



Parish of St. Vincent de Paul

Newsletter

4th April 2020

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FB: Vincent De Paul Church

Mass Times

Sunday	09.00
Monday	07:30
Tuesday	07:30
Wednesday	07.30
Thursday	07:30
Friday	07.30
Saturday	07.30

Mass Intentions

Sun 05 : Doris & Jimmy McCarthy
 Mon 06: Parishioners
 Tues 07: Parishioners
 Wed 08: Parishioners
 Thu 09: Parishioners
 Fri 10: Parishioners
 Sat 11: Parishioners



Homily Notes

On Thursday at 8.00 pm our attention turned to the NHS staff and all persons who are giving valuable service in this emergency period. The four of us stood in front of the Presbytery and joined our neighbours in making sounds of cheering – we clapped and rang our two small church bells. The loudest waterfront cheer came from a ship in the dock area. We were united in acknowledging and appreciating the passion and commitment of many to serve and save lives in this difficult time.

Along with the excitement and cheer that surrounded the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, we see him on the path of humility and with a passionate commitment to serve and save. This was to be at a cost which he alone could understand. He had lived his life serving the poor and the abandoned, the outcasts, the oppressed, those crippled by life in one way or another. It was this work that had brought him to Jerusalem.

We cannot gather at St Vincent's Church to celebrate Palm Sunday and to start the Holy Week as we would normally do. But we still celebrate Jesus' saving work and we celebrate the faith-filled commitment and passion that is moving many to serve and save. May this holy period bring us healing and consolation.

Charles

Passion Week 2020

It will, I'm sure, be a long time

before we forget this Easter. I hope and pray that it will not be remembered by some of us because of the loss of a loved one: if so, be sure that our sympathy and prayers are with you at this painful time. Most of us will remember it as the Easter with no ceremonies; the Easter when we were locked in our homes and could not join our brothers and sisters in the parish church.

Equally, this Palm Sunday will not be remembered for the joy of joining St. Michael's Congregation in our Walk of Witness but rather for the absence of blessed palms. Some of the children did suggest making palms at home and bringing them to pin on the fence in front of the church. We thought it a great idea until we remembered that we should not be making unnecessary journeys away from home. So, the children will now send photos of themselves and their palms for our Facebook account.

I wonder what Jesus would make of entering Jerusalem on a virtual ass! What would he think of riding through the gate of Facebook to touch our hearts?

Jesus was a man of his time and of his culture. He was fully immersed in the ways of his people. All his stories – his parables – reflect how close he was to his people. He accepted them and loved them as they were, with all their ways of doing things. I feel sure that he would adapt well to our ways today and would know how to use FB, Zoom, Facetime and all.

He would use them as ways of bringing the people to his Father and of bringing them into his Kingdom.

Let us not lament too much our virtual ceremonies this year. We can use them to hear the Word of God and to recognise and celebrate God's loving and reassuring presence in these darkest of times.

Terry

Coronavirus and Archbishop Romero

*In case you don't normally hear the Radio 4 Sunday Worship, the service last weekend was a beautiful reflection on coronavirus and Archbishop Romero. The guest speaker at the service was invited to the UK to tour the regions as part of the **Romero Week** events but due to COVID-19 his tour was cancelled. The BBC has done a wonderful job of putting together this liturgy.*

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m000gt6k>

Collette Byrne, Archdiocesan CAFOD officer

Parish Notice Board

Lottery Results

Drawn on 22nd March:

01 02 03 04 05 10

Drawn on 29th March:

01 04 05 08 09 11

*You are welcome to join us for Sunday's Mass
live-streamed on Facebook
At 9am on Sunday*

Pope Francis shares two prayers with us:

WITH JESUS IN THE MORNING

Lord I give you thanks for a new day. I remember friends, family and acquaintances who are suffering. I offer your day for them with all who pray for the pope's intention this month: we pray that those suffering from addiction may find the help they need.

WITH JESUS IN THE NIGHT

Give thanks to God for another day. Throughout your day the Father calls to your heart in the small details, and he wants you to listen to him. When and where did you recognize the presence of the Lord? For what do you want to thank God? Is there any situation where you need to ask for forgiveness? Take note of what you discover and offer tomorrow to the Lord.

Hail Mary...

His Monthly Prayer intention for April is:

We pray that those suffering from addiction may be helped and accompanied.

The bereaved Family of
Maurzen Doyle,
of Prince Albert Mews,
inform Parishioners and Friends that
her mortal remains will be cremated on
Thursday, 9th April.

Due to the restrictions of the Corona
Virus Epidemic, only immediate Family
are invited to attend.
May she rest in Peace.



Don't Forget 6.30pm, every evening **Parish Evening Prayer** at home

Wherever you are, take time to pray with
all other parish members.

Let our prayer be united to help us stay
faithful to the Lord and to each other
during this difficult time.

*Leaflets available at the Parish House and
on Facebook*

At the time of publishing this newsletter,
we have not yet determined the times
and manner of the **Easter Services**. This
will be published on Facebook by Tuesday
noon.

Bear with us, please, in this confusing
time.



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Prayer Intentions

Our Prayers are asked for the following who are sick: Molly McEVOY, Ann NEEDHAM, Pat O'Donovan, Kelly SHEPHERD, Nadine TANNER, Joseph TUCKER

Also for the intentions of: Pray for those who are suffering with this disease across the world, for Pope Francis & all religious leaders, ALL NHS staff and ALL key workers. Khalil Jones BAIDOE, Lilly FLANNERY, Joan HART, Theresa HASTIE, John and Kathleen McGOVERN & the McGOVERN family, Gerard MANNINGS – anniversary, MIDGHALL family, Joey MORGAN, Carole & Billy RUDKIN, Shirley and Phil SCOTT, WILLIAMS Family.

And for those who have died:

Harry Langfield – died on Monday 30/03/2020, Ann Morrison – died on Sunday 29/03/2020, Cornelius Tyrrell - died on Sunday 29/03/2020

Helen Jones, the Pastoral Associate for our Pastoral Area, shared this article written by her friend, Fr. Rob Esdaile, for the Universe. You, too, might like to read it.

Learning From This Unholy Holy Week

There's a text in the psalms which well suits our situation this Palm Sunday. The exiled poet remembers with deep longing: "How I would lead the rejoicing crowd into the house of God, amid cries of gladness and thanksgiving ..." (Ps 42.5) What we would give now to gather for our Palm procession, singing 'Hosanna!' as we go! Even if (as in my parish) the actual journey is a slightly improbable one, from the bin-bay at the back of the church, round the side and in the front door.

We love it because it's our journey, taking a route as old as our building. Our enforced separation feels like exile, not just for locked-out church congregations. Our busy life has stopped; and things will never quite be the same again. The loss of Holy Week liturgies is the least of it.

Have we seen the end of cheap international-travel, for instance? If companies ditch business class for video-conferencing, airline economics will fall to bits. We're giving the country a hydrocarbon holiday, for sure, as commuting ceases and industries wind down. Enjoy the fresh air! But even that change is not an unmitigated public good – because so much dislocation and loss are being caused, often to those least able to absorb them.

Social pressures are certainly building up. Small houses and smaller flats aren't designed for hermetically-sealed living. Neither are teenagers or younger kids. If they're bouncing off the walls by now don't be surprised (and try to hold onto some gratitude for their energy and drive amidst the irritations). Couples often survive and thrive mainly through the daily distancing of work. Conversely our elders, alone at home, crave the human touch now denied, assuring them they still matter and are needed.

We see more clearly now how wonderful our besieged NHS is. But what of the benefits system? Can it cope with a sudden rush? For many the wait will be a crucifixion. There are more hidden problems, too: the mental health of the isolated and the physical survival of the homeless on our deserted streets.

We are where we, very uncomfortably, are: on edge, uncertain. So was Christ in Holy Week. Let's not air-brush out the pain but live His Passion in our own. And as we, too, await Resurrection, let's rethink, repent, recalibrate our lives and our society. Let's learn from this horrid Covid crisis what we'd forgotten: that we're all connected, interdependent, entrusted to each other's care. We wait, yet sing in hope: 'Hosanna!'