



# St. Teresa's Morden

Canon Michael Scanlon, KHS Parish Priest

Fr Roshy Robert, Resident Priest

Pastoral Assistant: Deacon Con Diver

Parish e-mail address: [morden@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:morden@rcaos.org.uk)

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

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



Please see the Mass Attendance [Protocols](#) below

## CONFESSIONS AFTER ALL MASSES

### Mass Times and Intentions-Year B:

#### **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December – SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Bible Sunday)**

- 5.30pm Bea Miller RIP  
Janarthanan Fernando RIP
- 9am People of the Parish
- 11am Irene Ward RIP 1<sup>st</sup> Anniv.  
John O'Leary RIP

#### **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December - St. Nicholas, Bishop**

- 9.30am Rosary
- 10am Lena McBride RIP,  
Shirley & Neil Markham's Intentions

#### **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> December – St. Ambrose, Bishop, Doctor**

- 9.30am Rosary
- 10am The Russell Family's Intentions  
Pupils, Teachers, Staff of St. Teresa's Primary School

#### **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December – FEAST OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

- 9.15am Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour
- 10am Joseph Lunn RIP  
Pope Benedict's Welfare
- 2.40pm Funeral-Denis Leadly RIP, NE Surrey Crem.

#### **Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December – St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatatzin**

- 9.30am Rosary
- 10am Portia Callet RIP  
Queen Elizabeth II and Family

#### **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December**

- 9am Divine Mercy Chaplet & Rosary
- 10am Lagnimas Lastimosa RIP  
Ellie Maliona Birthday Intentions

#### **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December – St. Damasus I, Pope**

- 5.30pm Chiara Muscas RIP  
Elizabeth Chandler's Intentions

#### **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December – THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

- 9am People of the Parish
- 11am Carmel Ryder RIP  
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)

**PLEASE NOTE:**

**Saint Teresa's Church is now OPEN to parishioners for morning Mass**

Our Masses are also available online at

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

## **NOVEMBER DECEASED LIST – THE MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS**

We offer you the chance to hand in a list of names, family, friends, etc.

These names will be placed on the Sanctuary in front of the Altar with candles lit either side. They will be remembered in Holy Mass every day during the month of the Holy Souls. In our Prayers of Intercession, the Rosary, the Divine Mercy Chaplet and periods of Adoration.

*Listen graciously to the prayers of our Parish Family, in Your compassion, O merciful Father, have mercy on our deceased brothers and sisters and to all who were pleasing to You at their passing from this life, give kind admittance to Your Kingdom. We commend One and All to Your Divine Mercy.*

*Amen.*

## **O LORD PLEASE HEAR OUR PRAYERS**

For all who are on our Parish Sick List, for family and friends,

We pray for those who are unwell.

Those struck down by serious disease.

Those awaiting a diagnosis or operation.

Those receiving treatment for cancer.

Those with debilitating, chronic conditions.

And those with terminal illness.

From our Altar, from our hearts may we also send out our blessing to all who are unwell at home in our Hospitals, Care Homes, Nursing Homes and those in Hospice care. Amen

**We pray for those who are Sick and Housebound remembering especially:**



Anne-Marie Mendonça, Theresa Mason, Moira Macklin, Maureen Smith, Maureen Flaherty, John McDonagh, James Diver, Francesco Gargano, Theresa McGoldrick, Patricia Jayasena, Jean Lue, Ruba Santipillai, Baby Alexander Lynch, Erika Geddes, Denise Waaldijk, Valerie Somerset, Leonard James Connolly, Thea Haddad, Margaret Lahy, Brian Wratten, Ann Van Essen and Jane Turner, Kevin Mooney, John Mooney, Angela Patcheye, Leonard Paice, Ken and Margaret Peacock, Michael and Madge Durkan, Jocelyn De Silva, Mary Jeanette Connaire, Mary Reilly, Alan

O'Leary, Bill and June O'Keefe, Gerry Gillan, Bella Harding, Eileen Stevens, Dave Herris, Gabriel Lyons, Sylvester Forya, Anna Urbni, Tony London, Kevin McKeon, Vincent Moyle, John Antao, Stella Carrasco, Gerald Pereira, Fiona Beagan, Pope Francis and Pope Benedict, Pope Emeritus.

My Lord, hear our prayers for all those who are sick in hospital, hospices and care homes.  
May they receive your special blessing.

*If you wish to be prayed for on our Parish Sick List, please let us have your name.  
Every First Friday we offer and remember you in Holy Mass. We also keep you in our daily prayer, our times  
of Adoration, Novena's and the Holy Rosary.*

PLEASE continue to remember the Sick Clergy of the diocese and send out your blessing in prayer to all the Nations of the World, as they do their best to combat the pandemic and natural disasters that many nations are battling with at this time. THANK YOU!



## RECENT DEATHS

*Now At Rest And Kept In Prayer*

Avril Jean Costella RIP  
Shirley Johnson RIP  
Dermot Peter Long RIP  
Lourdes Mary Fatima  
Irene Ward RIP  
Sarah Marie Frost RIP  
Veronica Gorrod RIP  
Finbarr Francis Hurley RIP  
Lolito Laydia RIP  
Michael O'Kelly RIP  
Newton Coutinho RIP  
Anna Darby RIP  
Mary Creighan RIP  
Michael Joseph Nihill RIP  
Gerald O'Toole RIP  
Sarah Hedy Connolly RIP  
Sotelo Cabrera RIP  
Noel Ryan, RIP  
Michael Scott RIP  
Anna-Maria Fantocchi RIP  
Giovanni Corsini RIP  
Gerry Kirrane RIP  
Gay Phillips RIP  
Tony Byrnes RIP  
Jane Neyman RIP

Francis Assisi Mendonça RIP  
Joseph Antony Quintus Rabindran RIP  
Jayandradevi Rabindran RIP  
Remo Dipre RIP  
Alan Frederick Burridge RIP  
Jonny Purvis RIP  
Ann Donaldson RIP  
Baby Angelika Hobbs RIP  
Annie Francis RIP  
Giovanni Mansini RIP  
Joseph Lunn RIP  
Norah Mary Williams RIP  
Francisco José Carrasco RIP  
Eva Sereny RIP  
Steven Duggan RIP  
Lena McBride RIP  
Mary Whelan RIP  
Mary Connolly RIP  
Kevin Mattimoe RIP  
Michael Bourke RIP  
Dorothy Gertrude Cleary RIP  
Frances Healion RIP  
Douglas Banks RIP  
Robert Peter RIP



## *Recent Southwark Diocese Clergy Deaths*

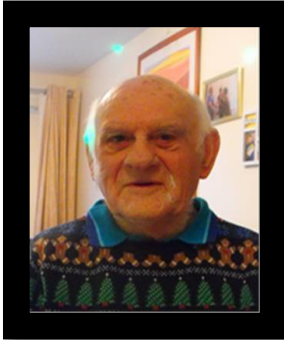
Deacon William Boyd RIP  
Deacon Jim Hayes RIP  
Fr. Paul Sanders RIP  
Canon Richard Hearn RIP  
Fr. Richard Diala RIP  
Fr. Michael Boland RIP  
Fr. Robert Copsey SOLT RIP

## *May They Meet The Risen Lord*

*Remind us Dear Lord, of the great company of your people who have been called before us,  
famed or forgotten,  
celebrated or overlooked,  
all who have run their race and kept the faith, walking the way of Christ to their journeys end.  
Hear our prayer and the prayer of our Rosaries for those whose anniversaries occur in the month of  
October.*

### **DENNIS LEADLEY RIP**

**Funeral – Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2.40pm at N.E. Surrey Crematorium**



Dennis moved into The Grove (care home) in May 1999. He was very sociable person. He loved chatting with people, make jokes, teasing them, etc. Dennis knew what is happening in the world. He listened to his radio every day and watched news in TV. Everyone who was in the service received updates on daily basis from him. He would not missed any news or any person. Dennis loved going to library to borrow books with different places/countries, he loved traveling, especially by public transport. He loved emergency services Police, Ambulance, Fire brigade. Whenever he saw the cars he was very excited and talked about it to everyone. He knew what is broken in the house and he asked for

replacement. He could buy new item today but tomorrow that item was already old and he asked for new one. He could spend money.

Every day Dennis talked about his parents being in heaven, he was saying "My mum is in heaven, my dad is in heaven and my dog Tim is in heaven" When he wasn't happy with someone he always said "I will tell my mum" or "My mum will sort you out"

Dennis lived at The Grove for over 22 years but now he is with his parents in heaven and probably he already report you all to his mum :)

All friends from The Grove and staff members saying last Good Bye to you Dennis, we all miss you and we will not forget you.

*May Dennis Rest In Peace and Rise In Glory.*

### **CHRISTOPHER JOSEPH O'BYRNE RIP**

**Funeral – Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 11.20 at N.E. Surrey Crematorium**

Christopher O'Byrne, a son of Ireland, born in Cork died on 8<sup>th</sup> November at the age of 90 years. Our prayers and condolences go out to his family, his wife June and three children, Angela, Debbie and Christopher along with his grandchildren and great grandchildren. Christopher was

*May Christopher Rest In Peace and Rise In Glory.*

### **DANIEL SAMUELS RIP**

**Funeral – Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December 10am Mass at St. Teresa's. 11.30am N.E. Surrey Crematorium**

With our parish school we are offering our love and spiritual support to the Samuel's family following David's sudden death. David was just 39 years old. His wife Rebecca and David were blessed with three daughters, Eva, Jaya and the eldest Hallie.

David was very much a family man. He worked in the world of finance. David has a twin brother and we offer sympathy and condolences to all the family. His roots are West Indian. His mother-in-

law Jean Phipps said he was a wonderful son-in-law and his commitment to family life was exemplary.

*May Daniel Rest In Peace and Rise In Glory.*



### **JOSE GONCALVES RIP**

***Funeral – Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December Requiem Mass 9.30am at St. Teresa's, 11am Burial at Sutton Cemetery***

Jose Goncalves passed away on 30<sup>th</sup> October aged 79 years. Jose lived locally in Carshalton and our prayers and condolences are with the family, especially his sister Virginia at this time.

*May Jose Rest In Peace and Rise In Glory.*

### **MICHAEL JOHN MCANDREW RIP**

***Funeral – Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December, 3.20pm at N.E. Surrey Crematorium***

We send our prayers and condolences to the family of Michael McAndrew who died recently. We remember especially his daughter Cherrie, his four brothers and all who knew Michael.

*May Michael Rest In Peace and Rise In Glory.*

### **FR. ROBERT ELLIS RIP**

***Funeral details are:***

***Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December 1400: Reception of the Body St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Ham Street, Ham Common, Richmond TW10 7HT***

***Funeral Mass Monday 20<sup>th</sup> December 1200 noon: English Martyrs Church, Goring Way, Goring by Sea, BN12 4UH 1200***

***Committal at Worthing Crematorium 1400: Horsham Road, Findon, BN14 0RQ***



It is with sadness that we learn of the death of our former assistant priest Fr. Robert Ellis. In May 1991, Robert was appointed as an assistant priest at St Teresa's where in the words of Archbishop Michael Bowen "...he proved to be highly effective." This was to be Robert's final appointment as an assistant as in January 1995, Archbishop Michael wrote appointing him as parish priest of Our Lady Immaculate, Surrey Docks. In his letter to Robert, Archbishop Michael wrote, "It remains for me to say a very warm word of thanks for the work you have done in Morden as an assistant priest. I know you will be very much missed, but I hope you will settle happily in Surrey Docks."

Since 2016 he has been Parish Priest of St Thomas Aquinas, Ham. After a very short term of illness Fr. Ellis died on Friday 29th October in Kingston Hospital.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Fr Robert Ellis and for the comfort of the Holy Spirit upon his family, friends and brother priests.

*May Fr. Ellis Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory*

### **SHEILA BORG RIP**

***Funeral – Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December, 12 Noon Mass at St. Teresa's then 1.20pm N.E. Surrey Crematorium***

Sheila died at the age of 86 years and our prayers and condolences go out to her two daughters Jennifer and Theresa. Sheila was Baptised at Saint Teresa's Church and was a parishioner for many years. A daughter of Malta, Sheila lost her husband 12 years ago.





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

## **ROBERT PETER RIP**

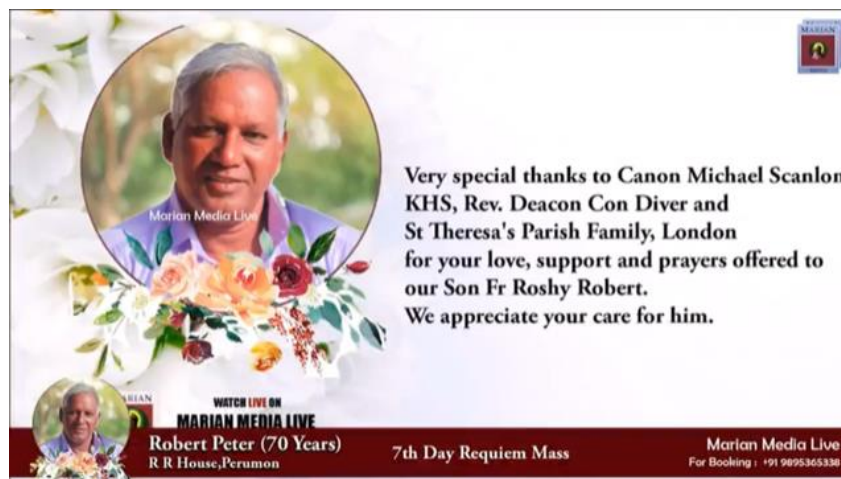
**30 Day Requiem Mass Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December (5.30am GMT). See link below to watch**

It is with sadness that we learnt of the death of Fr Roshy's father, Robert Peter, who was 70 years old. Fr Roshy was able to return home in Kerala and be with his father for a short time before his death. The funeral took place on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November and there will be a 30<sup>th</sup> Day Requiem Mass on December 11<sup>th</sup> at 11 IST (5.30am BST)

<https://www.facebook.com/StJosephChurchPerumonMundackal/>

Please remember Fr. Roshy and his family in your prayers. A message from Fr. Roshy to St. Teresa's is below.

*May Robert Rest In Peace and Rise In Glory.*



## **VISIT BY BISHOP PAUL HENDRICKS**

Last week we welcomed Bishop Paul Hendricks who visited Saint Teresa's Parish. He gave thanks to Canon Michael for all his work during the pandemic and his efforts in keeping the spirituality of St. Teresa's alive during the pandemic, not just for parishioners of St. Teresa's but globally too.



# SATURDAY 11TH DECEMBER

## 11am

For all those parents or guardians who are waiting to receive the holy sacrament of Baptism for their child, we are looking to hold a meeting next month.

Some rules and regulations are still in place which we must try and adhere to.

We invite parents to a meeting on **Saturday 11th December at 11am** in the Parish Church. We will offer weekday baptisms at 11am and possibly Saturday baptisms after the First Holy Communion classes at 12.30pm. This meeting will also include an explanation of the Sacrament of

Baptism. We will also keep you up to date on any new guidelines.

Over the last few months we have welcomed into the parish family



Matteo Herkus  
Tamara Regitharan  
Seanna Chavez  
Risha Kiritharan  
Rithisha Kiritharan  
Dominic Adjetey  
Kiekoloreoluwa Dada  
Peter Pal  
Kyle James

Cillian Lewis  
Nancie-Rae Farnham  
Olivia New  
Jahsaiah Williams  
Oliver Ersapah  
Xayne Ubongen  
Elijah Calvo  
Oran Robinson  
Sophia Bate

## VATICAN SYNODAL PROCESS - Parish Consultation Phase

This weekend at each Mass we will hear about the beginning steps of the Synodal Process at Saint Teresa's. This is the start of a consultation and listening process so that we can hear from every parishioner.



Our Archbishop, on behalf of the Holy Father Pope Francis, has asked each of us to take full part in the first step of global Church Synodal Process during December and January.

We start now the Synod's Local Listening Phase, at our Parish level here at St. Teresa's. This means that the whole Church Hierarchy wants to listen to us, to me and to you!

At all Masses next week, we will ask you to respond to three questions anonymously in a questionnaire (take it home to return later if you would like to), about our Church.

Please start to think and pray about these questions now, so that you are well prepared next week to give a heartfelt response.

The questions will be;

1) What do we do well that we should continue doing .....

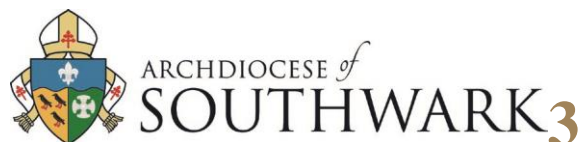
2) What is missing that we should start doing .....

3) What are we doing not so well that we might pause doing .....

This Phase, listening to you and me, is part of the process of "Communion, Participation and Mission".

As individuals and families, men and women, younger and older, let us allow the Holy Spirit to come into our lives, to give us the gift of participation and discernment, and to reach out to all who, as we all do, need the body of Christ.

*Here is some information from the Diocese to help you reflect and consider your responses.*



## Questions for Use in Parish Listening, Sharing and Reflection

The Synod website provides suggestions on how to pose these questions to various groups of people in simple and engaging ways (<https://rcaos.org.uk/synod>).

Each diocese, parish, or group should not aim to cover all the questions but should discern and focus on those aspects of synodality most pertinent to its context.

Participants are encouraged to share with honesty and openness about their real-life experiences, and to reflect on what the Holy Spirit might be revealing in what they share with one another. Frameworks for sharing can be found in the **Facilitating Local Spiritual Conversations** document.

This Synod poses the following fundamental question:

**A synodal Church, in announcing the Gospel, 'journeys together.' How is this 'journeying together' happening today in your local Church? What steps does the Spirit invite us to take in order to grow in our 'journeying together'? (PD 26)**

By growing together in communion, the people of God deepen their participation in the life of the Church and so become more effective missionary disciples in the world.

Read all of the questions. The questions in **bold** are the main ones we suggest you explore but you may wish to focus on the three thematic areas using the other questions offered here.



## Communion

*The Church is Catholic because she is sent to all, in order to gather the entire human family from every nation and culture, under the Lordship of Christ and in the unity of his Spirit.*

1. **What are the ways in which your parish most successfully brings people together?**
2. In which areas of parish life (liturgical, charitable, social etc.) does your parish feel and act as one?
3. In which areas of parish life (liturgical, charitable, social etc.) are you able to discern the presence and movement of the Holy Spirit?
4. How is the Holy Eucharist the main focal point for your parish?
5. Is the parish the sole locus for Communion in your area?
6. **Christ is present as the head united to his body (Ephesians 1:22-23) in our parishes and communities. How is this reflected in your parish/community life? Are there other reasons that you gather together?**
7. In what ways can you help to build up communion effectively and authentically in the coming months and years?
8. How do you relate to members of the Church who have drifted away from practice?
9. How does your parish relate to other parishes nearby and the diocese as a whole?



## Participation

*Participation is based on the fact that all the faithful are qualified and called to serve each other through the gifts they have all received from the Holy Spirit. The authority of pastors is a specific gift of the Spirit of Christ the Head for the building up of the entire Body.*

1. **Reflecting on 16 months of the pandemic, how has participation in your parish been affected? Were these issues there before?**
2. How can participation be strengthened moving forward into the future?
3. What are the means by which different voices can be heard in your parish (particularly those on the periphery of parish life)?
4. Which groups and individuals are least included in your parish?
5. How can you broaden the way you include people whilst keeping always true to the Gospel and our core Christian identity?
6. How do you currently participate, personally, in the life of the Church? How much responsibility do you have as an individual?
7. **How can we better enable full participation and co-responsibility in the life of the Church at the parish and diocesan levels?**
8. How does your parish effectively identify and use the gifts of its people?
9. How do families and young people effectively participate in the life of your parish?  
What do you do to support them?

## Mission

*The People of God are on pilgrimage through history towards the heavenly homeland. Each one of the baptised is to be honoured with the same dignity as children of God and appointed to the same mission, the proclamation of the Good News and the building of the Kingdom of God.*

1. Given what you see of the Church (words and actions), in the parish and beyond, what would you say is the Church's mission?
2. How might we find a shared understanding of mission in the different parishes and Catholic institutions in the Archdiocese of Southwark?
3. **Are we looking in or are we looking out, as a parish community? Can we do both effectively?**
4. From a missionary perspective, how would you characterise both the local situation and local needs in your parish and community?
5. How is your parish set up for evangelisation? How does your parish reach out to the broader community with the Good News?
6. Where is the Holy Spirit calling you to mission and service today?
7. In what ways do you already intentionally and actively seek to share the Good News of Jesus Christ?
8. **How does the life of the parish, in terms of catechesis, adult formation, liturgy etc. aid in the formation of parishioners as missionary disciples?**
9. How can the call to holiness and the call to mission be reflected in different aspects of parish life?

## Terms from the Synod documents

### Discernment

The Synodal Process entails a discernment process. In this process, we listen to each other in order to discern what God is saying to all of us. This kind of discernment is not only a one-time event, but ultimately a way of life, grounded in Christ, following the lead of the Holy Spirit, living for the greater glory of God. Communal discernment helps to build flourishing and resilient communities for the mission of the Church today. Discernment is a grace from God, but it requires our human involvement in simple ways: praying, reflection, paying attention to one's inner disposition, listening and talking to one another in an authentic, meaningful, and welcoming way. Discernment in this spiritual key plants seeds that can bear the fruits of fraternity, healing, communion, mission, and more. God comes to lead and inspire us as we seek to discern His will.



### Communion

Synodality is a living expression of the Catholicity of the Church as communion. In the Church, Christ is present as the Head united to His Body (Ephesians 1,22-23) in such a way that she receives from Him the fullness of the means of salvation. The Church is Catholic also because she is sent to all, in order to gather the entire human family in the richness of the plurality of cultural forms, under the Lordship of Christ and in the unity of His Spirit. The synodal path expresses and promotes her Catholicity in two ways: it shows the dynamic way in which the fullness of faith is shared by all members of the People of God and it assists in handing it on to all people and all peoples. (ITC, Syn., no. 58)

## Participation

A synodal Church is a Church of participation and co-responsibility. In exercising synodality she is called to give expression to the participation of all, according to each one's calling, with the authority conferred by Christ on the College of Bishops headed by the Pope. Participation is based on the fact that all the faithful are qualified and called to serve each other through the gifts they have all received from the Holy Spirit. The authority of Pastors is a specific gift of the Spirit of Christ the Head for the building up of the entire Body, not a delegated and representative function of the people. (ITC, Syn., no. 67)

In the synodal Church the whole community, in the free and rich diversity of its members, is called together to pray, listen, analyse, dialogue, discern and offer advice on taking pastoral decisions which correspond as closely as possible to God's will. So, in coming to formulate their own decisions, Pastors must listen carefully to the views and experiences of the faithful. Canon law stipulates that, in certain cases, they must act only after having sought and obtained the various opinions according to juridically established procedures [82]. (ICT, Syn., no. 68) At the same time, the path of synodality requires much wider participation than only that which is required by the law.

## Mission

The Church is missionary because that was the way of Christ. We are told in the Bible that 'God so loved the world that he sent his only Son' (John 3:16). Jesus was sent into the world to reveal God's love. In turn, Jesus said to his apostles, 'As the Father has sent me, so I send you' (John 20:21). 'You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth' (Acts 1:8). The mission of Jesus to proclaim the Kingdom of God to all people has been handed onto the Church and individual believers, guided by the Holy Spirit.

The dogmatic Constitution *Lumen Gentium* sets out a vision of the nature and mission of the Church as communion, with the theological presuppositions of a suitable re-launch of synodality: the mystical and sacramental conception of the Church; her nature as People of God on pilgrimage through history towards the heavenly homeland, in which all her members are by virtue of baptism honoured with the same dignity as children of God and appointed to the same mission; the doctrine of sacramentality of the episcopate and collegiality in hierarchical communion with the Bishop of Rome. (ITC, Syn., no. 40)

The full document explaining terms can be found on the siocesan website: <https://rcaos.org.uk/synod> and on the General Secretariat for Synod of Bishops own site: <https://www.synod.va/en.html>



## PRAYER FOR THE LAITY

Lord God, you willed the power of the Gospel to act as a leaven in the world and you called the lay faithful to live out our lives amid temporal affairs. Let us be so on fire with Christian spirit that as we engage in our role in the world we will build and proclaim your Kingdom. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### *Synod Prayer:*

We stand before You, Holy Spirit,  
as we gather together in Your name.  
With You alone to guide us,  
make Yourself at home in our hearts;  
Teach us the way we must go  
and how we are to pursue it.

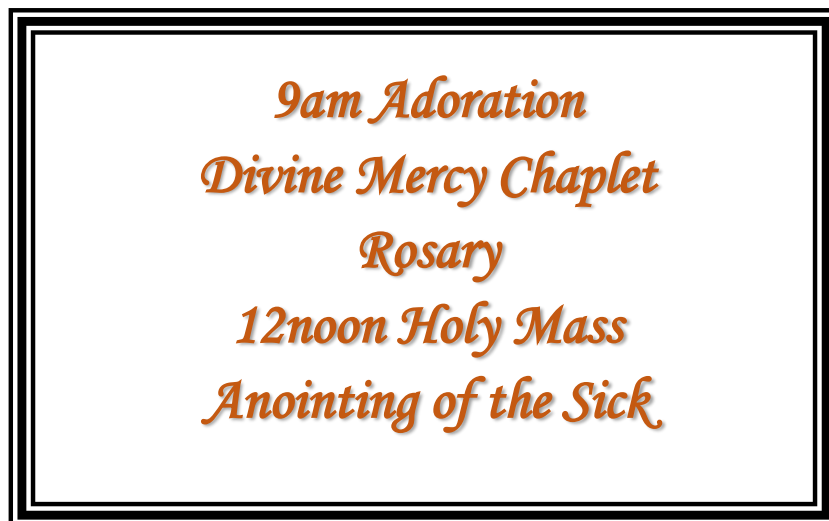
We are weak and sinful;  
do not let us promote disorder.  
Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path  
nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity  
so that we may journey together to eternal life  
and not stray from the way of truth  
and what is right.

All this we ask of You,  
who are at work in every place and time,  
in the communion of the Father and the Son,  
forever and ever. *Amen.*

## **YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH – A MASS OF THANKSGIVING AND HEALING**

On **Friday the 10<sup>th</sup> December** we will be holding a day of Thanksgiving to Saint Joseph and Healing.



*Article from Vatican News:*

Pope Francis began a new series of reflections on St Joseph at yesterday's General Audience. He explained that "today, as never before, in this time marked by a global crisis," St Joseph can offer us "support, consolation, and guidance."

As the year of St Joseph draws to a close, the Pope said he hoped his reflections might "further help us to allow ourselves to be enlightened by his example and by his witness."

The Holy Father began his teaching with a reflection on the biblical context of the life of St Joseph. Recalling the figure of Joseph, the son of Jacob, in the Old Testament, Pope Francis noted that the name "Joseph" - Hebrew for "may God increase, may God give growth" - is "a wish, a blessing based on trust in God's providence and referring especially to fertility and raising children." This, he said, "reveals an essential aspect of Joseph of Nazareth's personality. He is a man full of faith in God, in His providence."



Pope Francis went on to consider the places associated with St Joseph, especially Bethlehem and Nazareth, which "assume an important role in our understanding" of the saint.

Bethlehem, he said, means "house of bread" or, in Arabic, "house of meat," both expressions that are full of significances in light of the

Incarnation and the Eucharist. Bethlehem also recalls the story of Ruth, the great grandmother of David the king, from whom Joseph traces his descent; as well as the prophecy of Micah, who foretold the coming of the Messiah from Bethlehem.

While Jerusalem was "the city loved by the Lord, the 'holy city'," it was Bethlehem and Nazareth, both outlying villages, "far from the clamour of the news and the powers of the time" that are most associated with Saint Joseph. "The choice of Bethlehem and Nazareth tells us that the periphery and marginality are preferred by God," Pope Francis said. "Failure to take this fact seriously is equivalent to not taking seriously the Gospel and the work of God."

Jesus goes out especially in search of those on the peripheries, not only sinners, but also "those who have done no evil but have suffered it: the sick, the hungry, the poor, the least."

Now, as then, the Pope said, "there is a centre and a periphery" in society; and, as in the time of Jesus, "the Church knows that she is called to proclaim the good news from the periphery." Here St Joseph can be an example, reminding each of us to accord special importance "to what others cast aside." In this sense, the Pope said, St Joseph "is truly a master of the essential: he reminds us that what truly matters does not attract our attention, but requires patient discernment to be discovered and appreciated."

Pope Francis asked us to pray for Joseph's intercession, "that the whole Church might recover this insight," adding, "Let us start again from Bethlehem, let us start again from Nazareth."

And to all those living on the geographical or existential peripheries, the Pope had this message: "May you find in Saint Joseph the witness and protector to whom you can look."

Concluding his catechesis, Pope Francis offered the following prayer to St Joseph:



*Saint Joseph,  
you who always trusted God,  
and made your choices  
guided by His providence  
teach us not to count so much on our own plans  
but on His plan of love.*

*You who come from the peripheries  
help us to convert our gaze  
and to prefer what the world discards and  
marginalises.*

*Comfort those who feel alone  
and support those who work silently  
to defend life and human dignity. Amen.*



## PRESENTATION TO STEWARDS

Next Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December at all Mass a presentation will be made to those Stewards who have kept St.Teresa's open. With all the various Covid restrictions over the past 21 months the parish has been able to re-open because of the generosity of those who volunteered to act as Stewards, not just for the Holy Mass but also to enable Sacraments to take place too, baptisms, weddings, funerals, Confirmation and First Communions. Our thanks go out to them for their continued support, from both the parish family and the diocese.

## RECONCILIATION & FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2022



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

We would like to invite families to an information meeting followed by Mass on **Saturday 8th January at 10:45am** in the church. At this meeting, you will be able to pick up an application form if you wish your child to make their first communion at St. Teresa's. ALL application forms need to be returned to the parish office along with a copy of your child's baptism certificate, and a fee of £15, no later than Wednesday 19th January.

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 'I BELONG', at their first meeting. Children need to bring their books to each meeting; they will also use these books at home.
3. Each meeting in church will last 45 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. We

will be using the parish hall for the children's meetings, while parents are expected to remain in the church for updated information, where necessary, and Adoration.

4. We will have 2 x 45min 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 ending at 10:15am

6. The second session of the day will start at 10:30am ending at 11:15am

Church session dates: **Saturday, February 5th, 12th, 26th**  
**Saturday, March, 12th, 19th, 26th**  
**Saturday, April 23rd, 30th and Saturday May 7<sup>th</sup>**

Children will make their First Confession on 19th March. We will give you more information nearer the time. First Communion dates/times will be confirmed as the programme progresses. Please remember to complete and return your child's application form to St. Teresa's Parish Office as soon as possible as late applications will not be accepted after 19th Jan.

We look forward to meeting all families very soon.

## **THE CATHOLIC CHURCH WELCOMES YOU SAINT TERESA'S WELCOME YOU**

If you are considering becoming a Catholic or you are a baptised Catholic who is considering completing your Sacraments of Initiation (Confirmation, Holy Eucharist) our Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) can help you.

Please speak with one of the priests or our parish Deacon. Because of Covid-19 we are adapting our parish programme to make it easier for you.

The RCIA process is designed to offer you guidance and support in your spiritual journey towards a deepening relationship with Jesus.  
Our next meeting will be held on **Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> December at 6.30pm.**



**Rite of Christian Initiation  
for Adults**

## **PRAYER OF THE WEEK**



*Lord help me  
to remember  
that nothing  
is going to happen  
to me today  
that You and I  
together can't handle.*

*Amen.*

**The Passage**, a Catholic charity working with homeless people is raising funds through the Big Give a matched giving scheme from 12.00 noon. Every £1 donated online between 12.00 noon on Tuesday 30 November and 12.00 noon on Tuesday 7 December makes £2 and £2.25 if you are a taxpayer through Gift Aid. At a time when The Passage's finances are stretched and they are helping more homeless people please consider supporting this charity through the link <https://bit.ly/PassageBG2021>

**IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO,  
PLEASE COLLECT YOUR GIFT AID ENVELOPES FROM THE  
CONTACT CORNER**

## REPARATION TO OUR LADY

For the remaining Saturdays in Advent, St. Teresa's will begin the devotion of the Rosary of Reparation to Our Lady, prior to 5.30pm Mass and Confession in fulfilment of the request of Jesus to Sr. Lucia in 1925.

The Rosary will begin at 4.45pm on the Saturday's in Advent and in the New Year this devotion will continue on the First Saturdays of every month. Here is some background to the

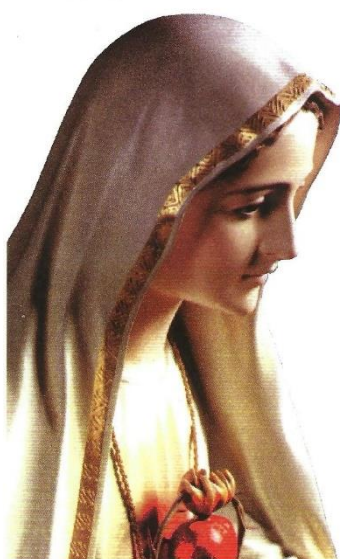


## Five First Saturdays

The Five First Saturdays devotion, first revealed by Our Lady at Fatima on 13 July 1917, was requested on 10 December 1925, when the Blessed Virgin, appeared again to Sr. Lucia, together with the Child Jesus, who said: **"Have compassion on the Heart of your Most Holy Mother, covered with thorns, with which ungrateful men pierce it at every moment, and there is no one to make an act of reparation to remove them."**

### The Great Promise of Our Lady

"I promise to assist at the hour of death all those who, on the first Saturday of five consecutive months, shall confess, receive Holy Communion, recite five decades of the Rosary and keep me company for fifteen minutes while meditating on the fifteen mysteries of the Rosary, with the intention of making reparation to me."



- What does Our Lady ask all of us to do?
- Go to confession – this can be up to 8 days before or after the First Saturday itself.
- Receive Holy Communion - on the day itself, in a state of grace, with the intention of making reparation as above.
- Recite five decades of the Rosary.
- Meditate on the mysteries of the Rosary for 15 minutes: this is not difficult, e.g. slowly read the Gospel account of the mysteries, or use a booklet on the Rosary.

*Each part of the devotion should be made with the intention of making reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, on the first Saturday of five consecutive months.*

For more details about the Five First Saturdays devotion, or the Message of Fatima generally, please contact:

WAF Tel No. 07786 487557  
email: [info@worldfatima-englandwales.org.uk](mailto:info@worldfatima-englandwales.org.uk)  
[www.worldfatima-englandwales.org.uk](http://www.worldfatima-englandwales.org.uk)

# *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***

## **ARE YOU CONSIDERING GETTING MARRIED?**

Please be aware of the following change in the law which takes effect from 1<sup>ST</sup> July 2021!

Immigration laws for EEA nationals will change from the 1 July to reflect the changes brought about following EU Exit. These changes will impact EEA citizens who wish to marry in England and Wales as the definition of a relevant national has changed. A relevant national, from the 1 July 2021, will be classed as:

- A British Citizen
- An Irish Citizen
- An EEA National who has been granted Settled or Pre-settled status under the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) or those with a pending application submitted before the 30 June 2021.



Currently couples who are subject to immigration control must make an appointment at one of 75 Designated Register Offices within England and Wales to give notice to marry. **From the 1 July 2021, all register offices will be designated for the purposes of taking a marriage for these couples.**

An EEA national who does not hold a status under the EUSS will be treated as all other foreign nationals and will have to give notice of their intention to marry (together with their partner) at a register office in the registration district where either resides and be issued with a Marriage Schedule.

## PARISH FINANCE

### Sunday Collections and Donations

Last weeks' collection: **Offertory** £779.80 and **Standing Orders** 743.00

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, was approximately £2,400 a week (*pre-COVID*). 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.



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.



## GIFT AID NOTICE – HAVE YOU COLLECTED YOUR GIFT AID BOX?

**PLEASE COLLECT YOUR GIFT AID ENVELOPES FROM THE  
CONTACT CORNER**

For those already signed up, Gift Aid Envelopes are available. Please collect your Gift Aid or Standing Order envelopes before or after Mass from the Contact Corner. If no one is at the Contact Corner, please ask one of the Stewards for Linda or Lorraine.

If you pay tax and would like to join, please have a word with one of the team, it is simple and at no extra cost to you the Church can claim back 25%. See below for more details ***Do You Gift Aid?***

### CARD READERS

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

The Sum-Up card reader will be situated in the narthex near the statue of St Teresa and can be used only for candles. Coming soon in the Repository will be another card reader so that you can pay for all your purchases using a credit debit card.

### COLLECTIN

CollecTin is a card reader on which you can give your offertory and any other donation. All special collections will be listed on this machine and if you **Gift Aid** you need only register once, and it will remember you for all your donations - if you use the same card (*each card would need to be registered*).



### CANDLES

#### 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***

### QR SCAN POINTS

There is now the opportunity to donate using a QR Scanner on your phone (if you have one installed). There are a number of Scan points in the church, one by the Statue of the Sacred Heart, one by the Exit side door and one on the noticeboard in the porch.



***THANK YOU FOR YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT – IT'S VALUED AND APPRECIATED!***

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### **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.

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

Face coverings are encouraged still 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 asked 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.**
- Until further notice: Our Parish will adopt a FIRST COME, FIRST-SERVED approach at all our Masses.
- We are required to keep a register of all attendees. So please put your name, address, contact telephone number on the Sign-In sheet.
- A number of benches will be designated for those who wish to observe social distance.
- Infants and children should remain with their parents AT ALL TIMES.
- 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.
- 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 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.**

- 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 only be DISABLED toilet facilities.

## **SAFETY**

- Physical distancing of is in place at all times and in all directions between people who are not of the same household.
- 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.
- Singing of hymns will be introduced gradually.
- Offertory processions maybe re-introduced soon in the next couple of weeks.
- Altar Serving will continue on a rota basis.
- 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.
- Collections will start to be taken up during the Mass. The collection boxes will still be available at strategic points and two card readers have been installed. Secure vigilance will be in place over the donations.
- There is no shaking of hands at the 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, Response: 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** until further notice.
- For the common good, our Bishops around the world acknowledge that Communion on the tongue is the right of the faithful, we 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
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.

