



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>



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

SUNDAY MASSES (including Saturday Vigil) the CHURCH IS OPEN
MONDAY - SATURDAY 10am MASS is ONLINE ONLY

Mass Times and Intentions-Year B:

Sunday 14th March - Fourth Sunday in Lent

9am People of the Parish
11am Jonny & Sheila Purves RIP

Monday 15th March - Lent

10am Rumesh DeSilva RIP (ONLINE only)
12.15pm Funerals of Lourdes and Joseph Rabindran RIP

Tuesday 16th March - Lent

10am Margaret McCarthy RIP (ONLINE only)

Wednesday 17th March - Lent - Feast of St Patrick, Bishop & Patron of Ireland

10am Lionel George Howard RIP

Thursday 18th March - Lent - St Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop & Doctor

10am Patrick, Anne & Paddy Joyce RIP (ONLINE only)

***Friday 19th March - Lent-Solemnity of St Joseph
Husband of Mary***

10am John Brehery's Intentions
3.30pm Adoration
5.30pm Mass for Novena Intentions

***Saturday 20th March - Lent - Mass in Honour of the
Blessed Virgin Mary***

10am For Your Special Intentions (ONLINE only)
5.30pm Vigil - Lena McBride's Intentions

Sunday 21st March - Fourth Sunday in Lent

9am People of the Parish
11am Paddy Joyce RIP



Saint Patrick & Saint Joseph

St Teresa's School, Montacute Road, Morden.

Tel No 020 8648 1846

Headteacher; Mr Justin Dachtler.

Merton Catholic Deanery

www.mertoncatholics.org.uk

PLEASE NOTE:

Because of the widespread of COVID-19 we are celebrating Holy Mass **ONLINE**

Monday – Saturday

10am

Our Masses online are available at

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

Sunday Masses the church will be **OPEN** to parishioners.

Saturday Vigil 5.30pm (doors open 5pm)

Sunday 9am (doors open 8.30am)

Sunday 11am (doors open 10.30am)

As we slowly but surely come out of lockdown, Masses will be celebrated as normal on Sunday (including the Saturday Vigil) and will be Online only during the week, the parish office will now be closed until further notice. We will be open for funerals at the advertised times.

MOTHERING SUNDAY

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

Today, Sunday 14th March is Mother's Day. Again, this year's Mother's Day is being celebrated in these challenging times of the coronavirus, we offer a prayer today for all mothers and we give thanks for the love that they give every day of their lives. We think of those mothers no longer with us. We offer a special prayer too for mothers to be and for Godmothers and all who play a maternal role in our lives.

In the words of Pope Francis:

God himself needed a Mother: how much more so do we! Jesus himself gave her to us, from the cross: "Behold your mother!" (Jn 19:27). He said this to the beloved disciple and to every

disciple. Our Lady is not an optional accessory: she has to be welcomed into our life. She is the Queen of peace, who triumphs over evil and leads us along paths of goodness, who restores unity to her children, who teaches us compassion.

Mary, take us by the hand. Clinging to you, we will pass safely through the straits of history. Lead us by the hand to rediscover the bonds that unite us. Gather us beneath your mantle, in the tenderness of true love, where the human family is reborn. Let us together pray these words to Our Lady: "We fly to thy protection, O Holy Mother of God". Pope Francis, 1 January 2019



GOD BLESS ALL WHO CARRY THE CROSS OF SICKNESS

My Lord, we ask that you will be present especially to our relatives, friends, those in hospital and in care in the local community. Be close to all who are sick around the world. Be close to the sick in our Parish Family. Be close to those who minister to the sick and dying.

In these difficult and challenging times - We pray that your healing power may bring them peace in affliction, light in darkness and comfort in pain. We also pray that we ourselves may lighten the burden of the sick, through our sympathy and friendship, but especially through the prayers we offer on their behalf today and every day.

In the Year of Saint Joseph, we continue to seek his powerful intercession, and also that of Saint Teresa. As we journey into Lent, you might find our **Litany of Compassion FOR THE SICK** helpful in your daily prayer.

Lord, have mercy, – LORD, HAVE MERCY.

Christ, have mercy, – CHRIST HAVE MERCY.

Lord, have mercy, – LORD, HAVE MERCY.

When pain and distress is overwhelming,
– LORD, BE CLOSE TO GIVE YOUR COMFORT. (repeat after each line)
When the healing process goes slower than hoped,
When terrified by treatments or therapy,
When it is hard to let go of long-held plans,
When the feeling of alienation arises,
When worn out and weary,
When troubled by impatience and negativity,
When loneliness adds to anxiety,
When sickness makes it difficult to communicate,
When discouragement or despondency sets in,
When fear makes it impossible to face the future,
When the ravages of disease attack self-esteem,
When anger and resentment assail,
When beset by worry or fretfulness,
When it is hard to rely on others for care,
When envy arises toward those who are healthy,
When pessimism or cynicism holds sway,
When anguish is intensified by the need for reconciliation,
When sickness is mistaken for punishment,
When loved ones are far away,
When sickness causes financial hardship that leads to worry or despair,
When afflicted by the feeling of nothing to hope for,
When weakness makes it impossible to even think,
When friends draw back fearful of disease,
When illness makes those, who are suffering moody or irritable,
When haunted by regret and the shame of past sins,
When it is difficult to sleep,
When there is loss of appetite,
When there is resistance to necessary change,
When tempted by denial,
When nobody seems to understand,
When bound to home or when restricted in movement,

When listlessness and apathy threaten,
When medication seems to make things worse,
When all that is needed is a caring touch,
When it is impossible to maintain familiar routines,
When it is hard to find the strength to go on,
When it becomes difficult to pray,
When suffering of any sort becomes hard to bear,
When death draws near, – LORD, BE CLOSE TO GIVE YOUR COMFORT.

Our Father...

Let us pray:

Most merciful Father, Your beloved Son showed special compassion to lepers, tenderness to those long sick, and healing to the infirm before Him. We place before You all those who are ill and in need of healing grace. May the love and mercy of the Divine Physician raise up all who suffer from sickness and restore them to health and peace. We ask this in the Name of Jesus Christ our Healer.

Amen.

THE SICK OF THE PARISH

St. Joseph, patron of men, of husbands and fathers pray for us!

Pray for our Parish Family,

St. Joseph, patron of workers, pray for us!

St. Joseph, protector and guardian of families pray for us!

St. Joseph, patron and defender of the Universal Catholic Church, pray for us!

Pray for us, Amen.



Thank you for keeping in prayer all who are sick and especially:

Maureen Smith, Jean Lue, Ruba Santipillai, Baby Alexander Lynch, Erika Geddes, Denise Waaldijk, Lena McBride, Valerie Sommerset, Kevin Mooney, John Mooney, Angela Patcheye, Leonard Paice, Michael O'Kelly, Ken and Margaret Peacock, Mary Reilly, Alan O'Leary, Bill and June O'Keefe, Gerry Gillan, Leonard James Connolly, Thea Haddad, Nora Williams, Margaret Lahy, Brian Wratten, Ann Van Essen, Bella Harding, Eileen Stevens, Dave Herris, Gabriel Lyons, Sylvester Forya, Michael and Madge Durkan, Jocelyn De Silva, Anna Kashtelyan, Mary Jeanette Connaire, Anna Urbni, Maureen Flaherty, John McDonagh, James Diver, Frances Forya, Francesco Gargano.

Please let us know if you or a family member would like to be added to our Parish Sick Prayer List.



We continue to remember all the sick Priests and Religious of the diocese.
And send our BLESSING and assurance of spiritual support to all NATIONS at this difficult and challenging time.

We also have three young mothers in our parish who have recently been diagnosed with cancer, we are keeping them in prayer – please keep them in yours.

A PRAYER FOR ONE WHO HAS DIED

At this moment I entreat (N.....) into your loving hands. I give you thanks for all the blessings of his/her life, and for the love and friendship we shared together. Please send your Holy Spirit at this moment to deepen my faith in your presence and fill me with hope that your promise may be fulfilled for (N.....) the joy of resurrection and a place in your Father's house. May Mary, Saint Teresa, Saint Joseph and all our patron saints pray for us that we may continue to be united in Your love.

We offer our condolences and spiritual support to all families who have lost a love one recently and especially those whose mortal remains we lay to rest in the weeks to come. Please keep them in your prayers.

WE REMEMBER THEM AND PRAY FOR THEIR SOULS

Saints of God come to their aid, come to meet them Angels of The Lord



- Lourdes Mary Fatima Rabindran RIP & Joseph Rabindran RIP (Funeral 15th March 2021, 12.15pm Mass)
- Fr. Paul Sanders RIP (Funeral 15th March 2021, 12.00 noon Mass)
- Francis Assisi Mendonça RIP (Funeral 25th March 2021, 12.30pm Mass)
- Joseph Lunn RIP (Funeral 22nd April 2021, 12.00 noon Mass)
- Remo Dipre RIP
- Jonny Purves RIP
- Maria Fermo RIP
- Eddie Venkatasami RIP

We also keep in prayer those whose anniversary occurs at this time of year, especially Margaret McCarthy RIP whose first anniversary is on 16th March and we continue to remember all those whose funerals have recently taken place.

Receive their soul and present them to God the Most High.

May Christ who called you, take you to himself; may angels lead you to Abraham's side.

GRANT THEM ETERNAL REST O LORD---

May They Rest In Peace and Rise In Glory. Amen.

JOSEPH LUNN RIP

Joseph left for Eternal Life on his 19th Birthday. He had a holy death. He was wrapped in the arms of his mother with Dad and his young sister present praying for him. His grandparents and uncle Rob joined them. We prayed together for Joseph and thanked God for his life on earth and commended his soul to Eternal Life.

Thank you for all the beautiful messages that flooded in on our Parish WhatsApp. They mean a lot to his family. Please continue to keep Joseph and his family in prayer as we journey to the day of

his funeral, Thursday 22nd April. This young man bore the cross of suffering in the bravest of ways. His love of Christ, his unity with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament got stronger every day. He had support from Heaven. For more than a year he had a very special reliquary containing the relics of some of Heavens greatest Saints including St Peter. He lived in the presence of the Lord on earth in prayer, Masses, Adoration now he Lives with the Saints of Heaven and Our Blessed Lady.

May He Rest In Peace and Rise In Glory.

FR PAUL SANDERS RIP

St. Teresa's offers our sincere condolence and assurance of spiritual support to the parish family of HOLY CROSS. Fr. Paul Sanders was a long serving servant of the diocese and a much-loved parish priest. We commend his soul to Almighty God and keep him, his family, his friends and his parish in our prayers.

The Reception of Father Paul's body into the Church with Mass will be on Sunday 14th March at 16.30pm led by Archbishop John Wilson.

On Monday 15th is the funeral Mass for Father Paul at 12.00 noon led by Bishop Paul Hendricks.

Please Note: that both of these services will have limited numbers allowed to attend the Church and so regrettably they have to be for family and invited guests only.

They will of course be streamed online.

<https://mcnmedia.tv/camera/holy-cross-roman-catholic-church-carshalton>

May He Rest In Peace and Rise In Glory. Amen

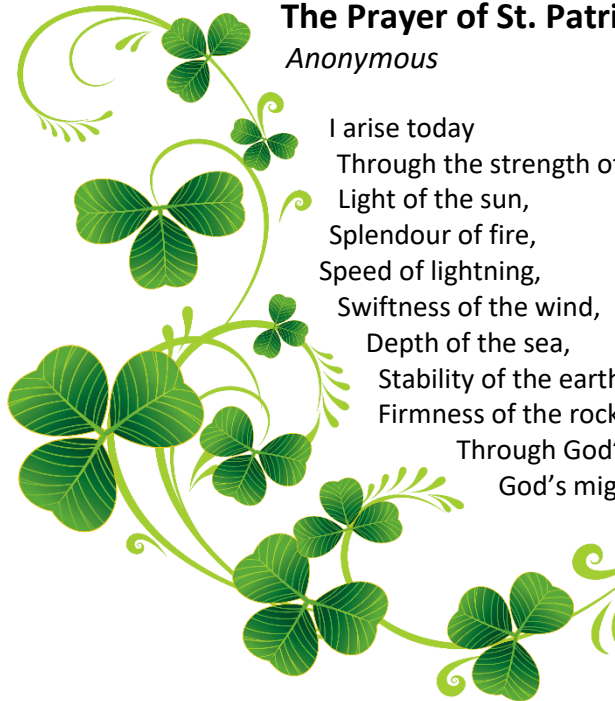


ST. PATRICK - FEAST DAY 17TH MARCH

He was born in Roman Britain around the end of the 4th century and died in Ireland about the middle of the 5th century. As a missionary bishop, he endured many hardships and faced opposition even from his friends and fellow Christians. Nevertheless, he worked hard to conciliate, to evangelise, and to educate local chieftains and their families. He is remembered for his simplicity and pastoral care, for his humble trust in God, and for his fearless preaching of the gospel to the very people who had enslaved him in his youth. He is associated with the shamrock, which he used as a tool to explain the Holy Trinity.

The Prayer of St. Patrick

Anonymous

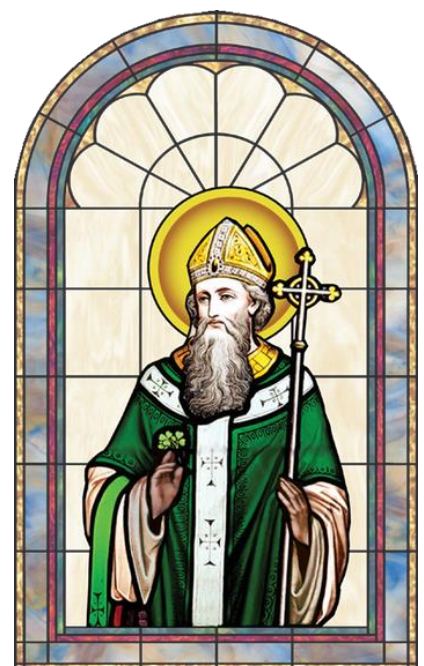


I arise today
Through the strength of heaven;
Light of the sun,
Splendour of fire,
Speed of lightning,
Swiftness of the wind,
Depth of the sea,
Stability of the earth,
Firmness of the rock. I arise today
Through God's strength to pilot me;
God's might to uphold me,
God's wisdom to guide me,
God's eye to look before me,
God's ear to hear me,
God's word to speak for me,
God's hand to guard me,
God's way to lie before me,

God's shield to protect me,
God's hosts to save me
Afar and a near,
Alone or in a multitude.
Christ shield me today
Against wounding
Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me,
Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ on my right, Christ on my left,
Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down,
Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of me,
Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me,
Christ in the eye that sees me,
Christ in the ear that hears me.

I arise today
Through the mighty strength
Of the Lord of creation.

Oh, faithful and loving St. Patrick,
Pray for us!



NOVENA'S

<https://www.praymorenovenas.com/st-patrick-novena-prayers-patron-saint-of-ireland>

<https://catholicnovenaapp.com/novenas/st-patrick-novena/#st-patrick-novena>

FEAST OF ST. JOSEPH - FRIDAY 19TH MARCH

3.30pm Adoration & Novena

5.30pm Mass for Novena Intentions

From the 10th March at the end of the morning Mass we will pray the Novena Prayer in honour of Saint Joseph. On days of funerals please say the prayer at a time of your convenience.

O Blessed St. Joseph, tender-hearted father, faithful guardian of Jesus, and most chaste spouse of the Virgin Mary. I ask you to join me in prayer to God the Father, the Creator of all; to God the Son purest Lamb of sacrifice; and to God the Holy Spirit, poured out on the day of Pentecost. Help me in making my prayer complete as I pray for these intentions (Name your requests).

Almighty God, I believe that your Son, Jesus Christ, died for the forgiveness of my sins and the sins of the entire world; I ask that you give me the strength and the love to show that same mercy to those around me. Encouraged by the example of St. Joseph and the promise of eternal life with you, may I never forget to care for those in need. I ask you to calm all my fears, to strengthen my faith, to make me bold in my proclamation of the Gospel and generous in my service to my brothers and sisters. I present my need, trusting in your saving power, and desiring to do your Divine Will in my life. I make this prayer with St. Joseph, through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.



O Blessed St. Joseph, I ask you to help me in my prayer to God (Name your requests). Pray with me for all those who have asked for my prayers; help me and those I pray to accept, to understand and to actively cooperate in God's plan of salvation; and be near me in my last moments, that I may sing the praises of God with you and with the Blessed Virgin Mary for all eternity. Amen.

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

**One Year On: Remembering Our Loved Ones
And Members of Our Parish Family**

Tuesday 23rd March



On the 23rd March 2021 we will reach a significant milestone in the country's fight against Coronavirus: for it was on this day last year that we entered the first of the lockdowns. It has been a tough year in so many ways for so many people.

Since then, we as a nation have lost over 124,000 lives. London has seen thousands of lives lost. These are not mere statistics: each number is a life, each life is a memory, each life is a family trying to grieve in these troubled times. Friends have lost friends; parishes have lost parishioners and dioceses have lost clergy.

To mark this day, we will offer a Requiem Mass for all these holy souls. We shall pray for their family and their friends. It is hoped that a Book of Remembrance will be available for you to recall your loved ones.

3.30pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
5.30pm	Requiem Mass



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Our parish First Holy Communion Catechist Team met this week to work out how we can manage this year's programme. In the weeks to come we will announce our action plan and offer 70 children the chance to make their First Holy Communion later this year. Watch out for dates and the commencement of this special programme.

When a child is baptised, we hope they will continue the journey of faith and fully complete their initiation into the life of the Church. This happens when they make their First Holy Communion, their First Confession, and sealed the beautiful day when the Bishop in the Sacrament of Confirmation anoints them on the forehead and prays 'Be Sealed with the Holy Spirit'.

Is your child ready to make their First Holy Communion?

This Reflection might help.

Does your child sometimes:

- Want to join in the prayers at Mass?
- Look forward to meeting friends at Holy Mass?
- Try to listen to readings from Scripture at Mass?
- Ask questions about what communion tastes like?
- Talk about when they can take part?
- Join in actions at Mass and sing hymns?
- Want to know more about how we meet Jesus at Mass?
- Ask questions about why the communion host is special?
- Show eagerness about joining in?
- Value occasional moments of stillness and silence?
- Show love to family and friends?
- Exhibit a desire to deepen their love of Jesus?
- Like to meet Jesus in silent prayer at Adoration times?
- Keen to read holy stories about Jesus, Mary and the Saints?
- Do they seek your advice and ask for guidance in prayer?
- Show interest in becoming an Altar Server?

Dear Parent's, if you see signs of this in your child's life then they are probably ready to take part fully in Mass and receive Jesus in Holy Communion.

Can I remind you of what Pope Saint Pius X taught, he said "*when a child is able to recognise that there is a distinction between the EUCHARIST and ordinary bread then preparation should begin*". This has been backed up by every Pope since.

APPLICATION

The First Holy Communion programme for 2021 is now open for registration. A letter was sent out to Year 3 children with details of how to apply. If your child **DOES NOT** attend St Teresa's Primary School and is due to make their Communion, please print off the Application Form below, fill it in and deliver it to the Parish Office along with the fee and Baptismal Certificate (*ONLY if not Baptised at St Teresa's Church*) by Wednesday 31st March.

**PLEASE SEE COVERING LETTER AND
APPLICATION FORM BELOW.**



ST. TERESA'S CHURCH MORDEN

TEL: 020 8648-4113
Email: morden@rcaos.org.uk



11th March 2021

RECONCILIATION & FIRST COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2021

Dear Parents

This year, due to Covid-19 restrictions, we are approaching the Reconciliation & First Communion Programme somewhat differently.

You will find attached, a registration form for you to complete. We have already checked baptism certificates of children who attend St. Teresa's school, so we do not need copies. However, for children who attend other schools, and were baptized elsewhere, we will need to see and copy their baptism certificate; please bring the certificate in with your child's application form and course fee.

1. The cost of the Programme, is £15. Cash will be accepted, please make cheques payable to 'St. Teresa's Church'
2. Each child will receive a book 'HERE I AM' at the first session in church. They need to bring this book with them each time they attend the sessions in church; they will also use these books home.
3. Each session in church will last **30 minutes**. We ask you to please have your child in church at least 5 minutes before the class starts, and to collect them promptly at the end of the session. You will enter via the main doors and leave by the side doors leading to the carpark.
4. We will have 2 x half hour sessions each day, on the dates specified below, so prompt attendance and collection is a must. We envisage 2 groups of 30/35 children for each session, depending on numbers. Numbers will be capped at 70.
5. The first session of the day will start at **9:30am – 10:00am**
6. The second session of the day will start at **10:30am – 11:00m.**

Please be aware, in line with Diocesan Covid guidelines, we have to sanitize each seat/surface used between each session

Church session dates: **Saturday, April 10th, 17th, 24th**
 Saturday, May, 8th, 15th, 22nd
 Saturday, June 12th, 19th 26th

Children will make their **First Confession on 15th May**. We will give you more information nearer the time. **We have not set first communion dates as yet;** we will let you know as the Programme progresses.

Please complete and return your registration form to St. Teresa's church office by the end of March. The office will be covered on **Friday's 9am-11am and 2pm-3.30pm**. Unfortunately, late applications will not be accepted after 31st March.

We look forward to meeting all families very soon.

Yours sincerely

Canon Michael Scanlon
Parish Priest



St. Teresa's Church

Morden

Tel: 020 8648-4113

Email: morden@rcaos.org.uk

**Application form for Reconciliation and
Communion Preparation 2021**
PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Child's Name
Please tick MALE ☐ FEMALE ☐

Home Address

Date of Birth

**Name/Address of
Current School**
.....

**Does your child have
a special requirement**

**To help us understand more about what is needed please state above and speak to
one of the catechists**

Place/Date Baptism

Contact Email
Please print clearly

Parents/Guardian Names
.....

Contact Mobile No.
Please state whose number e.g. mum/dad/grandparents/guardian

Cost of Programme: £15.00 payable by 10th April 2021

Please make cheques payable to St. Teresa's Church

Office Use Only: Please complete on Registration Morning

Copy of Baptism Certificate: Attached ☐ **OR Baptised at St. T's/Seen** ☐

Cash / Cheque PAID ☐ **OR Cash / Cheque to follow** ☐

Comments.....

.....
Ref: FCP 2021

**PLEASE RETURN THIS APPLICATION FORM TO ST. TERESA'S CHURCH OFFICE
BEFORE MARCH 31st 2021**

HOLY WEEK

HOLY WEEK SERVICES AT ST. TERESA'S

Palm Sunday

5.30pm *Vigil Mass*
9am *Holy Mass*
11am *Holy Mass*

Good Friday

10am *Family Stations of the Cross*
3pm *Solemn Liturgy*
5pm *Close*

Monday-Wednesday of Holy Week

9.30am *Rosary*
10am *Holy Mass*
11am *Stations of the Cross*
6pm *Stations of the Cross*
7pm *Holy Mass*

Holy Saturday

10-11am *Sacrament of Confession*
6.30pm *Easter Vigil Service*

Holy Thursday

5pm *Holy Mass*
7pm *Holy Mass*

Easter Sunday

9am *Holy Mass*
11am *Holy Mass*



PARISH FINANCE




Out thanks go out to John Costella, the father of Avril Costella, whose funeral took place recently on Wednesday 10th April. His generous donation of £500 plus Gift Aid to the parish of St Teresa's is greatly appreciated.

Thank you to everybody who continues to support the parish through the collection, standing orders, gift aid and dropping in contributions. Online donations have seen an increase recently - A big THANK YOU FOR THOSE DONATIONS coming in via our parish website 'JUST GIVING' - Press the button marked **DONATE**. If you scroll down further, we also say 'Thanks' for your support and other ways you can support our parish. Again, THANK YOU.

To make things easier in the church we have now introduced a card reader which you will find near the Icon of Padre Pio, instructions are listed next to the machine. You can use this for all donations.

If you use **GIFT AID ENVELOPES** for your offertory, **PLEASE CONTINUE TO DO SO** and place them in the offertory boxes on the Sanctuary steps.

SUMUP CARD READER

- IF THE SCREEN IS BLANK *press the power button* 
- ENTER THE AMOUNT YOU WISH TO DONATE *e.g. 5 0 0 is £5.00 press the green tick button* 
- TAP CARD *for contactless* or INSERT CARD *using your pin*
- SELECT RECEIPT *use arrows to select option required* 

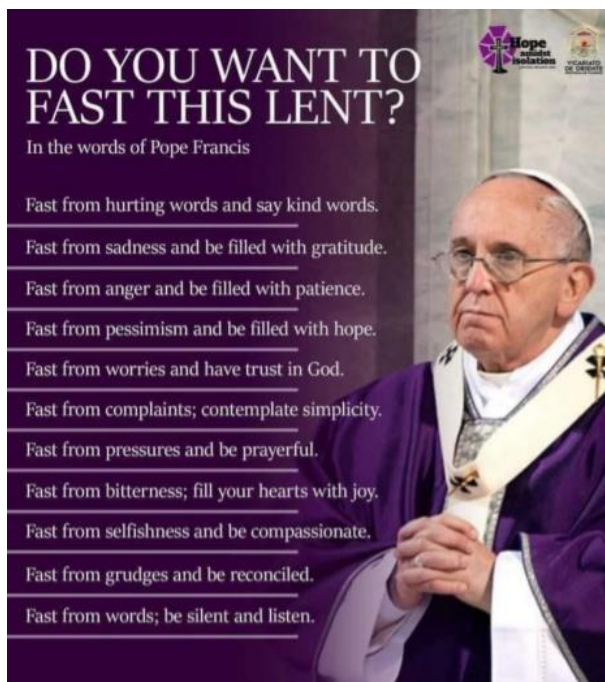


STAY SAFE, STAY BLESSED

We hope you are OK and copying as well as possible. There is light at the end of the tunnel. The news of hopeful change in the months to come has lifted our spirits. It is good to think we will be able to celebrate HOLY WEEK and hopefully the other sacraments in the months ahead. THANK YOU for continuing to support our necessary restrictions in church and do make sure that you and those around you are protected by the vaccine when it is available to you. As we continue our Lenten journey please take part as best you can.

Please keep in prayer our Parish Re-Opening Team. They have been such a great help and we thank each of them for their support. Many bereaved families have sent messages of grateful thanks for the warm welcome they have received.

FRIDAYS



DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?
In the words of Pope Francis

- Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
- Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
- Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
- Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
- Fast from worries and have trust in God.
- Fast from complaints; contemplate simplicity.
- Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- Fast from bitterness; fill your hearts with joy.
- Fast from selfishness and be compassionate.
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- Fast from words; be silent and listen.

The Fridays of Lent are especially days of penance. Do not forget that they are days when we should abstain from meat. We could also make some special effort either in prayer or in helping somebody in need.

Thank you for supporting CAFOD. This year they are focussing on those who live far away from a water supply, such as those in Ethiopia who spend 10 hours a day fetching water. They would appreciate your support. You can give online through [CAFOD.ORG.UK](https://www.cafod.org.uk) or see below for details to sponsor those parishioners from St. Teresa's who are **Walking For Water**. If you Gift Aid, please let them know.

FAITH SHARING

The season of Lent is given to us each year to help us to grow and mature in the Christian life. It is an opportunity to make space for time with God in prayer, to strengthen our resolve and our wills, and to turn our hearts and hands to the needs of others. We use this precious time to prepare our souls for a springtime of renewal at Easter: nourishing our spiritual lives with prayer and good works and pruning whatever prevents us from flourishing. Lent is a time of coming closer to Jesus; of spending time with Him and following Him to the foot of the Cross so that we can also experience His Resurrection. The closer we come to Jesus, the more we will become like Him, and the more we will be able to witness to Him in the world. Let us sit at the feet of the Master this Lent, so that we can receive the grace we need to go and make disciples.

CATHOLIC VOICES PANDEMIC SURVEY

Catholic Voices was involved in a very successful survey and report during the first lockdown in May-July 2020. Over 2,500 Catholics in England and Wales and Scotland were surveyed, which has given us important insights into how people responded to the arrival of the pandemic.

Since then a lot has changed and Catholic Voices would like to hear again from clergy and lay people about their current experiences and, crucially, what they feel about that future, so the survey is being relaunched. Repeating the survey now provides a good comparison moment. Please spend some time to take part in the survey.

The link is: <https://www.catholicvoices.org.uk/survey> and the survey will be open until late Spring.

FAMILY FAST DAY

We may not all be back at Church but as a parish we can support the Cafod Lenten Appeal by the fruits of our fasting recently and our almsgiving this Lent. If you have a Cafod envelope or have your donation marked Cafod please pop it into either of the Donation Boxes at the foot of the sanctuary. If you are able to gift aid your donation, please fill in the details on the Cafod envelope. Alternatively, you can give online <https://cafod.org.uk>

CAFOD

Looking for a challenge this Lent? Join CAFOD's walk for water challenge and walk 10,000 steps a day, for 40 days in solidarity with all those who do not have access to a safe water source. Whether you hop it; skip it; slide it; run it; jump it; dance it; or stomp it. It doesn't matter how you do it, just as long as you put your heart and soul into it. Sign up now and go the distance this Lent and help to end water poverty.

A group of parishioners have done just that....

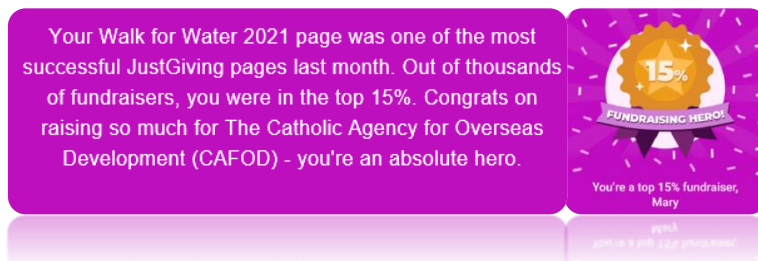
Margaret Malone, Theresa Goldband, Mary Mandryk, Anna-Marie Mandryk and Alice Cheshire are walking for the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development. This charity is helping to provide clean, safe, drinkable water for some of the poorest people on Earth. To find out more please visit

<https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/st-teresas-walk-for-cafod>



UPDATE: We would love to share the good news with you. We are in the top 15% for fund raising thanks to your generous support! Our aim of raising £200 towards the efforts of CAFOD to get safe, accessible water to the poorest people on the planet has been reached and surpassed, we have raised the cost of a Community Water Station fitted with taps. Can we reach the next target - an Animal Watering Trough? With your help we can!

If you wish to sponsor the team you can still do so, just follow the link above.



Saint Teresa's

LIFE is remembered

LOVE is deepened, HOPE is rekindled,

FAITH is awakened, FAITH is renewed, FAITH is strengthened,

Where BLESSINGS from Heaven await you.

Where the LORD OF DIVINE MERCY Forgives you.

Where the Mother of God prays for you.

Where Saint Teresa intercedes for you.

Where Saint Joseph seeks to help you.

Where the Parish Family pray for you.

WELCOME - WELCOME - WELCOME



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 and Donations

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 written request via the parish office with contact details.

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.



Basic 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 DISPENATION 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 55 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 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

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.



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.

