A close up of a logo

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**Newsletter for the week commencing 2nd August 2020**

**Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)**

**First Reading: Isaiah 55: 1-3**

**Psalm 144 Response: You open wide your hand, O Lord you grant our desires.**

**Second Reading: The letter of St Paul to the Romans 8: 35, 27-39**

**Gospel: Matthew 14: 13-21**

**Father Behr writes:**

Dear Parishioners,

It was very good to see so many of you at Mass on Sunday. I would like to thank you all for the warm welcome I have received.

We have all been through a lot during these times of the COVID crisis. It is so uplifting to know that our church is open and available for holy Mass.

I am also available for Confession by appointment and although we are not able to use the confessional box, we can still create a space in our parish church which respects the confidentiality of confession. Here are some words of encouragement from the diary of St Faustina on the sacrament of Penance.

‘Daughter, when you go to confession, to this fountain of My mercy, the Blood and Water which came forth from My Heart always flows down upon your soul and ennobles it. Every time you go to confession, immerse yourself in My mercy, with great trust, so that I may pour the bounty of My grace upon your soul. When you approach the confessional, know this, that I Myself am waiting there for you. I am only hidden by the priest, but I myself act in your soul. Here the misery of the soul meets the God of mercy. Tell souls that from this fount of mercy souls draw graces solely with the vessel of trust. If their trust is great, there is no limit to My generosity. The torrents of grace inundate humble souls. The proud remain always in poverty and misery, because My grace turns away from them to humble souls.’  -St. Faustina (Diary 1602)

**Your Prayers are asked for:**

**Those recently deceased**: Michael McDermott RIP

**Those ill or infirm:** Jennifer Jorden, Joe Adams, Ellie Lawrence, Anne Bryant, Eric Booth, Patricia Hook, Elena Peck (senior), Marjorie Dumbleton, Josie Payne, Joe Venables, Linda Wolff and all those self-isolating or suffering from COVID-19

**Those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time:** Patricia O’Hea, Andrew Iglinski, Anne Morton, Joseph Corcoran, Sylvia Ulph and Ronald Carey.

**This week’s services**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Day** | **Date** | **Feast** | **Time/Detail** |
| Saturday | 1st August | St Alphonsus Liguori | 10am Mass |
| Sunday | 2nd August | 18th Sunday (A) | 10am Mass |
| Monday | 3rd august | Feria | 10am Mass |
| Tuesday | 4th August | St John Vianney | 10am Mass |
| Wednesday | 5th August | Feria | 10am Mass then closed for cleaning before private prayer from 11.00am -12 midday, for very short periods only. |
| Thursday | 6th August | The Transfiguration of The Lord | 10am Mass |
| Friday | 7th August | St Sixtus II | 10am Mass |
| Saturday | 8th August | St Dominic | 10am Mass |
| Sunday | 9th August | 19th Sunday (A) | 10am Mass |

Here is the updated **Guidance for Acts of Worship - Mass** in line with the Government’s updated advice:

Worshippers should limit their interactions with anyone they are not attending church with, i.e. if they are attending corporate worship with one other household, wherever possible they should maintain social distancing with anyone outside of this group.

**Face Coverings**

Face coverings are currently mandatory on public transport and will be mandatory in shops and in supermarkets from 24th July 2020. People are also strongly encouraged to wear face coverings in enclosed public spaces where there are people they do not normally meet, such as a church.

A message from Deacon Jolyon…

I just wanted to say a huge thanks to everyone who is co-operating by booking their places for Mass online.

jolyonvickers@rcaos.org.uk

It is making a very difficult situation so much easier to manage.

If you do not have internet access, please ring me at home on 01580 766449

We will be distributing Holy Communion starting with the rows nearest the altar coming forward first.

**Please** then follow the route out via the Sacristies and back into church through the front door.

People seated in the Parish Centre should make their prayer perambulation out via the fire exit and back in via the Turners Avenue entrance.

I have purchased a gift on our behalf for Father John. I will give you more details and start the collection next week.

**Finally, a plea again for more volunteers to act as stewards and post service cleaners, without these we cannot safely conduct services.**

And finally…

A lady is sitting at home when she hears a knock at the door. She opens the door and sees a snail on the porch. She picks up the snail and throws it as far as she can.

Three years later there’s a knock on the door. She opens it and sees the same snail. The snail says: ‘What did you do that for?’