

Fifth Sunday Of Lent (A)
A LENT OF INCREASED PRAYER AND LOVE FOR OUR PARISH, CHURCH, COUNTRY AND WORLD
29th March 2020

My dearest Parishioners,

CORONAVIRUS AND OUR CHURCH AND PARISH

Please see the Archbishop's Statement attached to the newsletter.

- (a) **MASSES** - There is no public celebration of Mass or Communion Services. I will celebrate Mass on my own in the house at some point in the day for the following intentions: -

Saturday 28th	- Ann Ivell RIP (Anniv.)
Sunday 29th	- Fr. Timothy Daly RIP (Anniv.)
Tuesday 31st	- The Parishioners
Wednesday 1st April	- Deceased Relatives & Friends of the Lobo Family
Friday 3rd	- Keggy Diamond RIP
Saturday 4th	- Tony Brewer RIP (Meg)
Sunday 5th	- The Parishioners

Mass intentions for the future that are not already booked should be emailed or telephoned to the office.

- (b) **MASS & LENT ONLINE** Fr. Geoff from Bearsted will be streaming Mass each Sunday at 10.30am - go to - catholic-bearsted.org.uk. Also Walsingham are offering a 12 noon Mass each day - go to walsingham.org.uk. Also I attach an email received from the Communications Team for the Archdiocese with lots of information and ideas.
- (c) **LEGION OF MARY (MOTTINGHAM PARISH)** At 3pm every day we are praying for all people in the world suffering as a result of the coronavirus and for the frontline and key workers who are doing a wonderful job in these difficult times. Please join in if you can:
- Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be to the Father.**
Our Lady Help of Christians - pray for us.
Our Lady of the Sacred Heart - pray for us.
St. Thomas More - pray for us.
St. Thomas of Canterbury - pray for us.
- (d) **THE CHURCH** The Church is now closed but I will be praying for you all in the house on the following days and times: -
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| Saturday 28th | - 5pm to 5.30pm |
| Sunday 29th | - 10am to 10.30am & 5.30pm to 6pm |
| Monday 30th March to Friday 3rd April | - 9.30am to 10am |
- (e) **CHURCH OFFERINGS** - Please do not bring or leave money or envelopes to the Church or house. The best thing for those who can is to arrange 'standing orders' with their bank, which we would appreciate to keep the Church and Parish going. With self-denial envelopes, the best thing would be just to keep the money collected at home until we are able to receive them at Church. In all of this, please, only if you can afford it - your needs must come first.
- (f) **BAPTISMS - RECONCILIATION - WEDDINGS - FRIDAY EXPOSITION - CHILDREN'S LITURGY - PRAYER GROUPS - FIRST COMMUNION - PARISH GROUPS AND MEETINGS** are all suspended for the foreseeable future. Please keep in touch with each other by email or phone.

(g) **FUNERALS** I ask your prayers for dear Paddy Griffin, our first parishioner to die from the corona virus whilst being treated for a severe heart and pacemaker infection at St. Thomas' Hospital. We offer Josh, his son, and his family and all his many friends especially in the Parish all our love and support and prayers at this time.

Also to Beverley Heasman and her family following her funeral at Vinters Park Crematorium last Thursday (I offered Mass for Beverley in the house before going to the funeral and we hope to have a service in Church when the coronavirus is over), and to Lindsay Corette and his family as they prepare for his funeral at Tonbridge Cemetery on Tuesday 14th April. We keep all of them in our prayers and thoughts.

(h) **THE OFFICE** The office is now closed and Claire is working from home but please continue to email the office as Claire can pick this up at home.

(i) **WEST MALLING VOLUNTEERS** I attach an important information sheet from West Malling Parish Council about a Volunteer Care Network they are establishing. I've told them we have our Area Groups looking after each other, Eucharistic Ministers keeping an eye on their housebound and neighbours helping each other but ask the West Malling, Kings Hill and Larkfield Area Groups and the Eucharistic Ministers and Parishioners in the area who can help in this to contact the West Malling Volunteers and link in and join the network in this Ecumenical and Community Network. This will help many more people to be reached and helped. Many thanks.

Let us continue to keep each other in our love and prayers. The theme of this fifth week of Lent is 'Life' and the new light and life the Lord wants to share with us through this coming Holy Week and Easter in all the challenges, difficulties, illness and darkness we are experiencing in these bad days. So let us keep to our prayers as individuals and families so that the Lord can be with us with his love and strength as he wants to. And let us continue to look after and support each other - and keep safe! (and children - this week's word is 'Sharing' [especially toys and games, help and love] and don't forget to keep tidying your bedrooms, being patient especially with your brothers and sisters, listening [especially to Mum & Dad] and thinking of others).

My love and prayers to you all and especially all who are suffering and in difficulty - and God Bless.

Fr. Peter

PLEASE PRAY FOR: Betty Ward; Moira Stevens; Peter and Dee Avery; Mary Wilmot; Fiona Evans; Roy & Heather Lewis; Frank Ostridge; Jacky Seeds; Archie & Arrison Sullivan; Sheila Koster; Caroline Walker; Margaret Edwards; the Orlando Family; Ross, Philip, Niki & Freya; Betty Hatton; John Stevens; Meg Brewer; Natalie Walker; Jean Clifford; Adrian Atmore; James Bryant; Paula Thornton; carers of the sick; our housebound and all at Maidstone Hospital, Hospice and local Nursing Homes. Please pray for all affected by cutbacks, illnesses and other challenges in our country and world.

RECENTLY DEAD: Paddy Griffin; Beverley Heasman; Lindsay Corette; Archbishop Peter Smith; Fr. Henry Reynolds; also Tony Brewer; Carol Blackmore; Bruce Costin; Fr. John Castelli (month's mind). Please keep in your prayers all who have died in conflict throughout the world especially the innocent civilians.

ANNIVERSARIES: Timothy Daly; May Middleton; Gertrude Ennis; Anthony Thompson-Murray; Stanley Batchelor; Cyril Usmar; Ann Watson; Vivienne Cahill; Helena Marshall; Clive Budd; Gertrude De Wolf; Walter Roberts; Teresa Gordon; Geoff McBride; Patrick Kelly.

