	Vigil for Fifth Sunday in Lent Divine healing for Maureen Walsh, Pat Crehan, Peggy Lennon, Michael Walsh, Andrew Doyle, Stan Linden	Public Mass 5.30 pm
Sun 21 st March	Fifth Sunday in Lent	Public Mass & Mass Online 10.00 am Live Stream via Zoom

Prayer intentions: Please pray for those on our parish sick list and all sick the elderly, the housebound, all who are self-isolating and all who care for them.

We pray for all our family and friends who have recently died Jim Murray and Marion Fletcher, and for our parish anniversaries, Michael Rogers, Martin Corrigan, David Rolstone, Denis Cowan, Russell Thomas, Gerard Jones, and May Kinney

Jim Murray: Jim Murray from Bearley died recently after a long illness. A regular at our Saturday night masses and in lent our Stations of the Cross. For many years Jim was our Parish Missio Co-ordinator. His funeral will be on Wednesday 17th March at 11.00 am., The reception will be the night before at 4.30 pm which parishioners can attend. Our thoughts and prayers go to his wife Margaret and his family.

Eternal rest grant to him O Lord. May he rest in Peace.

Cathedral Maintenance collection. This Sunday is the collection to support the Maintenance of St Chads.

The Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham Registered Charity No. 234

Parish Stations of The Cross 6.30 pm Wednesdays: Thanks to all who joined us last Wednesday to share our mediation on the way of the Cross. We will continue praying and sharing the Stations of the Cross on the Wednesdays in Lent @ 6.30 pm, following Fr Pat's booklet We Walk with the Lord on the Way of the Cross. Please do join us in person or log on to Zoom. We will be using our usual Zoom link and Password.

Laetare Sunday, Mothering Sunday. The Church marks this Sunday in the middle of Lent as a celebration. The Entrance antiphon calls us to rejoice. It is fitting that we also celebrate Mothering Sunday this week, where we give thanks and pray for all Mothers and Grandmothers, for all those expecting children and for all those suffering the loss of a child. We thank God for all the ladies who help our church in so many ways. We thank God for our own Mothers, living or departed, for our Holy Mother Church, for our Blessed Mother and the patron of our own church Mary the mother of Christ. Regrettably, Covid restrictions means we cannot share our usual little flower posies this year.

Year of St Joseph / Novena to St Joseph On December 8th, 2020 Pope Francis declared a year of prayer to St Joseph. The Mill Hill Missionaries are encouraging us to take part in their Novena to St Joseph from 10th – 18th March 2021. The Novena Prayer to St. Joseph (from the Apostolic Letter of Pope Francis, Patris Corde—With a Father's Heart) Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted his only Son; in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man. Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage, and defend us from every evil. Please call to mind your special intentions... St. Joseph, Pray for us. Add: Our Father..., Hail Mary..., Glory be to the Father..., Amen. More details can be found at <https://millhillmissionaries.com/novena/>

Holy Week and Easter Services: Although the lockdown measures are easing, we will still have to regulate the numbers that can attend our principal services at Easter to follow our Covid policies and maintain space between social or family "bubbles". Our easter services this year all be slightly different to our normal for this reason.

On Palm Sunday we will not be holding any procession, we will ask worshipers to collect palms as they enter, and we will bless them in the mass and ask everyone to take these home with them.

Our Mass on Maundy Thursday, while celebrating the last supper and the institution of the mass the service will be pared back. There will be no watching until midnight after mass.

On Good Friday there will be no individual veneration of the cross.

Our Easter vigil service will be probably be condensed, on Easter day we will be holding our traditional 8.30 mass and 10.00 Mass but unfortunately, we cannot distribute Easter eggs.

As at Christmas we will be sending out a poll to book a seat at the services on Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday morning please return this by 26th March to allow up to plan.

Please remember that No one should feel under any compulsion to come to the Church in person.

Children's Easter. We will be asking our children to put their talents to some crafts for display in our church or online for Easter. More details next week.

Financial support for your parish and Gift Aid Envelopes. The new planned giving Envelopes will be available soon. If you are a taxpayer and would like to start to Gift Aid your donations to our Church, please contact our Treasurer Mary Mayo. If you have not done so, you can Gift Aid any donations though bank transfer or standing order. Thank you to all our parishioners for their continued support in these difficult times.

Mary Mayo can be contacted by email mary.mayo1@btinternet.com. for further details and the account number.

Diocesan Newsletter: To keep up to date with all the latest news, information, and online events from around our Archdiocese and beyond please sign up to the newsletter, issued every few weeks via email. Please visit www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/e-news to view the latest news and resources.

Legacies: The Diocese has details online to assist people who may want to consider leaving a legacy to the Church. At the back of our Church, you will find copies of their leaflet. Please do consider whether you, or someone you know, may wish to support the Church in this way. Thank you.

Latest Covid Measures: Although the good news is that many of our parishioners have had their Covid Vaccination and that our schools will start back next week, we cannot relax our Covid measures yet.

The Church reminds us all that currently there is no obligation to attend mass in person.

We continue to encourage those who are vulnerable or at any risk to themselves to stay safe, stay at home and join us by Zoom, we can still chat on Zoom. There are plenty of opportunities for worshipers to join spiritually and virtually in mass daily or weekly if they wish. The Guidance for those attending remains important.

HANDS- FACE- SPACE.

Please follow the current restrictions and do not mix with other households in Church.

If you or your family have the symptoms of COVID 19 please do not come to the church.