

Newsletter for the Catholic Communities Of:
Our Lady of Walsingham, Occupation Road, Corby
St John Ogilvie, Copenhagen Road, Danesholme, Corby
Most Holy Name of Jesus, Stoke Hill, Oundle
St Paul, Sackville Street, Thrapston
St Thomas More, Marshalls Road, Raunds

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Sunday 26th April 2020

Dear Parishioners, thank you for reading this newsletter and for wanting to keep in touch with your parish. We miss you, and we know from the people we bump into (two metres apart) during our exercise times, that you are missing us too. As St Paul wrote to the Philippians: "I love you and long to see you dear friends, for... you are my joy and my crown".

We celebrate Mass in Our Lady's church every day, but behind closed doors. It is disturbing for any priest to celebrate Mass in this way, gazing out from the sanctuary at 21 rows of empty pews plus the gallery above. However, we are inspired by the knowledge that we are being joined spiritually by everyone who is dearly missing being physically present and are watching Mass online at home. Mass is a community event and we need the support of each other; we cannot do it alone. Please God, we will fill those pews again for Mass before too long. Meanwhile, keep praying at home, and watch daily Mass online from our Cathedral: (northamptondiocese.org) uniting yourself with your new Bishop, David. Or from Walsingham, on EWTN or wherever, and make an **Act of Spiritual Communion** in these words:

"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 myself to be parted from you. Amen."

Prayer in Time of Pandemic: *"Let us pray for all those who suffer the consequences of the current pandemic, that God the Father may grant health to the sick, strength to those who care for them, comfort to families, and salvation to all the victims who have died.*

Almighty ever-living God, only support of our human weakness, look with compassion upon the sorrowful condition of your children who suffer because of this pandemic; relieve the pain of the sick, give strength to those who care for them, welcome into your peace those who have died, and throughout this time of tribulation, grant that we may all find comfort in your merciful love.

Through Christ our Lord. AMEN"

Our Four Parishes are Still Open. *Our thanks to those who are maintaining our buildings and their grounds. While the Presbytery is regrettably still closed to visitors as we are under lockdown like everyone else, Canon Michael Fr David are still inside, keeping the parish ticking over. Joe is not allowed to do the mowing and weeding, so "yours truly" have turned their hands to the job. Not quite up to Joe's standards, but not bad for beginners! Also, more time for prayer and contemplation: "What is this life if, full of care, we have no time to stand and stare."*

Visits. Your priests are able to visit private homes in a life-or-death scenario. We wear the appropriate protective apparel including mask and gloves. We anoint by way of cotton wool, to avoid making physical contact. Please feel free to ring us on 01536 203121. For Hospital cases, please ask the ward staff to contact switchboard who will call the priest on duty. Sadly, many Care Homes are allowing no visitors, not even priests.

Offerory Giving. Thank you to those who have asked about how to give to the church at this time. The best way is to put your weekly offering/envelope to one side, save them up and bring them to church when we resume services. If you check the Diocesan Website, you will find under "Donate" ways to pay in the meantime.

May They Rest In Peace.

This week we held funerals for Philip Jones of Raunds and Fiona Rippie of Willowbrook Road.

This week we have funerals for James McLarty of Bamburg Close, Thomas Murphy of Coleridge Way, Kevin Leese of Ashby Court Kettering, Margaret Garvey of Richmond Road, Andrew Flynn of Thoresby Court and Carmel Gallagher of Glenmoor House, previously of Nithsdale Road.

All are private funerals with the option of a Memorial Mass in church at a later date.

Also, please pray for two of our most supportive parishioners of longstanding, who died within an hour of each other on Monday: Agnes Casey, aged 97, late of Cheaney Court Nursing Home, Desborough, previously of Westfields Road, Corby and Anastasia (Ann) Hildreth, aged 95, late of Maple Court, previously of Wharfedale Avenue. Agnes is well-remembered as the organiser of many a dance, raffle and coach to Walsingham; Ann used to attend them all.

Please keep all the families in your prayers.

Especially in Need of your Prayers at this time: Particularly poorly at the moment are:

David Gollogly, Michael and Agnes Gallagher, and Cathie Connors (now living in the South East).

Update on our Leaking Church Roof at Our Lady's. The Diocesan Surveyors are currently taking quotes. The whole upper level of roof is in need of repair, which will be a very big job. (We have a lot of roof!)

This continues to be a time of sorrow and struggle for many as we all pull together for the common good. Let us keep patient, keep prayerful and keep cheerful. There appears to be two dangers:

1/ Loneliness for those who live alone in isolation.

2/ Stress for those who live close together, who can't get the space they need.

Please keep an eye on those who are self-isolating. Look after yourself and, more importantly, look after one another. We are living in mysterious times. God will see us through.

Did You Hear the Church Bells? At 8pm on Thursdays we have been setting our bells-a-ringing!

No Public Masses at Present. Priest's Private Mass will be for the following pre-booked Intentions

Saturday	Our Lady's	Hugh McAteer A / Tom Feely RIP
Sunday	Our Lady's	Danny Chapman Int / Joe Moone A
Monday	Our Lady's	Greener Family Int / Carmel Gallagher RIP
Tuesday	Our Lady's	Terence Glen / Ted Greener RIP
Wednesday	Our Lady's	Agnes Lindsay RIP / John McGinlay RIP
Thursday	Our Lady's	Laurie McCahill A / Phylis Fox RIP
Friday: May Day	St John Ogilvie's	Elizabeth Wright 50 th Wedding A / Greta O'Kane RIP
Saturday	Our Lady's	Jason Hill / Joe Sims RIP
Sunday	Our Lady's	Jimmy Brown Int / Teresa Hopkins RIP / St John Ogilvie's Intention

Wishing you a Happy, Joyful Easter, Canon Michael & Fr David