

ST JOSEPH'S, STONEHOUSE & THE ANNUNCIATION, WOODCHESTER

PARISH CLERGY

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SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER – PSALTER 2 AND PROPER OF THE SEASON

THERE ARE NO PUBLIC MASSES TAKING PLACE THIS WEEK

There is a live daily Mass from the Blessed Sacrament Chapel in Clifton Cathedral. The Mass is 9.30am and can be viewed on the Diocesan website: <http://cliftondiocese.com>

LECTIONARY

Sun	Acts 2: 42-47	Psalm 117: 2-4, 13-15, 22-24	1Pt 1: 3-9	John 20: 19-31
Mon	Acts 4: 23-31	Psalm 2: 1-9		John 3: 1-8
Tues	Acts 4: 32-37	Psalm 91: 1-2, 5		John 3: 7-15
Weds	Acts 5: 17-26	Psalm 33: 2-9		John 3: 16-21
Thurs	Apoc 12: 10-12	Psalm 125		John 15: 18-21
Fri	Acts 5: 34-42	Psalm 26: 1, 4, 13-14		John 6: 1-15
Sat	1Pt 5: 5-14	Psalm 88: 2-3, 6-7, 16-17		Mark 16: 15-20

PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL AT ST JOSEPH'S

Vi. Burrage, Mike Gibbons and Olga, Julie Wood, Elizabeth Carr, Mary Evans, Rosemary Mabud, Aine Anderson, Mary Scully, Maggie, Rosemary Sturup

AND FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED ABOUT THIS TIME

Bridget McDonnell, Mary Snaith, Teresa Whitehead, Annie Weaver, Linda Refalo, Mario Farrugia, John O'Reilly

PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL AT THE ANNUNCIATION

Fr. Richard Finn O.P. and family, Rebekah Hollingshead, Brendon Conboy, Della Cox, Barry Norris, Cynthia Stevens, Peggy Chapman, Barry Taylor, John Presland, Tony Thompson, Georgina Mazzone, Frances Little, Christopher Notley, Trese Hulbert, Elizabeth Lillinton, Tina Hathaway, Phil Goodwin, Chris Jay

AND FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED ABOUT THIS TIME

Annie Lloyd, Sr. Mary Margaret Carr, Sr. Mary Bernadette Sockett, Sr. Mary Francis, Bridget Norris, Millicent Holmes, Matthew Hanratty, Marion Gauci, Ronald Tanner, Derek Dalby, Margaret Simpson, Elsie Mills, William Bowring, George Booth, Theresa Newman

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR APRIL

That those suffering from addiction may be helped and accompanied.

DIOCESAN PRAYER LINK

Coleford: St Margaret Mary; Cinderford: Our Lady of Victories; Newent with Blaisdon: Our Lady of Lourdes

CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

Public Masses are still suspended until further notice.

Father Bill is very grateful for all your kind messages wishing him well. You are all in his prayers. He wants to let you know he is keeping well and is as sane as he can be under these circumstances!

IN GENERAL

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Thomas doubts the good news of the resurrection, but upon seeing Jesus physically, believes. But what about us and all those who either struggle to believe or refuse to believe that Jesus rose from the dead? In the Western world, where society is highly sceptical and often aggressively atheistic it requires a great deal of confidence and assurance to stay faithful to the teaching of the Gospel. It can be particularly difficult to remain faithful in the face of our current adversity and struggle. Where is the hope in the face of COVID-19, the hope that the death and resurrection of Jesus is meant to give us? The disciples were 'united, heart and soul' and they held 'everything in common'. In other words, they knew the need to stand together, to support one another. Now, more than ever, we need to stand together, to support those who need our support, to reach out to those who are vulnerable, to those who are afraid and to those who grieve. Faith is not an individual activity. It is something which comes from living and supporting and loving one another and that includes those who have no faith.

STROUD DISTRICT FOODBANK

Stroud District Foodbank has sent us a message of thanks for all of your continued donations. During this time of lockdown, it is still possible to donate, as most supermarkets have a drop-off point by their entrance. They are currently in need of baked beans, small bags of sugar, pasta and sauce, tinned fruit, tinned pulses, tinned custard, rice pudding, UHT milk, UHY fruit juice or cordial, instant mash and shampoo.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION – PRAYER OF ST ALPHONSUS

My Jesus,

I believe that you are present in this Holy Sacrament of the altar.

I love you above all things

and I passionately desire to receive you into 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.

POPE'S EASTER SUNDAY 'URBI ET ORBI' BLESSING

Pope Francis spoke of how we must respond to the pandemic. He went on to mention the ongoing conflicts and difficulties suffered by certain countries. The Holy Father urged us to "ban" four attitudes: Indifference, self-centredness, division and forgetfulness.

BISHOP DECLAN'S EASTER MESSAGE

Bishop Declan recorded his Easter message in which he reminds us that although not able to go to church, we need to remind ourselves that we are Church. In our homes Christ is always present even if we are not always present to him. Jesus promised never to leave us. We may not be able to gather as a parish family or the diocesan one, but we can gather in our homes as the domestic Church. Our homes are varied and so is the Church because in the Church all people should find a home. No one should feel excluded because Christ came to reconcile us to the Father and to one another. At the beginning of Lent we were reminded that we are ambassadors for Christ and our message is: be reconciled to God.

VULNERABLE PARISHIONERS

If you are or know of a vulnerable parishioner who needs support during this difficult time, by means of help with shopping, errand running, or just a friendly phonecall, then with their permission, can you email their name, phone number/address to either: stonehouse.stjoseph@cliftondiocese.com or

Woodchester.theannunciation@cliftondiocese.com and we will do our best to assist. If you would like to volunteer to help a vulnerable parishioner, please could you send your name and contact details to one of the above email addresses.

Many thanks.