



THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF
OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION,
FOSTER AVENUE, BEESTON,
NOTTINGHAM, NG9 1AE
and
ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH,
TAMWORTH ROAD,
LONG EATON, NG10 1DH



Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocese Trustees Company No. 7151646 Charity No. 1134449

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TIMES OF MASSES AND OTHER SERVICES: SAINTS PETER & PAUL, APOSTLES (SOLEMNITY)

Thirteenth Week of Ordinary Time: 28th June – 4th July 2020 (Weekday Cycle Year II / Psalter Week I)

<u>Saturday 27th June:</u> <i>Weekday Feria</i>	<p><i>Your Prayers are requested for those who are sick:</i></p> <p>Isobel Alana Barnes, Marica Borsos, Jessie Breame, Margaret Brown, Fr John Cairns, Pat Constable, Francesca Lina Craparotta, Jim & Margaret Dougan, Fr Theodore Gomes, Ann Harrison, Fr Peter Harvey, Andrea Hoffman, Breeda Keaney, Elizabeth Reilly, Alan Roberts, Maria Sawicki, Simpson Family and Evelyn Venning.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">HOSPITALS</p> <p>A number of priests are still trying to maintain an 'on – call' rota for City and QMC. This is strictly calls for Anointing of the Sick when someone is nearing the end of their life. The hospital will not call us out for a request for prayers or when someone has already died – these will be dealt with by a member of the Chaplaincy Team who may or may not be a Catholic minister. Holy Communion is not being taken into hospital by Eucharistic Ministers. Families should not contact a priest directly to visit their loved one in hospital – all requests need to go through the Ward and Chaplaincy Department. QMC 0115 924 9924 ext. 63799 or City 0115 969 1169.</p>
Mass; John Ryan & Family RIP (Anniversary)	
<u>Sunday 28th June:</u> <i>SS Peter & Paul, Apostles (Solemnity)</i>	
Mass; Paddy Byrnes RIP	
<u>Monday 29th June:</u> <i>Weekday Feria</i>	
Mass; Rose Marshall RIP (Armour)	
<u>Tuesday 30th June:</u> <i>Weekday Feria</i>	
Mass; Isobel Barnes & Family	
<u>Wednesday 1st July:</u> <i>Weekday Feria</i>	
Mass; Edna Cooke RIP (Tony)	
<u>Thursday 2nd July:</u> <i>Weekday Feria</i>	
Mass; Des Burrows 95 th Birthday Intentions (SVP)	
<u>Friday 3rd July:</u> <i>St Thomas, Apostle (Feast)</i>	
Mass; Joe Brennan & Family (Williams)	
<u>Saturday 4th July:</u> <i>Weekday Feria</i>	
Mass; Janus Gorny RIP (80 th Birthday)	
<u>Sunday 5th July:</u> <i>Fourteenth Sunday of the Year: A</i>	
Mass; Pro Populo; People of the Parish	
THE ABOVE MASSES WILL ALL BE SAID PRIVATELY AS ALL PUBLIC ACTS OF WORSHIP REMAIN SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!	
<p>The Church of Our Lady of the Assumption and the Parish Hall and the Church of St Francis of Assisi and the Parish Hall are closed to members of the public, until further notice. If you urgently wish to contact Fr Christopher please telephone 0115 922 8145 (at any reasonable time).</p> <p>For enquiries or to book a Mass, please also do this via the telephone. Stipends can be posted or given at a later date, but for the foreseeable future if you book, or have already booked a Mass Intention, then this Mass will be Celebrated in private.</p>	

Items for the newsletter can be given to Fr Christopher or e – mailed to frcathomas@live.com by Thursday of each week for inclusion in the next issue.

LIVE STREAMING AND YOUTUBE VIDEOS WITH LINKS TO ACCESS LITURGIES BEING OFFERED DURING THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

THE PRIVATE CHAPEL OF THE BISHOP OF NOTTINGHAM, BISHOP'S HOUSE.

(Bishop Patrick McKinney & Father Jonathan Rose.) Bishop Patrick has created a YouTube channel, so that during this time Mass and other devotions will be live – streamed from the Chapel at Bishop's House. This can be found by searching for 'Bishop Patrick McKinney' on YouTube and it will also be linked to the Bishop's Facebook and Twitter accounts. After each liturgy a video is created from the live streaming and this can also be accessed on the Bishop's YouTube account.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaf7upUMsn3Kl8GD79FotjQ>

THE CATHEDRAL OF ST BARNABAS, NOTTINGHAM

Canon Malachy Brett & Father Mathew Neriattil

http://www.stbarnabascathedral.org.uk/01_Community/livestream.html

Sunday Mass at 10:00 am

Monday – Friday Mass at 1:00 pm

Saturday Mass at 10:00 am

PARISH OF ST PAUL'S LENTON AND ST MARY'S HYSON GREEN

Father David Palmer

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1GxayEWIN_QQcfHqdzQG3g

Weekend Mass available to view from 6:00 pm Saturday

Ordinatee Mass available to view from 6:00 pm Sunday

Listen to Father David Palmer's homilies on podcast:

<https://podcasts.apple.com/gb/podcast/fr-davids-homilies/id1481476061>

If you wish to take more opportunities to connect with Our Lord during this time, please use this useful link that lists all Prayer times, Rosary and Mass live links throughout your day in Ireland and the UK:

<http://www.churchservices.tv/timetable/>



Catholic National Shrine and Basilica of Our Lady at Walsingham:

<https://www.walsingham.org.uk/live-stream/>

Fr Martin Sylvester's YouTube Channel can be accessed at www.revms.uk/youtube

SCHOOL RESOURCES: Resources available from The Nottingham and Derbyshire Catholic Multi – Academy Trusts: Our Lady of Lourdes CMAT (Nottinghamshire) <https://m.youtube.com/user/TheBecketSchool/videos> and St Ralph Sherwin CMAT (Derbyshire) https://m.youtube.com/channel/UC3M5M_ZNXU1ze-NS3pnZ4pA (or

search SRS Chaplaincy) also if you visit our website there are lots of other resources too (www.srscmat.co.uk and click on Chaplaincy).

REQUIESCAT IN PACE: Please remember in your prayers to pray for the repose of the souls of *Sheila Mills* who died on *Monday 22nd June 2020*. Sheila is the sister *Norman Brennan and Jean Fox* who both died recently. Sheila's Funeral Service will take place at Bramcote Crematorium on *Monday 6th July 2020*. We remember them all and their family at this sad time. May they rest in peace.

POOR CLARES: On *May 25th 2020* I visited the Sisters at Bulwell and took with me all the wonderful donations you had managed to give. The sisters were so grateful for your kindness, life has been quite difficult for them during lockdown and they rely on whatever is brought to their door. Despite the church being locked my car was full of donations which people had either left at the presbytery or delivered to my home – thank you all so much – it really was a huge help to the sisters. The Sisters have also kindly had a Mass said for the Intentions of all the Parishioners of the Assumption. I am visiting again on *MONDAY 29th JUNE 2020* and if you wish to donate please would you continue to either leave at the back door of the presbytery or bring to my home. Our support is very important to them. Many thanks – *Diane Wilson*.

MARY'S MEALS': Have a brand new film, the inspirational and uplifting "*Love Reaches Everywhere*," featuring Hollywood actor Gerard Butler. Journey with Gerard on this heart – warming adventure to find out what happened when he swapped the bright lights of Hollywood for classrooms in Haiti and Liberia. Through the film, you can travel with him as he meets some of the communities that Mary's Meals' serve, see their work in action and find out why Love Reaches Everywhere. We hope you enjoy the film! Please note this film was created before the Covid-19 pandemic. The film can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/embed/hSrw2fL1fOU> – *Daniel Adams* (UK Executive Director, Mary's Meals).

RE-OPENING OF CHURCHES: On Tuesday we heard the announcement that, from the 4th July 2020, places of worship will be able to reopen for prayer and services.

The recent reopening of some churches for individual private prayer was an important milestone on our journey towards resuming communal worship and the only churches that have opened are those that have been able to put in place all the measures needed to ensure the risks of virus transmission are minimised. This includes effective hand sanitisation, social distancing and daily cleaning. We still have to remain committed to making sure that these systems of hygiene and infection control meet Government and public health standards.

With the easing of restrictions on worship with congregations, we really need to tread very carefully along the path that lies ahead. Our lives have been changed by the experience of this pandemic and it is clear that we cannot simply return to how things were before lockdown. We remain centred on the Lord Jesus and His command at the Last Supper to “*do this in memory of me.*” Therefore, we must now rebuild what it means to be Eucharistic communities, holding fast to all that we hold dear, while at the same time exploring the ways in which to meet these changed circumstances.

It is important to reaffirm that, at present, the obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains suspended and a significant number of churches may remain closed as they are unable to meet the requirements for opening for individual prayer. Fulfilling these requirements is a precondition for any church opening after the 4th July 2020 for the celebration of Mass with a congregation.

Please also be aware that there will be a limit on the number of people who can attend Mass at any one time in our churches. This will be determined in accordance with social distancing requirements. We cannot return immediately to our customary practices and this next step is not, in any sense, a moment when we are going to be ‘back to normal.’

When we return to Mass there will be some differences in how the celebration takes place. For the time being, there will be no congregational singing and Mass will be shorter than usual. But none of this detracts from the centrality of our encounter with the Risen Christ in the Eucharist. We ask everyone to respect and follow the guidance that will be issued.

The emphasis at the moment remains on SOME CHURCHES – not all. This will require the completion of a Risk Assessment document, which needs to be approved by the Diocese, before permission can be granted for a church to re-open.

The summary below of the guidelines and requirements sent out by the Bishops’ Conference for England and Wales, for private individual prayer remains in place at the moment:

Even before churches can re-open, there are some important preparations that will need to be made. In order to be ready, Parish Priests need to ensure the fundamentals of infection control are in place (which will protect those who are vulnerable) by doing the following:

1. Assembling a team of stewards to ensure that the guidance can safely be put into effect. The number of volunteers required will vary depending on the size of churches, but priests will not be able to manage the re-opening of churches on their own. It is important that those in the team should not be drawn from those instructed to shield themselves, nor, as a general rule, from groups considered more vulnerable to coronavirus.
2. Securing sufficient supplies of alcohol hand gel, cleaning materials (including gloves for cleaners) and tape to mark appropriate distances on floors and to block off areas of seating. It is important to ensure that hand gel with anti-viral properties is obtained and this should be at least 65% alcohol: many hand sanitisers are only anti-bacterial and offer no protection against coronavirus.
3. Mark distances on the floor and block off pews/chairs to ensure adequate social distancing (2 metres/6 feet between each person) is maintained throughout the church. The maximum person capacity at any one time under the social distancing regime must be determined and this made clear to those entering the church, by way of clear signage.
4. Removing from the church all printed materials that are not designed for a single use. This would include service books, hymn books, CTS pamphlets etc.
5. Preparing appropriate signage, e.g. asking people to sanitise their hands, on entry and exit, not to touch or physically venerate statues or relics, clear entrance and exit signs, maximum safe capacity etc.
6. Maintaining as much ventilation within the church space as possible; keeping Entrance and Exit doors open decreases transmission risk through touching but also allows a flow of fresh air into the church space. If the church has windows that can be opened, these should be.

The Bishops' Conference of England and Wales are working with our Public Health advisors, Public Health England and the Government in order to provide clear directives for the opening of our churches safely which minimises the risk of virus transmission. Considering the above understanding of virus transmission, the proposed directives are:

1. At least two stewards must be present in the church throughout the time it is open for prayer; the stewards must ensure that hand sanitisation occurs at entry and exit points, social distancing is maintained by people in the church and if a pre-determined capacity is reached, they prevent others from entering the church. (Through, for example, a "one in, one out" policy.) People with cold or flu-like symptoms should be asked not to enter.
2. Stewards themselves should practice good hand hygiene through either regular hand washing or the use of alcohol-based hand sanitiser. They should not eat or drink or touch their face unless they have immediately washed their hands beforehand and should maintain social distance within the church. They should ensure any cuts or grazes on their hands are completely covered with waterproof dressings. They should not physically assist people unless absolutely necessary, for example in an emergency for first aid.
3. An additional infection control measure would be to enter and leave the church via separate doors.
4. Alcohol hand gel should be provided at the doors, with notices asking people to sanitise their hands as they enter and leave the church.
5. Places where people can sit or kneel in prayer should be two metres apart from one another in all directions. Benches should be blocked off to facilitate this social distancing. People who are part of the same household can sit together but those not from the same household should maintain social distancing while in church.
6. The church must be cleaned fully **at least once a day**, using appropriate cleaning products and paying particular attention to touch points. Areas that are likely to be touched frequently (such as door handles) should be cleaned more often.
7. Cleaning an area with normal household disinfectant or detergent (including on pews) will reduce the risk of passing the infection on to other people.
8. Those doing this work must wear disposable or washing-up gloves and aprons for cloth or disposable paper tissues; first clean hard surfaces with detergent and water or detergent spray; **not** polish spray on its own. Pay particular attention to frequently touched areas and surfaces. Those doing this work must practice good hygiene: wash their hands regularly with soap and water for 20 seconds, **especially** after removing gloves, aprons and other protection used while cleaning

This advice concerns only the opening of churches. This advice cannot be followed for other activities that may take place on parish premises, such as groups that would meet in church halls, **because at present these must remain closed**. This is because group gatherings and social distancing cannot be monitored in an effective way with groups that meet socially or for other activities in our premises.

THE IMPORTANCE OF THESE MEASURES: These measures may seem burdensome, or even a little daunting. They are however necessary, not least because if any churches are seen to be operating in a way that may increase the spread of the virus, there is a risk that stricter measures such as prohibition or enforced closure notices could be re-imposed by local authorities or even national administrations. It is our hope that with priests and their parishioners working effectively together, we will be able to open churches safely, for the celebration of Mass and the Sacraments.

At the moment St Barnabas Cathedral is able to offer limited opening. The opening times at the Cathedral will be **Monday to Friday 10:00 am – 12 noon** and; **Saturday and Sunday 11:00 am – 1:00 pm**.

Once again, I re – emphasise that, given the above measures I have no plans to re – open the Churches in Beeston or Long Eaton until I have had a chance to look at all the guidelines and directives to see how we may be able to fulfil those requirements. At the moment we have not received these guidelines, which we hope will be available sometime in the coming week. I would welcome any comments or suggestions that you may have. There is a "quiet place" at the Assumption adjacent to the Parish Hall, where we have the Grotto. Similarly, at St Francis there is the statue outside the main church where you would be very welcome to come and spend some time in quiet prayer at any time. I look forward to the time when we can once again come together as a Parish Community (in whatever way that may be), to celebrate Mass and the Sacraments.

Saints Peter and Paul

In the world of political correctness, we are not allowed to tell people that they are no good at something. It is frowned upon to be critical, especially where children are concerned. Instead we have to accentuate the positive and focus in on people's strengths or what they can do. We have to highlight people's skills and plus points and ignore the negatives.

Well, it may come as a something of a surprise, but God has been doing this for years. Centuries in fact! But the difference with God is that He doesn't just look at our plus points He is also prepared to accept the negatives as well. He is concerned with our strengths; but He doesn't overlook or ignore our weaknesses. In fact, He transforms weakness and uses it to serve His purpose. As we proclaim in the preface of martyrs: "*...in our weakness you perfect your power and on the feeble bestow strength to bear you witness.*" And unlike some of the ever – changing legislation and new policies of government, God happens to be very successful at it.

The record of God's success is seen in no better way than in the lives of the two Saints we celebrate today. Simon who became St Peter; our leader in the faith, and Saul who became St Paul; its fearless preacher.

Each of these two saints is important for different reasons. Peter is important because he was the first Pope and kept the Church united; which was growing very rapidly in the years following Our Lord's Resurrection. In the first years after Pentecost it was Jews who accepted Jesus as the Saviour and so the early church was a very Jewish church. But as time went on Paul began to preach also to non – Jews, the Gentiles. All of us are Gentiles and his preaching was very successful and he brought huge numbers of non – Jews into the church. So much so that in a very short time the number of former Jews in the Church was greatly outnumbered by non – Jews. It is because of Paul that we are now the Church. So, both Peter and Paul had very important tasks in the early Church: Peter maintaining the unity in the Church which during his lifetime had already spread throughout the Middle East and; Paul who taught the Jews that Jesus is the fulfilment of their Old Testament hopes and taught the non – Jews that Jesus is their Saviour too.

But they didn't become the greatest Apostles of the Church overnight. Both of them had to learn, often the hard way, what it would truly mean to be a disciple of Jesus. They both had to learn the value of their strengths and, their weaknesses too, in proclaiming the Gospel.

Peter was often impetuous. He told Jesus that he would die with Him on Holy Thursday night if necessary. But in fact, only a few hours later, he denied, three times, that he knew Him at all. Peter objected to Our Lord's prediction that he would suffer and die in Jerusalem and Jesus said '*Get behind me Satan because the way you think is man's way and not God's way*'. Yet what made Peter a suitable candidate to be an Apostle was his love for Our Lord. So, three times after His Resurrection Jesus asked him if he loved Him. Three times Peter affirmed his love for Our Lord, to counteract the three times he had denied Him through weakness.

Paul was also controversial figure in his own way. He too had a tempestuous and fiery personality. In his early life, he directed that fire towards persecuting Christians in Jerusalem, even witnessing the death of Stephen, the first martyr. But after his conversion experience on the road to Damascus, Paul used that fiery personality to preach the Gospel, often upsetting some of the early church communities in the process. In Acts of the Apostles we read that when Paul returned to Jerusalem after his conversion, he preached fearlessly in the name of the Lord and was lucky to escape from there without being killed. He was forced to return to Tarsus, and the next sentence tells us all we need to know about Paul's fearless preaching style: "*the churches throughout Judea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace*". Paul was a highly-educated Pharisee and it would be only someone like him who could see that faith in Jesus demanded a totally new relationship to God for Jews. He also had a very strong personality which he needed to help the Jews to accept that Jesus was the Saviour of all people, and that because of Jesus there is now no difference between Jews and non – Jews. Paul had the strong personality needed for that daring challenge and the insight to see that faith in Jesus and obedience to Him was what was now required for salvation.

As we look at the personalities of Peter and Paul, we see that God called them to use their personalities, with all their strengths and weaknesses, to spread the Gospel. Peter to use his impetuous love to look after the flock Our Lord had entrusted to him. Paul to use his training as a Pharisee and his strength of character to ensure that the non – Jews would be welcomed into the Church. It is a reminder to us that our talents and our weaknesses too can become God's means of helping others, if we allow them to. We don't have to be perfect for God to work through us; God can work through us, faults and all, as He did with St Peter and St Paul.