



St. Teresa's Morden

Canon Michael Scanlon, KHS Parish Priest

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Parish Secretary: Mrs Margaret O'Donovan



Second Sunday of Easter (A) 2020

Mass Times and Intentions:

Sunday 19th April - **Divine Mercy Sunday**

Vigil Mass: Saturday 6.30p.m – Muriel Birch and Winifred Claxton
9a.m. – People of the Parish
11a.m. – Jim Edmunds R.I.P.

Monday 20th April

10a.m. **Requiem Mass for Margaret McCarthy.**

Tuesday 21st April St. Anselm, Bishop and Doctor

10a.m. – Mollie McKeon R.I.P. and
Winifred Madigan R.I.P.

Wednesday 22nd April

10a.m. – **Requiem Mass for Antonio Peretti.**

Thursday 23rd April – St George Martyr and Patron of England

9.30a.m. – Requiem Mass for Paddy Joyce.

Friday 24th April

10.00a.m. – Margaret and Michael Cunnane Get well intentions.

3rd Sunday of Easter

Vigil Mass: Saturday 6.30p.m. – Cosmedamiao Martins R.I.P.
9a.m. – Zacarias and Juliet Rodrigues R.I.P
11a.m. – People of the Parish

SUNDAY – 3p.m. HOLY HOUR, ADORATION and BENEDICTION.

NOVENA TO DIVINE MERCY

Pope Francis

Prayer for protection from Coronavirus

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick. At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith. You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need. We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us: He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen. We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test – and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.



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Headteacher; Mr Justin Dachtler.

Merton Catholic Deanery

www.mertoncatholics.org.uk



The Lockdown Continues

My Dear People,

We continue our journey alongside our brothers and sisters in Christ. As the human family faces a global crisis, we as God's family of faith are on the front line.

Be reassured, the Lord Jesus is journeying with us during this time of uncertainty, anxiety and sorrows. At the same time, He is inviting us to journey with Him, perhaps more intimately than ever before in our lives. Together our Lenten Parish Retreat led us to His invitation to the upper room the Last Supper with His Apostle on Holy Thursday, to celebrate the gift of the Holy Eucharist, His Body and Blood. He invited us to walk with Him on the road to Calvary as He carried the cross for our salvation. Last Sunday, He invited us to the empty tomb that gave witness to His Resurrection; the ultimate victory over sin and death.

We *share* the pain of separation from our loved ones and our inability to celebrate together in our parish churches. In this unique moment, we are challenged as the Church to find new ways to meet the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of God's people. At St. Teresa's we can reach out to you online. Holy Mass every day, our Lenten Retreat, times of Adoration, Devotions, the Rosary and our journey to Divine Mercy Sunday has been rich in blessings. Thank you for allowing us to bring Christ comfort and strength to you and your family during this holy season.

We thank all who are providing compassionate care to Covid-19 patients in our local hospitals and up and down the land.

So many are working on our behalf in different areas of social life. Many of you are volunteers – a big thank you! We also remember in these Easter Days of this Holy Season the souls of those who have died from the Corona virus and their families, and those who as Pope Francis says are “*...writing the decisive events of our time: doctors, nurses, supermarket employees, cleaner, providers of transport, law and order forces, volunteers, priests, deacons, religious men and women and so very many others.*” We remember our families and the efforts of each of us to care for our families and our neighbours. As we do so we stand in solidarity with the Sons and Daughters of All Nations – we offer them our blessing and our unity at the Altar. May the Risen Lord bless them an us.

DIVINE MERCY

This weekend we celebrate the Feast of Divine Mercy. In her diary, Saint Faustina recounted Jesus' ‘request’:

“My daughter tell the whole world about my inconceivable mercy. I desire that the feast of MERCY be a refuge and a shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. On that day the very depths of my tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the font of my mercy”,

St. John Paul II established the first Sunday after Easter as the Feast of Divine Mercy, the same day as he canonised St. Faustina.

Divine Mercy Sunday is a day when many Catholics go to confession. Because of the Corona Virus pandemic, however, the sacrament is currently unavailable.

Please remember that you are encouraged to make acts of “perfect contrition” as suggested by Pope Francis and our Bishops when you are unable to go to confession.

According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, contrition is called “PERFECT” when it “arises from a love by which God is loved above all else”. Such contrition remits venial sins and obtains forgiveness of mortal sins if it “includes the firm resolution to have recourse to sacramental confession as soon as possible” according to the Catechism.

Pope Francis said the message is “*VERY CLEAR*”

“If you cannot find a priest to confess to, speak directly with God, your Father, and tell Him the truth”, the Pope explained. *“SAY, LORD, I DID THIS, THIS, THIS, FORGIVE ME, and ask for pardon with all your heart.”*

Make an act of contrition, the Pope said and promise God *“I will go to confession afterward but forgive me now”* and immediately you will return to a state of grace with God. *“As the catechism teaches”* Pope Francis said, you can draw near to God’s forgiveness without having a priest at hand. Think about it. This is the moment.

Seek that moment, seek that offer of Mercy and forgiveness. Your soul needs it. Your soul desires it. But remember when life returns to normal in the Church, seek Absolution.

Hear the priest say to you: *“God the Father of Mercies, through the death and resurrection of His Son, has reconciled the World to Himself and sent the Holy Spirit among us for the forgiveness of sins. Through the ministry of the Church, may God give you pardon and peace, and I absolve you from your sins, in the Name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen”*

PERFECT CONTRITION AND SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

What to do if you cannot go to Confession or Holy Communion due to the COVID-19 coronavirus

If you have to self-isolate or are quarantined, you will be unable to receive the sacraments as normal. In these circumstances, there are devotions through which you can receive absolution for your sins (under certain conditions), and the consolation of Eucharistic grace.

The following devotions are officially encouraged by the Church and have been practised by saints.

How to make an Act of Perfect Contrition

Through an act of Perfect Contrition, you receive pardon for your sins outside of confession, even mortal sins, on condition that you are determined to amend your life and make a firm resolution to go to sacramental confession as soon as this becomes possible for you.

Perfect Contrition is a grace from God, so sincerely ask for this gift throughout the day prior to making you act of contrition: *‘My God, grant me perfect contrition for my sins.’*

1. In reality or imagination kneel at the foot of the crucifix and say to yourself: *“Jesus, my God and my Saviour, in the midst of your agony, you remembered me, you suffered for me, you wished to wipe away my sins”*
2. Contrition is ‘perfect’ if you repent your sins because you love God and are sorry for having offended Him and causing the sufferings of Christ on the cross. Before the Crucified Christ remember your sins, repent of them because they have bought our Lord His sufferings on the cross. Promise him that with His help, you will not sin again.
3. Recite, slowly and sincerely, an act of contrition focussed on the goodness of God and your love of Jesus: *“O my God, because You are so good, I am very sorry that I have sinned against You and by the help of Your grace I will not sin again. Amen.”*
4. Make a firm resolution to go to a sacramental confession as soon as practically possible.

How to make a Spiritual Communion

The key to Spiritual Communion is to grow in your heart a constant desire for the Blessed Sacrament.

1. If you are aware of serious or mortal sin, make an Act of Perfect Contrition
2. Imagine the sacred words and actions of the Mass or watch online or on TV.
3. Make all those acts of faith, humility, sorrow, adoration, love and desire that you usually express before Holy Communion.
4. Desire, with earnest longing, to receive our Lord present – Body, Blood, soul and Divinity – in the Blessed Sacrament,
5. Say this prayer of St. Alphonsus de' Ligouri: *"My Jesus, I believe You are present in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire You in my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though You are already there, I embrace You and unite myself wholly to You; do not let me ever be separated from You, Amen."*
6. After moments of silent adoration make all those acts of faith, humility, love, thanksgiving and offering that you usually express through prayers after Holy Communion.

CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF ENGLAND AND WALES – MASS FOR THE SICK AND THEIR FAMILIES, NHS FRONT-LINE WORKERS AND THOSE CARING IN SOCIAL CARE: The Catholic Bishops of England and Wales recognise that this time of COVID-19 pandemic is affecting every person in our countries, Those who are sick, and their families, are suffering many hardships of isolation from contact with those they love. Our front-line workers in hospitals and care homes all over our lands are giving exceptional service to those who are vulnerable at this time.

In order to show a spiritual solidarity with those who are involved, each week from next Thursday, a Catholic Bishop will celebrate Mass in their Cathedral which will be live streamed for people to join, This will take place every Thursday at 7p.m.

23 rd April	Cardinal Vincent Nichols at Westminster Cathedral
30 th April	Bishop Richard Moth at Arundal Cathedral
7 th May	Bishop Marcus Stock at Leeds Cathedral
14 th May	Bishop Robert Byrne CO at Newcastle Cathedral
21 st May	Bishop Mark Davies at Shrewsbury Cathedral
28 th May	Bishop Terence Draney at Middlesbrough Cathedral

By visiting the Cathedral's webpage, or the Bishop's Conference Webpage (www.cbcew.org.uk) links for the live-streaming of these Masses to be found.

OUR SICK and HOUSEBOUND – We have twelve parishioners who are sick and housebound – we bless each of them and keep them in our prayer. We are also aware that some of our parishioners must self-isolate as they have contracted COVID-19, Corona Virus. You are in our prayers and we wish you a speedy recovery. We also have parishioners young and old who must self-isolate for three months. Be assured you are wrapped in our prayers and if you need a chat or a blessing over the 'phone I am more than willing to support you. We remind everyone that we are on WhatsApp, if you wish to join.

We ask Our Lady and St. Teresa to intercede for all the Sick and Housebound, for all who find themselves in hospital, for those coping with the Corona Virus, and other health issues. May our prayers and those of the parish family, see them on the road to recovery. We keep in our prayers Jean Lue, Ms Ruba Santiapillai, Baby Alexander Lynch, Joseph Lunn, Erika Geddes, Barry Falcon, Denise Waaldjk, Lena McBride and Valerie Somerset. We keep those who care for them and all key workers in prayer, with our gratitude.

GRACIOUS and LOVING FATHER hear our prayers for all our doctors, nurses and all on the frontline fighting this Corona Virus. Strengthen them in body and soul, watch over them as they minister to all who are fighting this virus, that takes the lives of young and old. We ask you to bless our hospital chaplains and ask your blessing and protection for all who in our Nursing and Senior Citizens Homes – AMEN.

FUNERALS: PLEASE NOTE – On the day of parishioner's funerals over these weeks to come, we shall CELEBRATE A REQUIEM MASS for them on the day of their funeral. Most days that Holy Mass will be at 10a.m. But when the funeral is timed for 11a.m. – The Holy Mass will be at 9.30a.m. Announcements will be made regularly to keep you informed and these Holy Masses will be shown on the parish website, so that the family can join in and the Parish Family can join in prayer and spiritual support.

The Lord Has Called into Eternal Life the soul of GLENYS MARSH. Back in the early 90's the Legion of Mary visited her, she was delighted. Glenys had been thinking of becoming a Catholic. She attended RCIA classes and was received into the Church in 1992. Her faith was strong, She did her best to get to Mass until ill health and age got the better of her. She loved the lord, she loved welcoming Him into her home when one of our Eucharistic Ministers would call each week. She had a small group of friends who reached out to her with support and love. We are her family- please keep her in prayer.

May They Rest in Peace - This week sees three families lay to rest loved ones. Thank you for the spiritual support you have been giving to:

The family of Margaret McCarthy – Requiem Mass – Monday 20th April at 10 a.m.

The family of Antonio Peretti – Requiem Mass Wednesday 22nd April at 10 a.m.

The family of Paddy Joyce – Requiem Mass Thursday 23rd April at 9.30 a.m.

May they Rest in Peace and Rise Glory.

PLEASE NOTE: that the funeral now takes place on Monday 4th May of Mary Ann Doyle. Her Requiem Mass will be celebrated at 9.30 a.m. Her mortal remains will be laid to rest in Sutton Cemetery at 11 a.m. Mary was an active parishioner at St. Teresa's; she loved coming to Mass here. Her faith was strong. Praying the Rosary, lighting candles for her children and friends was a must. She has been called to Eternal Life in her 75th year.

May she Rest in Peace and Rise In Glory.

Last weekend's Offertory - Standing Orders £729.00. All Easter offerings last weekend were your gift to Canon Michael.

We will be happy to receive any offerings directly by on-line banking or by standing order, which can be arranged through your bank, on-line or by using the [DONATE](#) link on the parish website. With thanks for your continued support.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT – Please continue to keep me in prayer and my brother Priests. As we journey to the Feast of Pentecost, call on the Holy Spirit to bless you in your own vocation and pray that the Church, its Priests and Bishops will enter a new era of renewal. The Church will face many new challenges over these next few years. Its leaders will need your prayerful support. Intercessory prayer will be sorely needed. Your witness to the Gospel, your witness to the Commandments, your witness to your Faith will become increasingly important.

Every Catholic is responsible for priestly renewal. Holier priests lead to a holier Church. Pope Francis, our Cardinals, Bishops need your prayers now more than ever. Please try and find time for more prayer, and in your own words speak to God, He is listening. Open your heart to Him. Share with Him your own worries but also your hope for His Church here on Earth.

