



# St. Teresa's Morden

Canon Michael Scanlon, KHS Parish Priest

Pastoral Assistant: Mr. Con Diver

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



Our Church is open for Mass weekdays at 10a.m., on Saturdays at 5.30p.m. and Sundays at 9a.m. and 11a.m.  
Please see the Mass Attendance [Protocols](#) below

## Mass Times and Intentions:

### **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December – 2nd Sunday of Advent**

Vigil Mass – Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December

5.30p.m. People of the Parish

9a.m. Living and Deceased of the O'Donovan Family

11a.m. Joseph Lunn and Family



### **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December – Feast of St. Ambrose**

10a.m. Christopher Patrick Murphy R.I.P.

### **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December – THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN**

10a.m. McKeown and Madigan Deceased Family  
Members

5p.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

6p.m. Mass for the People of the Parish

### **Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December – Feast of Saint Juan Diego Cuahtlatoatzin (Our Lady of Guadalupe)**

10a.m. Rod Tyler Renath R.I.P.

### **Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December – THE BLESSED VIRGIN OF LORETO**

10a.m. Rosamma Pillai R.I.P.

### **Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December**

10a.m. Lilley MaryFrancis Pillai R.I.P.

12p.m. Funeral Mass Ronald Arthur Brown R.I.P.

### **Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December – Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe**

10a.m. For Your Special Intentions – ONLINE only

5.30p.m. Vigil Mass – Ramon Lucas R.I.P.

### **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December – 3rd Sunday of Advent (B)**

9a.m. Bill Hanrahan R.I.P.

11a.m. People of the Parish



St Teresa's School, Montacute Road, Morden.

Tel No 020 8648 1846

Headteacher; Mr Justin Dachtler.

Merton Catholic Deanery

[www.mertoncatholics.org.uk](http://www.mertoncatholics.org.uk)



## **FUNERALS**

**RONALD ARTHUR BROWN R.I.P.**

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 12:30 pm

Ronald was called to eternal life on the 20<sup>th</sup> November, the Month of the Holy Souls in his 93<sup>rd</sup> year. One of 3 children blessed with a good family home. Ron and his brother were “called up” during the war and he served his country driving army vehicles in Egypt. After the war he found work in the motor industry, 25 years of distinctive service at Rootes, a part-time driving instructor and his latter years for that well-known lift company Otis. A service engineer and installer saw him in that role for 20 years.

Ron met and fell in love with Joan, their marriage took place here at St. Teresa’s sixty four years ago. The fruit of their love saw them welcome three children, Gary, Terry and Keith into their family home at Edinburgh Court. His last days on earth at the family home were very special because of so many treasured memories.

Ron loved his family he was so proud of his six grandchildren and seven great grandchildren. We offer all branches of the family our blessing and support. We thank God for Ron’s life on earth and all his gifts and talents, his love of family will always be remembered with gratitude. As he journeys to the Father’s Kingdom to meet his family, his parents, his beloved Joan, our prayers go with him.

*May He Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory.*

**CATERINA TORIELLO R.I.P.**

Requiem Mass Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 11:45am

North East Surrey Crematorium – Place of Committal at 1:20pm

Caterina left for Heaven on the feast of St. Andrew the Apostle – the 30<sup>th</sup> November. We offer our sympathy to her two daughters Rosanna and Silvana. Before our recent lockdown we welcomed Caterina with her two kind caring daughters to a special Mass for her late husband Mario on the anniversary of his death.

Caterina was a daughter of Italy, her family and her friends meant so much to her, Holy Mass and prayer was at the foundation of her 92 years of life on earth. We thank God and her Guardian Angel for all the blessings she was able to receive.

*May She Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory.*

## **MAINTENANCE**

Ongoing maintenance is a must do in every parish. During the recent lockdown we have tackled major drainage issues on site. Other works outside have taken place, all needed. Thank you for your support and a big thank you for all the recent messages of the Church inside and outside ‘looking great’.

## **OUR NEW PARISH SECRETARY**

We remember with grateful thanks the outstanding ministry and dedication of Mrs. Margaret O’Donovan – 30 years! Together with her husband Deacon John R.I.P., who served St. Teresa’s for many years, and all who have helped Margaret in her journey through parish life, we give a huge **THANK YOU**.

Also to Son-in-Law and daughter, Fred and Anne-Marie, our gratitude for the continued support throughout lockdown in producing the Newsletter every week and providing such beautiful and inspiring images to bring us the Light of Christ. And to Denys Hyde for all his work and support in running and maintaining the parish website throughout the year and especially at this time when its need is so much greater. THANK YOU.

We welcome Theresa Goldband who has now joined the parish team.  
The parish office hours will be from 9am – 2pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

## **PARISH PHONE SYSTEMS**

We are looking at improving our parish phone system. It is much needed and will be parishioner friendly. The new system will also save the parish £257.45 per month.

## **WELCOME BACK**

On Wednesday it was wonderful to welcome our daily Mass goers. As we all journey through Advent looking forward to Christmas we seek Our Lady's and Saint Teresa's blessing.

The Sacrament of Confession will be available every day after Mass and on-call.

## **DIARY DATES**

### **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December – Feast of Our Lady of The Immaculate Conception**

5pm Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament will be held in the church with the opportunity to go to Confession.

6pm An extra Mass will be celebrated after Adoration for the People of the Parish.

### **Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December – Feast of Our Lady of Loreto**

9:45am Litany of Our Lady of Loreto

10am Holy Mass in Her Honour

### **Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December – Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe** *(See our Parish Prayer below)*

10am Mass ONLINE only for Your Special Intentions

## **FIRST SATURDAY'S – In Honour of Our Lady of Fatima**

12-3pm Church Open for Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament

12 – 12:30pm Sacrament of Confession available.



## ***Parish Prayer to Our Lady of Guadalupe***

### *Our Lady of Guadalupe*

*Dear Mother and Most Gracious Lady, We love you and we wish to honour you on your feast day. Our parish seeks your heavenly blessing all the year round. Every day we thank you for your promise to help us in our need. We trust in your love that dries our tears and comforts us. Teach us to meet your son Jesus in prayer, in Adoration and in the Holy Mass. Help every member of our parish to build a shrine in our hearts. Make it as beautiful as the one you build on the mount to Tepeyac. A shrine of trust, hope and love of your son Jesus growing stronger each and every day.*

*Most Gracious Lady, Mother of Our Parish, you have chosen to remain with us by giving us your most wonderful and holy self-image on Juan Diego's cloak. In our parish image of you – may we feel your loving presence as we look on your face. Like Juan, give us- please- the courage to bring your message of hope to everyone.*

*Bless our parish, please intercede for the Sick and Housebound, intercede for families, for the Child in the Womb, for those in despair, for the lonely and the dying.*

*You are our Mother and our inspiration. Hear our prayers and answer favourably our plea for your heavenly help.*

## **Our Journey into Advent**

As we journey into Week 2 of the new Church Year, we continue the season of Advent, a time of expectation when we look forward to celebrating the birth of Christ. This has been a tough year for us all. Our journey of faith has been interrupted with the suspension of public liturgy. Missing Mass, missing Holy Communion has not been easy for many. Our readings in the season of Advent will challenge us all. We must prepare the way of the Lord and we will do our best to do just that.

Let Jesus be your spiritual director in these weeks to come. Listen carefully to the Lord in prayer. Invite your Guardian Angel, with your patron saint, to take you into His presence. We have faced many distractions recently, we need to get back on track. If we listen carefully, He will show us what is really worth 'waiting in line' for: Eternal Life.

Dear friends, you are priceless, your souls are priceless. When God made us human beings, he made us for Himself, to be with Him for all eternity. That is why there is within every human heart a deep longing, which only God can fill. Advent reminds us of this by drawing our attention to the end of history, thus enabling us to keep in mind where we are going and what alone can fulfil our searching.

Jesus calls us to stay awake, to be always alert, for something that will never lose its attraction and joy. He asks each of us to remain awake to meet Him when He comes to take us to himself. This second Advent of the Lord will be either at the moment of our death or at the end of time; either of which can occur at an instant. This calls us to be "awake" not just through the night but at all times.





Clearly, Jesus is not asking us to give up all physical rest. He is calling everyone to get their priorities right - to avoid falsehood, to avoid temptation, to avoid complacency and distraction and to live sensibly in the light of the Gospel.

### **St. Joseph, Hope of the Sick, Pray for Us**

God has healed many people through the intercession of Saint Joseph, such as Saint Teresa of Avilla. Saint Teresa of Lisieux would have died in infancy were it not for the intercession of Saint Joseph. Her mother and father now Saint Louis and Saint Zélie implored and prayed before his statue for his help and his powerful blessing.



As a parish family and those who join us on-line, we pray day in and day out for the sick and housebound. We pray for all who carry the cross of suffering around the world and we pray for the following:

Joseph Lunn, Maureen Smith, Irene Ward, Jean Lue, Ruba Santipillai, Frank Mendonça, Baby Alexander Lynch, Erika Geddes, Barry Falcon, Denise Waaldijk, Lena McBride, Valerie Sommerset, Kevin Mooney, John Mooney, Angela Patcheye, Leonard Paice, Michael O'Kelly, Kevin and Margaret Peacock, Justin Roberts, Alan O'Leary, Bill O'Keefe and Gerry Gillen. We also have young mothers who have recently been diagnosed with cancer – we are keeping them in prayer.

### **Please Be Aware.**

At this time, there is an increasing risk of cybercrime and online fraud. If you ever receive an email stating a change in bank account details purporting to be from the Archdiocese or from any of the diocesan parishes, please contact the diocese immediately by telephone on 020 8682 7880 in order to verify that the email is genuine and not a scam.

### **Sunday Collections**

During the current 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.

## **Government Advise on Face Coverings/Masks at Mass**

Face coverings are mandatory now in places of worship. Many of you already attend Holy Mass wearing one – Thank You!

From now on at St. Teresa's all who attend Mass or any other service must wear a face covering, unless they are exempt from doing so. This is for the good of all who gather in the Church for Mass, as it is an enclosed public space where there are people from different households who do not normally meet.

## **Mass at St. Teresa's**

### **St. Teresa's Parish General Protocols**

The Cardinal and the Archbishop wish to reassure you that THE DISPENSATION of the faithful from the obligation to attend SUNDAY MASS remains in place for the time being. NO ONE IS OBLIGED to attend Holy Mass whilst dispensation is in effect.

- All Sunday and Weekday Masses will continue to be Streamed Live on the Internet via the usual link.
- Attendees and volunteers from demographic groups at a greater risk of serious illness, such as people 65 years of age or older and individuals with chronic medical conditions, are encouraged to stay safe by avoiding public gatherings, but are not prohibited from attending Mass if they so choose.
- Anyone attending Mass does so at their own risk.
- All attendees are strongly encouraged to wear a mask before entering the church, until they leave. Each person should bring their own masks.
- Another reminder: ANYONE who has even the slightest symptoms or feelings of sickness must remain home.
- THE MAXIMUM CAPACITY, (at this time), at Holy Mass is JUST 40 to be compliant with physical distancing guidelines issued by The Bishop's Conference and the Government
- Until further notice: Our Parish will adopt a FIRST COME, FIRST-SERVED approach at all our Masses.
- Please watch out for signage. Separate points of entry and exit will be clearly designated.
- We are required to keep a register of all attendees. So please put your name, address, contact telephone number, email address (if applicable) and the Mass you are attending on a piece of paper which you will hand in on entrance to the church.
- All attendees will be directed to their own special seat so as to monitor occupancy.
- Two benches will be designated for families.
- Infants and children should remain with their parents AT ALL TIMES.

- It is O.K. to wear disposable gloves. Those cleaning or altar cloths, replenishing candles or handling the parish collection should wear disposable gloves.
- We will have one point of entry in order to control the number of people entering. Once the maximum number of attendees is reached, no one else will be allowed entry.
- Doors will be locked until 25 minutes before Mass begins.
- If weather permits, all doors will be propped open before Mass as you arrive so that you do not need to touch the handles or doors to enter.
- At the end of Mass, exits will be signposted and indicated by the parish priest to expedite the guided departure and minimise chances of people encountering one another. In all cases, **PHYSICAL DISTANCING MUST BE OBSERVED.**
- I will be delighted to see you back, but please note that I must refrain from greeting you personally at the end of Mass. I must not impede or delay the orderly and rapid departure of you and your family.
- The Parish Church is closed at the end of each Mass for a special cleaning. Our thanks to the parish team.
- Please be aware that there will be NO toilet facilities.

## **SAFETY**

- Physical distancing of 6 feet or 2 metres is in place at all times and in all directions between people who are not of the same household.
- You will be led by a team member to your seat – please do not move or swap seats.
- Reminder – Volunteers and ALL members of the congregation should use the Medical Guidelines that have been issued before attending Mass. If you have ANY symptoms, such as a cough, fever, shortness of breath, runny nose or sore throat, please stay at home.
- All team members, welcomers and participants – please wear your own personal shield or mask.
- All who attend must observe proper hand hygiene from the point of entry, whilst inside and upon exiting the church.
- Hand sanitising stations are available by the doors of the church.
- Hand washing with soap and hot water for at least 20 seconds (say a prayer) is also strongly encouraged before arriving for Holy Mass.

## **HOLY MASS**

These are some of the main points to note:

- Sacred Vessels will be purified and washed by the parish priest after Mass. This reduces the risk and need to have sacristans and Eucharistic ministers in the sacristy.
- No singing of hymns at this time. SORRY!
- Entrance and recessional processions are omitted. There will be a simple entrance by the priest.
- There will be only one lector and one reading.
- No Altar Servers so as to minimise the risk of exposure and to properly maintain physical distancing at all times.
- The chalice, paten, ciborium, cruets and lavabo will be on a small table beside the altar.
- Your parish priest will not be wearing a mask during the Liturgy of the Eucharist; therefore, all ciboria will be covered at all times. He will wear a visor if and when he distributes Holy Communion.
- No presentation of gifts will be made.

- No collection is taken up during the Mass. Instead, bins/baskets will be at strategic points for the faithful to make their offerings at the end of Mass. Secure vigilance will be in place over the donations.
- There is no Sign of Peace.
- There will be no Holy Water in fonts.
- All hymnals, missalettes, pew cards, pencils, donation envelopes and other loose items will be removed.
- Newsletters are only available on-line at the parish website.

### **Regarding the Distribution of Holy Communion:**

- The individual attestation at the distribution of Holy Communion (“The Body of Christ, R:Amen) is eliminated. Instead, one general announcement (“The Body of Christ”) will be made by the parish priest, and one general response (“Amen”) is to be made by one and all before distribution begins. Then each person who wishes to receive the Blessed Sacrament comes forward in procession at a safe distance and receives in silence.
- The Precious Blood will not be distributed at this time.
- Holy Communion may only be received in the hand.
- For the common good, our Bishops around the world acknowledge that Communion on the tongue is the right of the faithful, ask you please receive ONLY in the hand until further notice. Thank you for your understanding and support.
- When needed, Ministers of the Eucharist may be invited to officiate at Holy Communion time. If called upon, Ministers of Holy Communion must sanitise their hands immediately after receiving Communion BEFORE distributing Holy Communion to the faithful. They must also sanitise their hands immediately after distribution.

Should you have any questions regarding this information please reply by email: [morden@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:morden@rcaos.org.uk) or call our parish number: 020 8648 4113

### **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 the prayer of St. Alphonsus de’ Ligouri – The Prayer of Spiritual Communion



#### **Prayer for Spiritual Communion**

My Jesus,  
I believe that You  
are present in the  
Most Holy Sacrament.  
I love You above all things,  
and I desire to receive  
You into my soul.  
Since I cannot at this  
moment receive You  
sacramentally, come at least  
spiritually into my heart.  
I embrace You as if You were  
already there and unite  
myself wholly to You.  
Never permit me to 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.