

Newsletter for the Catholic Communities of:
Our Lady of Walsingham, Occupation Road, Corby, NN17 1EE
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 9th August 2020.

Nineteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Green Vestments Today.

Hello and Welcome to this Newsletter. This is the best way to keep in touch with your parish during this time of shutdown and lockdown. We have one newsletter for all our churches and parishes. We hope that all our parishioners and their families are keeping well.

Wasn't it great to have Sunday Mass again last week? Such a joy for the priest to celebrate Mass with a congregation and a joy for each and every one to come again to Mass, and for those who are able, to receive the Lord in Holy Communion after the imposed "Eucharistic Fast" of four and a half months. There was room for everyone in church and nobody had to be turned away.

Understandably, many appeared rather nervous. The atmosphere was different to usual. Social distancing, no congregational singing, no sign of peace, no precious blood for the congregation, leaving church straight after Holy Communion. Face-coverings make us feel uncomfortable. But keep us all safe.

Our Stewards are a God-send: we need them every time we open church: baptisms, weddings, funerals, Confessions etc etc: we have a good team, but require more: please see Fr Michael if you would like to help (dropping him an email is the best way).

It was great to see people from Oundle and Raunds at the Thrapston Masses and people from Kettering at Mass in Corby.

All in all, our first Masses went well. Please spread the word, the Good News that **Mass is back!**

For your interest the numbers were as follows:

Our Lady's: 6.30pm Vigil: 50 persons; 10am Sunday: 48 persons

Thrapston 11.30am Mass: 35 persons

St John Ogilvie's 5pm Mass: 25 persons

We also held our first funeral in church for several months, that of Agnes White. We are now able to offer funerals in Our Lady's, St Paul's and St John Ogilvie's churches. The legal limit is set at 30 mourners in church. Very soon we will celebrate our first baptisms in church (limit of 10 guests), on Saturday mornings, to enable the church to be cleaned afterwards (there is no time on a Sunday).

Fr David headed off on holiday on Thursday. We hope he has a lovely time. If you are heading off yourselves, we wish you the same. Come back safe and sound and tell us all about it.

Next Weekend (Saturday and Sunday) is the **Solemnity of the Assumption** of the Blessed Mary.

Rules, Rules Rules. (A Reminder from last week, but there are New Rules too.)

Our Celebration of Mass is affected by pages and pages and pages of government restrictions and guidelines from the Church. Your patience is appreciated.

Face coverings are compulsory for everyone in church, including Altar Servers. The only exceptions are those who legally do not need to (including young children), the celebrant, the reader when reading and the cantor when singing. New rules say that the priest must don his mask when he gives out Holy Communion; please remove yours briefly before you receive.

All the current requirements of social distance must be maintained. Please sit only in the marked seats (with one metre space between you, unless you are a household group).

Sanitise hands upon entry and exit; please give contact details for "Track and Trace" purposes (these are retained confidentially for 21 days and are then destroyed in line with GDPR rules. Please do not move around in church, and follow the one-way system.

No congregational singing in church, cantor solos and background music only.

Holy Communion will be distributed immediately after the final blessing. Holy Communion is to be received on the hand only, not the tongue which the Church has forbidden. Please hold your hand up high, one on top of the other, with your arms fully extended (a barrier will be in place to prevent us getting too close). The host will be given to you in silence, please do not say "Amen" (we will say a communal "Amen" earlier in Mass).

The idea is that you receive Holy Communion and then exit the church. If you wish to say a prayer of thanksgiving, please use the church grounds (in Our Lady's the garden is available, accessible from the rear car park). Don't go home without greeting each other (from a safe distance), an essential element of communal worship, especially important during these isolated times.

Sadly the public toilet is "out of bounds".

Please be assured that the church is thoroughly cleaned before and after use.

Sorry to harp on about these restrictions, but we are not allowed to open for public ceremonies unless they are adhered to. Let us start as we intend to go on.

We rely on the good will of the stewards. We are in good hands and everyone felt safe. Our thanks to them for giving up their time.

Being positive, isn't it great to have Mass again?

Where and When is Public Mass This Week?

Saturday 8th August: Our Lady's Corby, 6.30pm; with Confessions 5.30pm-6pm

Sunday 9th August: Our Lady's Corby 10am (Note earlier time)

St Paul's Thrapston 11.30am (note slightly later time).

St John Ogilvie, Corby: 5pm (note the exact same time!).

Wednesday 12th August: 9.30am Our Lady's Corby

Thursday 13th August: 10am St Paul's Thrapston

Friday 14th August: 9.30am St John Ogilvie's, Danesholme

Mass In Nearby Churches

It is hoped that parishioners in Oundle will attend Mass in Thrapston (7 miles away) or Corby (12 miles away) and that parishioners in Raunds will attend Mass in Thrapston (5 miles away) or Corby (17 miles away) or Rushden* (5 miles away).

*St Peter's Rushden has weekend Masses but according to their website you need to message their facebook page in advance to book your place and give your details for "Track and Trace" purposes: Saturday Vigil at 6pm, Sundays at 10am. Check their website: rushdencatholicchurch.co.uk.

St Edwards, Kettering will reopen for public Mass very soon, following heating system upgrade and redecoration work in the church. Fr Gregory has done a great job, utilising this period of lockdown to get work done.

St Brendan's Corby have weekend Mass: 6pm Saturday; 10am and 11.30am Sunday.

In Wellingborough, Fr Paul has lots of weekend Masses in both churches.

To book a Baptism or a Wedding, please telephone or email the Parish Office for an application form.

First Holy Communion 2020. No date yet.

Confirmation 2020: Thursday 15th October at 7pm, for those candidates currently under catechesis from Our Lady's. NB for Thrapston, Oundle and Raunds children, we have decided to postpone; the Coronavirus took hold just after you began your catechesis and you will need more time to prepare for this special Sacrament.

Mass Intentions This Week (Some Masses will be public, others private behind closed doors).

Saturday 8th August, 6.30pm Our Lady's: Kenneth Knox RIP

Sunday 9th August, 10am Our Lady's: John Haggarty RIP

11.30am Thrapston: Jamie Gudge 1st Anniv / Graham Charles RIP

5pm St John Ogilvie's: In Thanksgiving

Monday: No Mass

Tuesday 11th August: (**Private Mass** owing to the funerals): Mary, Eddie, Edward and Tom Feely RIP

Wednesday 12th August: 9.30am Public Mass: Our Lady's: Ellen and Harry Carr A

Thursday 13th August: 10am St Paul's Thrapston Public Mass: In Thanksgiving (Moiria)

Friday 14th August; 9.30am St John Ogilvie's Public Mass: Peter Gribben RIP

Saturday 15th August **Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary:** Our Lady's: 5.30pm-6pm Confessions; 6.30pm Public Mass: Bill & Agnes Laney, Fran Kane RIP

Sunday 16th August: **Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary** 10am Our Lady's: Jack Scales RIP

11.30am Thrapston: Wilker Family Int / Foundation Mass: Marsland & Burton families

5pm St John Ogilvie's: Allison Hindwood RIP

Parish Office During the Summer.

Please be patient with us. For many weeks now, our Secretary and Housekeeper have been furloughed. For the next six weeks only one priest will be in residence, due to clergy leave, ordinations, supply work etc. You may have to leave a message on the answerphone, or ring back later. Full service will be resumed when our staff return from furlough. Your local priests have co-operated to ensure 24/7 emergency cover for Catholic patients at Kettering General Hospital. For domestic emergencies try us first on 203121; Fr Gerard Byrne is on 202879. If you can't get through to a priest immediately, don't worry, one is not far away. Keep trying.

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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.

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. For Hospital calls, please ask the ward staff to contact switchboard who know which priest is on call (it differs each day).

Home Visits are still off the agenda. Our housebound parishioners would love to be visited by our ministers and our ministers would dearly love to visit people in their homes. Sadly, this is still not possible. Only the priest can visit in emergency or exceptional pastoral circumstances. Would our ministers please keep in touch with their regulars by telephone, ensuring they are kept up to date with all the parish news.

Fr Michael reaches the Big Six Zero on 17th August. A parish “do” was planned in the club, sadly it has been cancelled, like so many other things. Never mind, he will spend the day with family in Milton Keynes before heading off for a few days leave in Anglesey.

May They Rest In Peace. In the coming days we have funerals for

Ellie Cleary, aged 92, late of Lyveden Way, Corby

Paddy O’Rorke, late of Thrapston

Cathie Connors, formerly of Corby, wife of Jack, former Deputy-Head of Our Lady’s School.

Colin Durkin, aged 80, formerly of Corby

Tommy Devlin, late of Stephenson Way, Corby

Anna-Marie Hannafin, formerly of Collingwood Avenue, Corby

All are to be private funerals with guests limited to invited family and friends only.

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For The Time Being the Sunday Obligation is Suspended). This means, that for the duration of the period of Pandemic, it is not a sin for Catholics to miss Sunday Mass. So, if you do not yet feel confident enough to come to public Mass don’t worry, please stay at home, pray at home and possibly tune in to Mass online.

You can be united to us in Spiritual Communion by reciting these words:

Act of Spiritual Communion

“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.”

Keep in Touch. I hope you have been logging on to this website and keeping in touch. Our weekly newsletter seen here serves the people of our five church communities.

Thank you for your patience at this time. You are in our prayers, especially those who are in self-isolation and are finding life fearful and stressful. If you would like to ring Fr David or Canon Michael for any reason, even just for a chat or a prayer, please do so on: 01536 203121.

With our continuing prayers and best wishes, *Canon Michael and Fr David*

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 for 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***