

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 3rd May 2020. May, the Month of Our Lady.

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.

We await the decision of Government as to when public Mass can resume. Rumours have it that it may be some time away yet. Please God, meanwhile, they might see fit to allow us to at least open our church doors to enable people to pop in to light a candle and say a prayer (whilst keeping antisocial distancing, of course). To pray at home is admirable, but to visit the Blessed Sacrament is something special. I see many people bless themselves as they pass the church building, reverently acknowledging that Jesus is present in the church tabernacle, reserved in all our five churches.

We celebrate Mass in Our Lady's church every day, but behind closed doors for the intentions booked by parishioners. At each Mass we light one of the five paschal candles, representing each of our five churches; on Sundays we light all five. We did not get around to "live streaming" as we had hoped. It is sad to see 21 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 from our Cathedral or elsewhere online at home. Please God, we will fill those pews again for Mass before too long. Meanwhile, keep praying at home, and watch daily Mass online 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."

Is Your Relationship Under Stress During the Lock-down? Smartloving Breakthrough is there to help. A three-hour session to take simple steps to heal wounds and restore hope. Cost: £24 (financial help is available via mfinrcd@gmail.com). See <https://smartloving.org/bto-uk> Private, confidential and effective.

Visits. Your priests are able to visit private homes but only 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.

Do you want a Chat with Canon Michael or Fr David? Please feel free to phone 203121, even if just to say "hello".

Did You Hear the Church Bells? At 8pm on Thursdays we join in the local cheering-on of our NHS and key workers by setting our bells-a-ringing!

May They Rest In Peace.

Last week we held 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.

In the forthcoming days we have funerals for William Savage, aged 81, late of Tanfields Road, Charles McDonald of Wellingborough, David Gollogly late of Annandale Road, 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 Road. Agnes is well-remembered as the organiser of many a dance, raffle and coach to Walsingham; Ann used to attend them all. Also, please remember Tim Cornes, late of Leighton Buzzard; Tim is not of this parish, not even a Catholic but was a close friend of Fr Michael since their teenage-years: Tim died suddenly and unexpectedly of Covid-19 aged 63.

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

Especially in Need of your Prayers at this time: Agnes Gallagher (now in Cransley Hospice), her husband Michael, Mae Fullerton and Cathie Connors (now living in the South East). Also, those in our many care homes, and their loved-ones who are unable to visit them at this time.

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 do have a lot of roof!)

New Date for Confirmation. Bishop David Oakley will come to Confirm our young people on Thursday 15th October at 7pm. The date for First Holy Communion has not yet been finalised, but will probably be around that time.

Finances. Thank you to those who have been posting their envelope/contribution through the letterbox. Whilst that is fine, our Diocese has suggested that we don't promote this, as it may be unsafe for some to venture out. Better to save them all up until such time we can gather again. In the meantime, you may wish to donate/set up a standing order to your chosen parish via the Diocesan Website (just click on "Donate"). Or, more immediately and conveniently, you can do a bank transfer to your parish account:

Account Name: Our Lady of Walsingham; Account No: 91052165; NatWest Corby Branch; Sort Code: 60-06-11
St John Ogilvie; Account No: 82644993; NatWest Corby Branch; Sort Code: 60-06-11
St Paul the Apostle; A/c No: 65068874; NatWest Corby Branch; Sort Code: 60-06-11
Most Holy Name of Jesus: A/c Number: 46714626; NatWest Corby Branch: 60-06-11

Thank you for the support of your parish, especially needed at this time.

Something New! Fr David now has a YouTube Channel! He posts daily videos on the titles of Our Lady. To find the channel simply search for "Fr David Donaghue" in YouTube. Much good feedback has been received so far.

Weddings and Baptisms are having to be postponed until we are allowed to celebrate them. Our prayers are with couples and families whose plans have been disrupted. Don't worry, we will celebrate all the more when we are permitted.

Bishop David has written some comforting and encouraging words for us all on our Diocesan e-news. A special word of encouragement for those whose sacraments have been postponed at this time. You can see the letters online plus see how to receive future e-news by going to our Diocesan Website northamptondiocese.org.

For Mass Intentions please see below.

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

Saturday	Our Lady's	Jason Hill / Joe Sims RIP
Sunday	Our Lady's	Jimmy Brown Int / Teresa Hopkins RIP
Monday	Our Lady's	Teresa Hopkins RIP / Tom Feely RIP
Tuesday	Our Lady's	Fr John Glen and Mary Glen A / David Gollogly RIP
Wednesday	Our Lady's	Margaret Wilson RIP / James Early RIP
Thursday	Our Lady's	Laurie McCahill A / Andrices Radzevicius
Friday:	Our Lady's	Valda McClafferty RIP / Gail Boyer RIP
Saturday	Our Lady's	Nan Brady RIP / John Barrowman A
Sunday	Our Lady's	Noeline Cummins A / Jimmy Brown Int

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