



St. Teresa's Morden

Canon Michael Scanlon, KHS Parish Priest

Pastoral Assistant: Mr. Con Diver

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<https://www.stcm.org.uk>

Parish Secretary: Mrs Margaret O'Donovan



Fourth Sunday of Easter (A) 2020

Mass Times and Intentions:

Sunday 3rd May – World Day of Prayer for
Vocations

Vigil Mass: Saturday 2nd May 6.30p.m.

Margaret Flannery R.I.P.

9a.m. – Obeckwelu's Special Intentions

11a.m. – Children and Teenagers of the
Parish

Monday 4th May - Feast of the English Martyrs

**9.30a.m. Requiem Mass Mary Ann Doyle
R.I.P.**

Tuesday 5th May – In Honour of Our Lady

10a.m. – Votive Mass of Our Lady of
Lourdes

Sick and retired Priests of the Diocese

Wednesday 6th May – In Honour of Our Lady

10a.m. Votive Mass of Our Lady of
Perpetual Succour followed by prayers and
a Novena in Her honour
Lino and Maria Rodrigues

Thursday 7th May – In Honour of Our Lady

10a.m. – Votive Mass of Our Lady of
Knock
Antony Sabaratnam

Friday 8th May – Feast of Our Lady of the Sacred
Heart

Jim Donoghue R.I.P.

Saturday 9th May – Votive Mass Our Lady of the
Immaculate Medal

10a.m. Mass for your Special Intentions
Vigil 6.30 p.m. Holy Souls

Sunday 10th May – 5th Sunday of Easter

9a.m. Alexandrine Martins R.I.P.
11a.m. People of the Parish

SUNDAY – 3rd May - 5 p.m. HOLY HOUR,
BENEDICTION and SPIRITUAL REFLECTION

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.



SUNDAY – 10th May - 5 p.m. HOLY HOUR,
BENEDICTION and SPIRITUAL REFLECTION

St Teresa's School, Montacute Road, Morden.

Tel No 020 8648 1846

Headteacher; Mr Justin Dachtler.

Merton Catholic Deanery

www.mertoncatholics.org.uk



Is There Light at the End of the Tunnel?

Questions are being asked out loud – how long must this lockdown continue for? There seems to be light at the end of the tunnel. It is good to see our Prime Minister back at the helm. Our leaders need our prayers and our patience and understanding.

Yes, we need to get back to work, yes, we need to get the children back to school and college. Yes, we need to see our churches open once again. Yes, we need to get back to normal. Yes.....

Covid-19 will be with us for some time. In the press conferences, political leaders and medical experts strongly encourage us to have patience, stay the course and remain faithful to the measures imposed upon society for our own individual and collective good. They are right to do so, and deep down we all know it. Ignoring these limitations would place ourselves and others in peril.

As we wait, we try to stay out of reach of this deadly virus, we keep in touch with each other and with our friends in Heaven.

Open the door to prayer, rest in the Lord's presence, seek the support of the Holy Spirit and that of Our Lady, Mother of the Church. Join us online to make your Spiritual Communion at Holy Mass. Join us in prayer, devotions, the Rosary and Adoration. Call upon our Lord Jesus for healing and mercy, seek to live in a state of Grace. Put your trust in Him.

With the Pope, with the people of God we shall, in the world of prayer and petition, pray fervently for an end to this pandemic. In our prayer we seek the discovery of both a vaccine and an antidote to the virus.

May His grace inoculate us and keep us and our loved ones safe.

Vocations Sunday – “Feed My Lambs...Feed My Sheep”

As Christians and as Catholics, we all have the same calling to be a disciple, a follower of Jesus Christ. Blessings to your calling in life. In prayer it is good to ask the Lord “Do You want me to be a priest? My Lord, what do you want me to do with my life?” The first call is to a holy way of life, a life of prayer and service. Southwark needs priests. We are a good diocese led by an excellent Archbishop who is blessed to have two Area Bishops; Pat and Paul. The people love and support their priests and deacons. With your brothers in the Priesthood you will serve the Lord day and night. Priests who are dedicated are called to serve the people of God in one of our 181 parishes and in our schools, hospitals and prisons.

We need good men; committed men, kind and compassionate men, men who are willing to give their lives to Christ, to make His name known, to evangelise – are you up to that challenge? Are you ready to give yourself to Christ in celibacy? Are you ready and willing to study, pray and work as an Apostle of our time? Is this you?

Speak with a priest, share with him your inner calling. We have excellent support for you on your journey of discernment. Our Vocations Director and his team would be happy to talk with you. (Fr. John Diver B.Th. 020 8300 2480 johndiver@rcaos.org.uk). So, would I.

The Month of May

As we say goodbye to April, we journey into the month of Our Lady and with Her we walk in prayer towards Pentecost. We shall try when possible to celebrate Masses in Her honour. You will see that this week we have opportunity to do so. Pope Francis is keen for us to connect with Her in prayer in these days to come. We shall do our best. The following is the Pope's letter on the Month of May and includes two new prayers for us to use at the end of the Rosary.

Letter of His Holiness Pope Francis to the Faithful for the Month of May:

“Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The month of May is approaching, a time when the people of God express with particular intensity their love and devotion for the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is traditional in this month to pray the Rosary at home within the family. The restrictions of the pandemic have made us come to appreciate all the more this ‘family’ aspect, also from a spiritual point of view.

For this reason, I want to encourage everyone to rediscover the beauty of praying the Rosary at home in the month of May. This can be done either as a group or individually; you can decide according to your own situations, making the most of both opportunities. The key to doing this is always simplicity, and it is easy also on the internet to find good models of prayer to follow.

I am also providing two prayers to Our Lady that you can recite at the end of the Rosary, and that I myself will pray in the month of May, in spiritual union with all of you. I include them with this letter, so they are available to everyone.

Dear brothers and sisters, contemplating the face of Christ with the heart of Mary our Mother will make us even more united as a spiritual family and will help us to overcome this time of trial. I keep you all in my prayers, especially those suffering most greatly, and I ask you, please, to pray for me.

I thank you, and with great affection I send you my blessing.”

Rome, Saint John Lateran, 25th April 2020

Feast of Saint Mark the Evangelist

First Prayer:

O Mary,

You shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,

who at the foot of the cross, were united with Jesus' suffering, and preserved in your faith.

“Protectress of the Roman people”, you know our needs, we know that you will provide,

so that, as at Cana in Galilee, joy and celebration may return after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love,

To conform ourselves to the will of the Father and to do what Jesus tells us.

For he took upon himself our suffering, and burdened himself with our sorrows to bring us, through the cross, to the joy of the Resurrection.

Amen.

We fly to your protection, O Holy Mother of God;

do not despise petitions in our necessities,

but deliver us always from every danger,

O Glorious and Blessed Virgin.

Second Prayer:

“We fly to your protection, O Holy Mother of God”

In the present tragic situation, when the whole world is prey to suffering and anxiety, we fly to you, Mother of God and our Mother, and seek refuge under your protection.

Virgin Mary, turn your merciful eyes towards us amid this coronavirus pandemic. Comfort those who are distraught and mourn their loved ones who have died, and at times are buried in a way that grieves them deeply. Be close to those who are concerned for their loved ones who are sick and who, in order to prevent the spread of the disease, cannot be close to them. Fill with hope those who are troubled by the uncertainty of the future and the consequences for the economy and employment.

Mother of God and our Mother pray for us to God, the Father of mercies, that this great suffering may end and that hope, and peace may dawn anew. Plead with your divine Son, as you did at Cana, so that the families of the sick and the victims be comforted, and their hearts be opened to confidence and trust.

Protect those doctors, nurses, health workers and volunteers who are on the frontline of this emergency and are risking their lives to save others. Support their heroic effort and grant them strength, generosity and continued health.

Be close to those who assist the sick night and day, and to priests who, in their pastoral concern and fidelity to the Gospel, are trying to help and support everyone.

Blessed Virgin, illumine the minds of men and women engaged in scientific research, that they may find effective solutions to overcome this virus.

Support national leaders, that with wisdom, solicitude and generosity they may come to the aid of those lacking the basic necessities of life and may devise social and economic solutions inspired by farsightedness and solidarity.

Mary Most Holy, stir our consciences, so that the enormous funds invested in developing and stockpiling arms will instead be spent on promoting effective research on how to prevent similar tragedies from occurring in the future.

Beloved Mother help us realise that we are all members of one great family and to recognise the bonds that unite us, so that, in a spirit of fraternity and solidarity, we can help to alleviate countless situations of poverty and need. Make us strong in faith, persevering in service, constant in prayer.

Mary, Consolation of the afflicted, embrace all your children in distress and pray that God will stretch out his all-powerful hand and free us from this terrible pandemic, so that life can serenely resume its normal course.

To you, who shine on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope, do we entrust ourselves, O Clement, O Loving, O Sweet Virgin Mary,
Amen.

Candles for Your Intentions

Please let me know if you would like me to light a candle for your intentions at Our Lady’s Shrine or the Sacred Heart. I will also say a prayer for that private intention.

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.

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 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.

7th May Bishop Marcus Stock at Leeds Cathedral
14th May Bishop Robert Byrne CO at Newcastle Cathedral
21st May Bishop Mark Davies at Shrewsbury Cathedral
28th May Bishop Terence Drainey 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 many 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 pray for all elderly people, especially those who are ill or housebound. We also send a blessing to the bedsides of those in hospital – especially Irene and Anna. For those facing operations, receiving treatment for cancer, those suffering or recovering from Covid-19 – you are remembered every day in our Masses and Rosary

We ask Our Lady and St. Teresa to intercede for all the Sick and Housebound. May our prayers and those of the parish family, see them on the road to recovery. We keep in our prayers Irene Matthews, 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.

Eternal Rest Grant unto Them O Lord

We continue to keep in prayer, all who have died recently:
Eileen Drudy, Margaret McCarthy, Antonio Peretti, Marie Berry, Mabel Anosike, Gordon Conroy and Fr. Gerry Flood.

We also pray for Mary Ann Doyle whose funeral Mass will take place this Monday at **9.30a.m.**

The Requiem Mass for Rosalita Granil will take place on Monday 11th May at 10a.m.

The funerals of Glynnys Marsh and Gerard Eze Dureke have still to be arranged – we keep them in prayer and their family and friends.

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE AND RISE IN GLORY.

Last weekend's Offertory - Standing Orders £729.00. Offerings £179.17 Total - £908.17

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, it's 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.

