

# PARISH of OUR LADY & ST VINCENT, POTTERS BAR

*Celebrating in the light of Christ*

**3<sup>rd</sup> May 2020 : Fourth Sunday of Easter**

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[www.olasv.org.uk](http://www.olasv.org.uk) (Live streaming of services available on the 'live streaming' link)

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**The office is closed. Emails and the answerphone will be checked daily**

## May – the month of Mary (A letter from Pope Francis)

The month of May is approaching, a time when the People of God express with particular intensity their love and devotion for the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is traditional in this month to pray the Rosary at home within the family. The restrictions of the pandemic have made us come to appreciate all the more this "family" aspect, also from a spiritual point of view.

For this reason, I want to encourage everyone to rediscover the beauty of praying the Rosary at home. This can be done either as a group or individually; you can decide according to your own situations, making the most of both opportunities. The key to doing this is always simplicity, and it is easy also on the internet to find good models of prayers to follow. I am also providing two prayers to Our Lady that you can recite at the end of the Rosary, and that I myself will pray in the month of May, in spiritual union with all of you. I include them with this letter so that they are available to everyone.

Dear brothers and sisters, contemplating the face of Christ with the heart of Mary our Mother will make us even more united as a spiritual family and will help us overcome this time of trial. I keep all of you in my prayers, especially those suffering most greatly, and I ask you, please, to pray for me. I thank you, and with great affection I send you my blessing.

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who, at the foot of the cross, were united with the suffering of Jesus, and persevered in your faith.

"Protectress of the Roman people", you know our needs, and we know that you will provide, so that, as at Cana in Galilee, joy and celebration may return after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the will of the Father and to do what Jesus tells us.

For he took upon himself our suffering, and burdened himself with our sorrows to bring us, through the cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.

Go to <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2020-04/letter-on-the-month-of-may-full-text.html> for the second prayer.

**Rosary Holy Hour, 3pm Monday - Friday in church. You can join in the prayer via the live streaming link.**

## Good Shepherd Sunday

Good Shepherd Sunday is the day when we pray for our seminarians and encourage other men and women to consider the call to the priesthood and religious life. The seminaries, Allen Hall, the Venerable English College and the Beda College in Rome, where future Westminster priests are in formation, are physically closed. Nevertheless, prayer continues in the life of seminarians and staff, and they are able to participate in streamed liturgies. All have on-line lectures, regular conversations with formation staff and spiritual direction. Our seminarians are praying for an end to the pandemic, for the priests serving in the parishes and hospitals, the heroic healthcare staff and care workers, and all who are suffering from this virus. While the present reality lacks the community dimension of formation and the important common liturgical life, their studies and preparation for priesthood continue.

Due to the pandemic, as we are unable to gather in our churches to celebrate Mass, this year there will not be a collection for the Priests' Training Fund. Please pray for the seminarians and those discerning God's call at this time. May they model through their actions and words the example of Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd, who came to serve and not to be served. Pray especially for Axcel, Alex and David Knight who are to be ordained to the priesthood later this year.

Donations to the Priests' Training Fund are always gratefully received. If you wish to make a donation, please visit the donation page of the diocesan website [www.rcdow.org.uk](http://www.rcdow.org.uk)

**Emergencies Throughout this period and the answerphone and emails will be checked several times a day. For an emergency requiring a priest please call 07854 866860 but please use this only in an emergency.**

**MASS for FRONTLINE CARERS & SICK**

Every Thursday evening at 7pm a bishop, in turn, will celebrate Mass in his cathedral, live streamed, for all frontline workers in the NHS, Care Homes & Community for the sick and their families. This Thursday's Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Marcus Stock in Leeds Cathedral <http://www.leedscathedrallive.org.uk>

### **CHILDREN'S LITURGY of the WORD**

Many families have got used to joining the live-streamed Mass at either 6pm Saturday or 11am Sunday. From this week Deacon Axcel will be emailing out a song and a reflection/activity for young children to either prepare for Mass or to do during the Liturgy of the Word at Mass. This week we have emailed it out to First Communion children. If you would like to receive this for your child please email Axcel at [pbalpha@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:pbalpha@rcdow.org.uk) and he will add you to the emailing list.

### **SAVE US FROM THE FIRES OF HELL**

May is the month of Mary and the Rosary is a beautiful prayer during difficulties. We reflect, through Mary's eyes, on the major events of her son's life. **Instead of** Rosary at 9.30am this week there will be a Rosary Service **each day at 3pm**. Fr Shaun will give a meditation on the Fatima Prayer, a recent addition to the Rosary, as well as praying the Rosary. Please join him on live streaming.

### **HOLY COMMUNION**

Please remember in your prayers **Jasmin Bender, Elissa Bush, Arthur Cunik, Alana Curry, Grace Curry, Leon Falce-Bass, Bosco Hillcoat, Beltrán Hillcoat, Zachary Holland, Luke Johnson, Sienna Jones, Megan Martin, Ben-Hur Petros, Zofia Wojtowicz** who would have been receiving Holy Communion for the first time today.

### **LOUISE de MARILLAC ROOM**

(Formerly known as the Evangelisation Room) This was due to be ready on 5<sup>th</sup> April but work has been disrupted by the Covid-19 precautions. Fortunately the room was watertight when the lockdown came into force. Since then individual workers have been able to work on the room in social isolation and so things have progressed. Hopefully, we can move in once restrictions are lifted. Francesca and Don's old office will then be free for confidential office work.

### **FINANCE**

Easter Offerings total £404  
Standing Orders/BACS for April £6,953  
To continue giving in the lockdown period you can give through internet/telephone banking or set up a standing order. Our account details are Sort Code 400520 Account 81095625. (WRCDT Potters Bar) Please put the note 'offertory' or 'Easter Offering' and your surname or envelope number if you are in the Planned Giving Scheme.

### **BOREHAMWOOD FOODBANK**

The green crate will stay outside the office door for any donations. They are still looking for volunteers from non-vulnerable groups to help collect food, make up packs and distribute them. Please contact Kim on 07526 084633 if you can help

### **ST MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC GRAMMAR SCHOOL - COVID-19 - ADMISSIONS UPDATE**

We are continuing with our Admissions timetable as set out for entry September 2021 and the same deadlines apply. Please check our website <https://www.st-michaels.barnet.sch.uk> for the updated information and forms on changes that have been implemented due to social distancing restrictions.

Completed applications can be submitted electronically to [admissions@st-michaels.barnet.sch.uk](mailto:admissions@st-michaels.barnet.sch.uk). Any changes will be announced on the school website. Please check periodically to stay up to date.

### **LIVE-STREAMED LITURGIES THIS WEEK**

*Please note that the church is closed for these liturgies*

Sat 2 <sup>nd</sup>	6pm Vigil Mass of Sunday	<i>Rita Fraser RIP</i>
Sun 3 <sup>rd</sup>	11am Mass	<i>Oliver Clancey RIP</i>
Mon 4 <sup>th</sup>	10am Mass	<i>Melville Pereira RIP</i>
	3pm Rosary Reflection	<i>'O my Jesus'</i>
Tues 5 <sup>th</sup>	10am Mass	<b>Funeral Rita Fraser RIP</b>
	3pm Rosary Reflection	<i>'Forgive us our sins'</i>
Weds 6 <sup>th</sup>	10am Mass	<i>Gary Garrett RIP</i>
	3pm Rosary Reflection	<i>'Save us from the fires of hell'</i>
Thurs 7 <sup>th</sup>	10am Mass	<i>Maria Sartori RIP</i>
	3pm Rosary Reflection	<i>'Lead all souls to heaven'</i>
Fri 8 <sup>th</sup>	10am Mass	<i>Holy Souls</i>
	3pm Rosary Reflection	<i>'Those in need of your mercy'</i>
Sat 9 <sup>th</sup>	6pm Vigil Mass of Sunday	<i>Tim Sullivan RIP</i>
Sun 10 <sup>th</sup>	11am Mass	<i>Ines Badini RIP (Anniv.)</i>

### **LIVE STREAMING STATISTICS**

Last weekend we had 324 households 'at' 6pm Mass and 786 at 11am Mass

### **PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**

My Jesus, I believe you are present in this Holy Sacrament of the altar.

I love you above all things and I passionately desire to receive you in my soul.

Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever. Amen

### **Please remember in your prayers**

The sick, their families and all who care for them, including: Betty Swift, Peggy Rafferty, Damien Grafton, Marsaili MacAuley, Linda Brooks, Patricia Wallington, Grant Davis, Bridie Spelzini, Frank Casali, Susan Lundrigan, Jean Rudd, Theresa Round, Joan Bonner, Antonia Cox, Olive McQuade, Margaret O'Loughlin, Christine Potts, Erminio Gazza, Jean Lowery, Jamie Giles, Mary Lindsay, Paige & Timothy White, Melanie Farrell, John Norris, Bernadette Whelan, Christakis Christofides, Philomena O'Sullivan, Julieanne Chambers, Cheryl Pereira, Colin McArdle, Eileen Geoghan, Milena Braganza.

**The lately dead** Margaret (Rita) Fraser, Maria Nicola, Kathleen Ashley, Ennis Sweeny.

**Anniversaries** Elizabeth Keogh, Mary Markey