

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 the Apostle, Sackville Street, Thrapston
St Thomas More, Marshalls Road, Raunds

Clergy: Canon Michael Harrison, Fr David Donaghue

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Sunday 31st May 2020. Pentecost Sunday.

We welcome the Holy Spirit! Red Vestments Today.

Pentecost Sunday Rosary Rally. Please pray your Rosary today at 9am, and unite yourself with everyone throughout our diocese of Northampton.

Each of the 22 Dioceses in England and Wales has been given a slot to pray the Rosary today, Pentecost Sunday. For our Diocese of Northampton it is 9am. Therefore, we encourage everyone to tell your beads at 9am today along with Bishop David in our Cathedral. You can view him online in the usual place: nothamptondiocese.org This is also the Feast of the Visitation, a day of double joy to pray the Rosary as a Church as we go through this difficult time.

Speaking of Bishop David, he made his first visit to Corby on Wednesday. He sat in our back garden (we have a lot of garden!), under the shady oak tree, keeping antisocial distance. He was here for a couple of hours and it was great to meet him and have a chat with him. Bishop David is now going out and meeting his clergy, having been confined to home like the rest of us. We assure him of our support and prayers as he takes on the task as our shepherd, with the most unusual of starts in the midst of lock-down.

Online Praise and Worship. Fr David is taking part in an online event this Pentecost Sunday, today, at 5pm. There will be music, preaching and prayer. To tune in, search "OHP Gather" in YouTube at 5pm. Come Holy Spirit.

Live-Streaming From Our Lady's Church. We are getting ever-closer. Fr David is on the case, negotiating the best deal, seeing which package best suits our needs. It is not cheap, but would be an investment, enabling everyone to log onto watch every service held in church, live (just like what currently happens at our Cathedral). Watch this space.

Our ongoing thanks to all the volunteers in our five churches who are keeping things up and running – running the taps, mowing the lawns etc.

Mass Cards during Lockdown: we are here in the presbytery and you are welcome to come for a Mass card as long as we keep our antisocial distance. You may wish to ring us on 203121 to ensure we are in, before setting out. You can book an Anniversary Mass over the telephone or by email. There is now no waiting list for Mass intentions, although some weekends have been booked for some time.

Reopening of our Churches. The latest communication from our Diocese made for disappointing reading. It looks like 5th July at the earliest will be the day we can reopen our church doors, and that is for private prayer, not for Mass. Damian has already organised Our Lady's Church in accordance with the guidelines. Would you believe it, our massive church can only accommodate twenty individuals at a time (plus immediate family groups) mainly due to the two-metre rule. There are so many restrictions and conditions.

Thank You to those who have agreed to be Stewards. We still need more names. Regrettably, offers to steward cannot be accepted from those who have reached 70 years of age or have health issues. We will call a stewards' meeting (a Stewards' enquiry?) at each church before we open anywhere. Nothing can happen anyway until we receive explicit permission from the government, and for each individual church from the Bishop. We have to hold our proverbial horses until then.

We envisage opening up for an hour or two on a Saturday or Sunday morning, not for any public ceremony, but for people to pop in and pray before the Blessed Sacrament for a few minutes. If you can help as a Steward, please let us know by email: ourlady.corby@yahoo.co.uk .

Keep In Touch. As you know, we celebrate Mass in Our Lady's church every day usually at 8.30am, but behind locked doors for the intentions booked by parishioners (see below). Fr Gerard Byrne's Masses are available from St Brendan's and St Patrick's to view via Facebook (see their parish website: stbrendanscorby.org). Also, you can see our own Fr David gives us his daily reflections on YouTube. Also, many of us enjoy Mass live-streamed from our Cathedral uniting ourselves with our new Bishop David at 11am each Sunday (or 8.30am with Canon Mark Floody). Above all: pray at home. See below for the words to your Act of Spiritual Communion.

***Our Lady's School** is preparing to reopen on Monday 1st June for limited year groups. We wish them well. They will be making use of the entrance behind our church car park. Our church gates will be open for pedestrians only, not for cars. This is to prevent accidents in the queue, as everyone keeps their two metre distance. Quite how they expect children to keep two metres apart during the school day is another story.*

***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. Remember that we are able to make house visits only in cases of emergency.

Hospital: Thankfully Kettering General is allowing priests to visit, many hospitals are not. Our rota to provide call-out care from priests 24/7 is still operational, and I thank the local clergy for their support: Fr Gerard in Corby, Fr Paul in Wellingborough, Frs Michael and David here and Fr Gregory in Kettering - who takes the lion's share of calls. For Hospital cases, please ask the ward staff to contact switchboard who know which priest is on call (it differs each day).

Do you want a Chat with Canon Michael or Fr David? Would you like us to pray with you? Please feel free to phone 203121, even just to say "hello" and let us know how you are.

Do You Hear our Church Bells on Thursday night at 8pm? This week's tune was: "Daily, Daily Sing To Mary"! I think this was the final week of the Clap For Carers. We applaud the NHS, all carers and all key workers.

May They Rest In Peace.

This week and next we have funerals for

Barry McCabe, aged 54, late of Wansford Place

Judith Moody, aged 71, late of Kettering

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

New Date for Confirmation. Bishop David Oakley will come to Confirm our young people on Thursday 15th October at 7pm.

No New Date Yet for First Holy Communion. We will wait until we are open for Masses again before we settle on a date for First Holy Communion; we don't want to give a date and then have to postpone, just in case families book flights etc in vain.

Fr David on YouTube! Fr David posts daily videos with a thought for the day, currently going through the titles of Our Lady. To find the channel simply search for "Fr David Donaghue" in YouTube. Fr David comes across extremely well and gives us plenty of food for thought.

Fr David is leading a Connect Group for Young Adults: Sunday nights at 7pm for 18-30's. Spend time and make friends online via Zoom with other young Catholic adults like yourself, connecting and growing in faith with music, guest speakers and testimony and good company. Rick is there too, so you are amongst friends. You need to enrol first with Fr Brendan Seery: brendan@mk-cluster.co.uk then you can join in the fun.

Weddings and Baptisms. In 2020 we were due to celebrate no fewer than ten weddings. On Wednesday we took a call from the final bride who is now postponing her big day until July 2021. We feel for the couples in this predicament. Two couples will marry as soon as the lock-down is lifted, with just themselves, two witnesses and the minister, leaving the party for a later date. Others have all postponed everything until later in the year or 2021. Our prayers are with couples and families whose plans have been disrupted in a huge way. Don't worry, we will celebrate all the more when we are permitted.

We will wait until we are reopen before we begin to take bookings for baptisms, except in danger of death. We expect many Memorial Masses to be booked, for those whose funerals were not able to be held in church. Without doubt, we are going to be extremely busy when the lock-down is lifted!

Our Corby Catholic Youth Worker, Rick Netherwood, is furloughed at present like many others. His job was created thanks to the funding of his salary for two years by the Holy Cross Sisters who used to have their convent in Rutherglen Road. We thank the Sisters for their generosity to the young Catholics of Corby whom they served so faithfully for many decades. Believe it or not, that two years was up last month. Thankfully, we have secured the Youth Worker salary for a further three years from the funds of the sale of the land of Our Lady and Pope John School which was reserved specifically for the Catholic education of youngsters in the town. The balance of the sale proceeds is funding projects in our three Catholic Primary Schools including the brand new Reception Block at Our Lady's School, to be seen at the entrance gate.

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

Saturday	Our Lady's	Bridget Killeen RIP / McClafferty Family Int
Whit Sunday	Our Lady's	Private Intention / All Parishioners
Monday	Our Lady's	Patrick Harty RIP / Tommy McManus RIP
Tuesday	Our Lady's	Agnes and Matthew Reilly A / Agnes Lindsey RIP
Wednesday	Our Lady's	Ted Greener RIP / John Walker RIP
Thursday	Our Lady's	Tom Feely RIP / Teresa Hopkins RIP
Friday:	Our Lady's	Bernadette Ellis RIP / David Gollogly RIP
Saturday	Our Lady's	Bridget Sweeney RIP / Philomena Colman A
Sunday	Our Lady's	Private Intention / Agnes Gallagher Int

*Let God the Holy Spirit come into our hearts and enkindle in us the fire of his love.
Wishing you a Happy, Joyful Pentecost Sunday, Canon Michael & Fr David*

Act of Spiritual Communion please recite 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.”

*Or, why not try this beautiful prayer: **Prayer To Our Guardian Angel When We Cannot Attend Mass.***

***O HOLY ANGEL at my side,
Go to Church for me.
Kneel in my place, at Holy Mass.
Where I desire to be.***

***At Offertory, in my stead,
Take all I am and own.
And place it as a sacrifice
Upon the altar throne.***

***At Holy Consecration's bell,
Adore with Seraph's love.
My Jesus present in the host,
Come down from heaven above.***

***Then pray fro those I dearly love,
And those who cause me grief.
That Jesus' blood may cleanse all hearts
And suffering souls relieve.***

***And when the priest Communion takes
O bring my Lord to me.
That his sweet heart may rest on mine,
And I his temple be.***

***Pray that this Sacrifice Divine
May mankind's sins efface.
Then bring me Jesus' blessing home
The pledge of every grace. Amen***

SVP News. Yearly totals.

The SVP for the parishes of Oundle, Raunds and Thrapston have made the following number of visits:

82 to families

627 to elderly at home

233 to elderly in residential care

74 to people who may have mental health issues

895 is the total number of hours spent visiting

In addition, our SVP conference offered practical/material help on 160 occasions and spent 127 hours so doing.

And Finally,

Supporting Your Parish Financially. Thank you to those who have been concerned about how your parish can keep going financially without the regular income from the collection. There is a variety of ways to help.

1/ Firstly, just save up all your envelopes until such time we can gather again at Mass.

2/ You may wish to donate/set up a standing order to your chosen parish via the Diocesan Website northamptondiocese.org , the same website you use to follow Mass with Bishop David (just click on "Donate").

3/ 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

4/ If you would like to speak to a human being, use the new initiative by our Diocese called "**Giving Tuesday**".

Each Tuesday, between 10am and 4pm, you can ring 01604 712065 to donate to your specified parish. Have your debit or credit card handy. If engaged, just ring back as there is only one person "manning" the line.

These are difficult times for everyone, so thank you for thinking of your parish.