



St. Teresa's Morden

Canon Michael Scanlon, KHS Parish Priest

Pastoral Assistant: Mr. Con Diver

Parish e-mail address: morden@rcaos.org.uk

250, Bishopsford Road, Morden. SM4 6BZ. Tel. 8648 4113

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

Parish Secretary: Mrs Margaret O'Donovan



13th Week in Ordinary Time (Year A)

On-line Mass Times and Intentions:

Sunday 28th June – Feast of Saints Peter and Paul

Vigil Mass: Saturday 27th June

6.30p.m. For the Parish Family

9a.m. For God Children and Grandchildren
Living and Deceased

11a.m. The Scanlon and Creighton Family
Living and Deceased

5 p.m. *Adoration, Benediction and Spiritual
Reflection*

Monday 29th June

10a.m. Phyllis Donnelly R.I.P.

Tuesday 30th June – Votive of the Holy Souls

10a.m. Packie Brogran

Wednesday 1st July

10a.m. Intentions of the Gomes Family

Thursday 2nd July

10a.m. Chisimdi and Chunamanda Eze
(Birthday Intention)

Friday 3rd July – St. Thomas the Apostle (First Friday)

10 a.m. Mass for all who are sick

12.00 – 2p.m. Church open for private prayer
with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday 4th July

10a.m. For Your Special Intentions

12.00 – 2p.m. Church open for private prayer
Vigil Mass 6.30p.m. Luiza Gomes R.I.P.

Sunday 5th July – 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time Apostles.

9a.m. For the Parish Family

11a.m. Canon Michael's 36th Anniversary of
Ordination

5p.m. *Adoration, Benediction and Spiritual
Reflection*

Our Church is open for Private Prayer ONLY on:

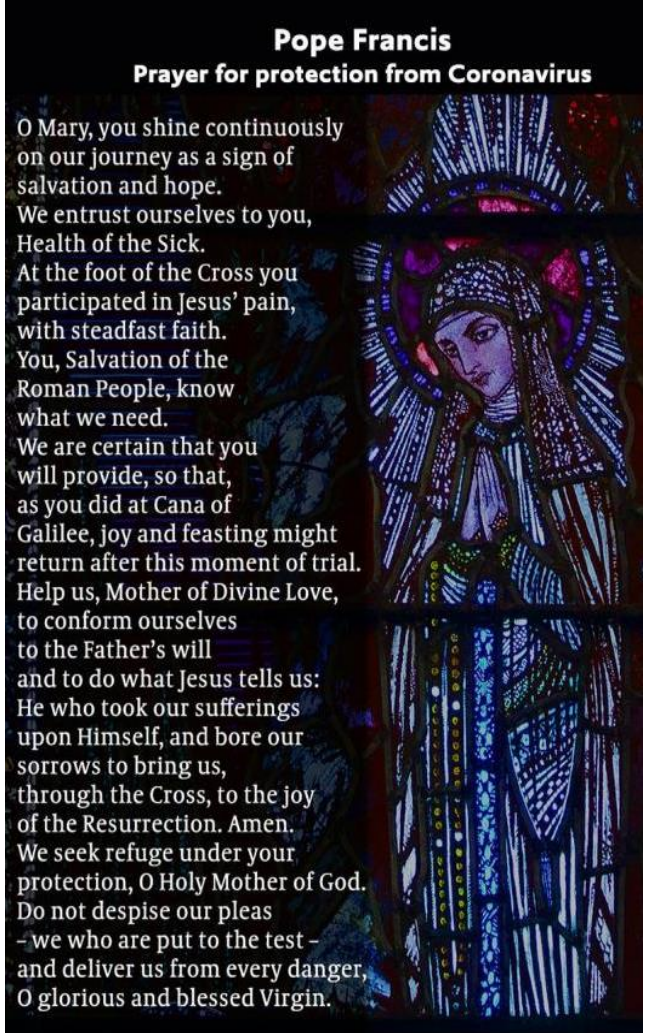
Friday 3rd July 12.00 – 2p.m.

Saturday 4th July 12.00 – 2p.m.

see [below for guidelines](#)

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.



St Teresa's School, Montacute Road, Morden.

Tel No 020 8648 1846

Headteacher; Mr Justin Dachtler.

Merton Catholic Deanery

www.mertoncatholics.org.uk



Food for Thought:

The following are points that we need to consider at this time:

- Updates will be offered as the situation develops and your input is welcome.
- Guidelines will be issued by the Archbishop and the Bishop's Conference.
- The safety of staff, volunteers, parishioners, visitors and all those we serve needs to guide our decisions about reopening activities.
- It is likely that COVID-19 will continue to affect the ways we behave and the activities we take part in for at least the next year.
- Common guiding principles will be the order of the day for all our Catholic Parishes.
- The Archbishop and our Area Bishops will support all parishes and religious institutions. Deaneries and its priests and deacons will work in unity to support its staff and all who have a lay ministry in the Church.
- As a parish it is important to keep up to date on all Government and Public Health directives and guidelines, and to adhere to them.
- Simply adhering to these directives and guidelines may not be enough. We need to keep in mind what is right for our parish, including the activities we host and the age and health demographics (health vulnerabilities) of participants.
- We must NOT look for ways to get around or bend Public Health directives and guidelines. We need to work within the rules and in the spirit in which they are given.
- These are early days in the fight against COVID-19. Life will not return to normal for some time. We must be patient and prepare for that.
- We must all try to support the efforts of the powers that be in trying to prevent a new wave of cases. We need to play our part.
- Extra cleaning practices will need to be implemented. We will need a plan of action and a team to drive this forward.
- Parish income has dropped by £5,000 per month. We need an action plan to help put this right.
- The Parish Hall is not available for hire in the near future. New protocols have been issued by the diocese which we must act on.
- The Parish Council and the Reopening Team will keep all aspects of parish life under review.

Please be patient. We will do our best to see parish life return to normal as soon as possible. Ask St. Teresa to help us to make the right decisions for the good of the parish.

St. John's Seminary, Womersley

Our Archbishop, John Wilson, has announced that Monsignor Gerry Ewing has been appointed as the new Rector of the Seminary. We wish him well and assure our spiritual support for him, his team and all the Seminarians. We also thank Canon Brian Coyle for all his hard work as he leaves to take up a new appointment.

Re-Opening Churches

Over these past months we have learned so much about what it means to be Church and how many ways there are to be Church without gathering in person or making full use of our church buildings. Even as we do these things, we yearn for the time when we will be back together in the community.

Our Cardinal and our Bishops welcome the news that we can begin the slow but steady process of resuming Holy Masses and celebration of the Sacraments.

We are happy to announce that St. Teresa's Parish has been able to move to **Phase 1A** of the gradual reopening of our parish church for **PRIVATE PRAYER and ADORATION of the Blessed Sacrament**.

Our Parish is OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

On FRIDAYS 12 – 2p.m.

On SATURDAYS 12 - 2p.m.

Please take note of the following guidelines in place for attendees:

Twenty persons are permitted to be inside the church at one time. Persons who come to pray will be permitted to stay in the church for a maximum of twenty minutes. Thus, St. Teresa's can accommodate a maximum of sixty people during each one-hour period.

Attendees must enter the church by the side sanctuary door. This will be sign posted. Upon entering the Church, attendees will be greeted by a Steward, a member of our Parish Reopening Team. They will provide each attendee with hand sanitiser and then guide them to an appropriate place in the church. Attendees must remain in the seat to which they are directed.

Attendees must exit the church through the side doors near Our Lady's Altar; to allow for one-way traffic.

One family bench is available for attendees from the same family bubble to pray seated together.

All seating is cleaned after every use by the Parish Reopening Team.

Please consider wearing a facemask when you are in the church (optional, but wise).

If you are feeling sick or showing **ANY** 'flu like symptoms, please stay at home for your own health and safety, as well as the health and safety of others in the Church.

Our Diocese asks our Stewards to request those showing symptoms not to enter the Church.

We must adhere to the guidelines set out by our diocese so that our parish churches can begin to open again. We hope you understand that we are doing this for the health and safety of all persons present.

Candles are available for lighting.

The Bishop's Conference advises attendees **not to touch statues in the Church**.

We ask all attendees please to adhere to the twenty-minute time limit allowed for each person.

This will allow more parishioners to participate in private prayer – THANK YOU!

Please know that we hope to increase the amount of prayer time in church as soon as we are able. Everything depends on the number of volunteers who join our Parish Reopening Team, so that we can follow the guidelines set out by the authorities and the Bishop's Conference. If you are a parishioner and **NOT in a vulnerable category** and wish to volunteer, please let us know who you are by email.

Should you have any questions regarding this information please reply by email:

morden@rcaos.org.uk or call our parish number: 020 8648 4113

Read [here](#) or [download](#) Archbishop John Wilson's **Pastoral Letter** - *Concerning the Reopening of Catholic Churches for Individual Prayer*

Parish Reopening Team

My thanks to the Friday and Saturday Teams for their commitment to serve the Lord in this very special way.

Thank You for Praying for the Sick

Please continue to keep in your prayers, Maureen Smith, Irene Ward, Irene Matthews, Jean Lue, Ruba Santiapillai, Baby Alexander Lynch, Joseph Lunn, Erika Geddes, Barry Falcon, Denise Waaldjk, Lena McBride and Valerie Somerset. For those in hospital, care homes, those self-isolating and those patients in hospice care.

Lord in Your Mercy, Hear Our Prayer

We commend to God's mercy those who have died recently in our parish and we also support our parishioners who have seen loved ones called to Eternal Life in these past days.

For the family and friends of:

Franciso Ordillano (R.I.P. 14th June)
Violet Wood (R.I.P. Funeral: 16th July)
Selvakumar Selvarajah (R.I.P. 22nd June)

May they be consoled by our prayers and unity at this time.
*Eternal Rest grant unto them, O Lord,
And let Perpetual Light shine upon them for all Eternity.*

In Loving Memory

Over these past months we have bowed our heads in prayer to remember and pray for the dead. Families have lost loved ones. Friends have lost someone special in their life. Week after week, we remember anniversaries of loved ones passing. We miss them. With tears in our eyes we say farewell. We commend their life and soul to God.

When we lose a dear friend, someone we loved deeply, we are left with a grief that can paralyse us emotionally for a long time. People we love become part of us. Our thinking, feeling and acting are codetermined by them: our fathers, our mothers, our husbands, our wives, our children, our friends, the child lost in the womb.....they are all living in our hearts.

When they die, a part of us dies too. This is what grief is about; it is that slow and painful departure of someone who has become an intimate part of us. When Christmas, New Year, a birthday or anniversary comes, we feel deeply the absence of our beloved companion. It is not easy to say goodbye. It takes time for the pain of grief to recede. The Lord's promise rings in our ears: *'Blessed are those who mourn – They shall be comforted.'*

The Lord keeps His promise day in and day out. He also reminds us that there *'are many rooms in my Father's House'*.

We and the Church support every soul on its journey to Eternal Life. Our prayer, our Masses, our Rosaries, our spiritual support, helps to open the narrow gate to Eternal Life for family and friends.

Lighting a Candle

Throughout the world, lighting a candle is a sacred ritual. We light a candle for many purposes; to illuminate darkness, dedicate prayers, solidify intentions, offer blessings, evoke the Spirit and to pray for each other. Our candles at Church are blessed. I am more than happy to light a candle on your behalf, either email me or use our parish WhatsApp. I will also say a prayer for your special intention.

Holy Sacraments

Please note because of the current situation, in regard to Baptism, First Holy Communion, Confirmation and Marriages – all will be deferred until such time as it is safe for all involved to get together in large numbers. For funerals please contact me by email – morden@rcaos.org.uk or telephone- 020 8648 4113.

Sunday Collections

During the current 'lockdown' situation, we would like to say a huge THANK YOU to the many of you who have kindly signed up to **standing orders**. This is so much appreciated and valued. If you wish to contribute by cheque in lieu of plate collections, this can be sent to the presbytery: St. Teresa's Church, 250, Bishopsford Road, Morden, Surrey, SM4 6BJ. They may be made payable to St. Teresa's Catholic Church.

Many thanks to those of you who have so kindly offered to set up standing orders in lieu of our Sunday plate collections. This is a most convenient method of planned giving (for all concerned); already used by so many at Morden – and is vitally important at this time. Regular standing orders can be for any amount, no matter how small – just give what you can afford. Please send a request to the parish priest as the parish office is closed for the foreseeable future.

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

Do You Gift Aid?

The value of your donation can be increased by 25% at no extra cost to yourself, simply by gift aiding it if you are a taxpayer. The parish learns nothing about your private financial affairs. The average weekly collection between plate and standing orders, is approximately £2,400 a week. If only half of that was GIFT AIDED, it would mean an extra £300 a week, or £15,600 a year to Parish funds. We are genuinely grateful to those who are Gift-Aiding. If you haven't been doing so, please print off a Gift Aid form from the parish website. At the present time the parish income is down about £5,000 each month. Hopefully, when parish life returns to normal, we will soon see these financial worries and concerns disappear.

Last weekend's Offertory - Standing Orders £738.46

Parish Prayer:

With St. Teresa, Lord Jesus, we ask you to bless the people of our parish. Help us to know you in a new and deeper way. Help us to listen to your word in our daily lives. In the power of your Spirit, open our hearts to your healing grace that we may be more faithful in following You; "The Way, the Truth and the Life".

Lord bless all the families in the parish that may be experiencing hidden and special difficulties. Bless our parish school and the children and young people of our parish family and through the protection of your Blessed Mother deliver them and protect them from all that is evil.

Bless the elderly, the lonely, the poor and the sick, the unemployed, those in need, those in sorrow and despair. Bless and protect us from the consequences of the Corona Virus. Please, bless and protect and bring back those who have lost their way.

May Your love be upon us as we place all our hope in You. 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 your 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.



*St. Peter and St. Paul,
Pray for Us*