

The Parish of St Dunstan and St Jude

Fifth Sunday of Easter

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Sunday 2nd May 2021

www.stdunstanandstjude.co.uk

Sat 1 st May	<i>St Joseph the Worker</i> <i>First Saturday</i>	11.00am	Holy Mass <i>followed by first Saturday devotions at 11.45am</i>	Rose Gathley (RIP) Pro Populo
		11.30am-1.00pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
		11.30am-12.30pm 4.45-5.15pm	Confessions Confessions	
		5.30pm	Vigil Mass	Edward Lawlor (RIP)
Sun 2 nd	FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	9.15am (<i>St Jude's</i>)	Holy Mass	Stephen Green
		10.30am	Holy Mass	Pauline Conmey (RIP)
		12noon	Holy Mass	Beryl Jones (RIP)
		6.30pm	Holy Mass	Philomena O'Connor (RIP)
Mon 3 rd	Ss Philip and James	9.30am	Holy Mass	Marian Hayes
Tues 4 th	The English Martyrs	10.00am (<i>St Jude's</i>)	Holy Mass	Deceased members of Carney family
		7.00pm	Holy Mass	John and Norma Cusack
Wed 5 th	<i>Easter Feria</i>	9.30am	Holy Mass	Margaret O'Donaghue
Thurs 6 th	<i>Easter Feria</i>	7.00pm	Holy Mass	Jimmy Ferry (RIP)
Fri 7 th	<i>Easter Feria</i>	9.30am	Holy Mass	Tony Dykes (RIP)
		7.00pm	Holy Mass	Jesna and Joshua Cyrial
Sat 8 th	<i>Easter Feria</i>	11.00am	Holy Mass	James McQuillan (RIP) Pro Populo
		11.30am-1.00pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
		11.30am-12.30pm 4.45-5.15pm	Confessions Confessions	
		5.30pm	Vigil Mass	Collette Hickey
Sun 9 th	SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	9.15am (<i>St Jude's</i>)	Holy Mass	Eileen Slattery (RIP)
		10.30am	Holy Mass	Tommy Reidy (RIP)
		12 noon	Holy Mass	Mary Power (RIP)
		6.30pm	Holy Mass	John Connolly (RIP)

In place of the Angelus during the Easter season we would usually sing the Regina Caeli. As congregational singing isn't yet allowed under the regulations, either a cantor will sing it or we will say it together before Sunday Mass.

**Regina caeli, Laetare, alleluia.
Quia quem meruisti portare, alleluia.
Resurrexit, sicut dixit, alleluia.
Ora pro nobis Deum, alleluia.**

*Rejoice and be glad, O virgin Mary, alleluia.
For the Lord is risen indeed, alleluia.
Let us pray.*

O God, who has brought joy to the world through the resurrection of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Grant, we beseech you, that through his Mother the Virgin Mary, we may be brought to the joys of everlasting life. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Bishops of England and Wales have recently published a reflection called '**The day of the Lord**' which reminds us of the essential place the Mass has in our lives as Catholics, and especially of Sunday Mass – the day of the Lord's resurrection. As we work through the pandemic it reminds us that Mass remains at the heart of the practice of the faith. It also seeks to reassure those who are anxious that Mass is as safe as can be. The bishops also thank those Catholics who are working in the care sector during this time, and also volunteer groups like the SVP and foodbanks etc. who have carried on their tasks throughout this time. You can find a link to the letter on the parish website and Facebook.

Perhaps those who are anxious might find it easier to come to Mass on a Sunday evening or weekday evening when things are quieter.

This time last year Pope Francis wrote: *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 in the month of May. 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.

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 trial.

Also, you might like to add the *Memorare* as part of your daily devotion to Our Blessed Lady in the month of May:

Remember, O most loving Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help or sought thy intercession, was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of Virgins, my Mother; to thee I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful; O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen

Holy Communion to the sick and housebound.

Restrictions around us, due to the effects of lockdown and the vaccination programme, are being gently lifted. There are a number of parishioners receiving the Blessed Sacrament at home again. If you or someone you know, would now like to resume this if you would let one of the priests know, or email the presbytery.

Whilst at Mass.....please take note of the guidance below to ensure that we make each other as safe as possible. We remember in our prayers those who are not with us due illness or because they are isolating. They are very much part of the prayers and the sacrifice we offer today.

- Please use hand sanitizer when arriving and leaving.
- Wear face coverings in church unless age (younger children) or medical conditions preclude this.
- Keep social distance at all times – especially being mindful when moving about for Holy Communion or leaving church.
- Please follow the one-way system around church.
- If you will not be receiving holy communion or coming forward for a blessing mention this to a steward and they will find you a seat where you won't block others in.
- Do not leave newsletters you have used in church, but always take them home with you.
- Remove face covering immediately before receiving Holy Communion in the hand and replace after receiving the Sacred Host.
- Do not gather in groups outside church with those outside your 'bubble' for conversation without keeping a good distance.

Baptisms: Changes in guidance means that we can begin celebrating the sacrament of Baptism from May 17th (although numbers permitted to attend will be limited). If you had already booked a baptism that had to be postponed, could you get in touch as soon as possible to arrange a date. **For those who haven't been along for the preparation meeting, the next meeting (at which we will arrange baptism dates) is this Tuesday at 7.45pm in St Dunstan's church.**

We pray for those who have died recently: Mark Woodcock, Bernadette Johnston, Stanislaw Mielewski, Maureen Cody, and Kathleen Mannion.

Funerals. A number of families have been concerned about the length of time it now seems to take (often over a month) between a loved one's death and the funeral. It can be an advantage, when arranging a funeral, to have a week for the funeral in mind, and then look around at different firms to see what they can do.

SVP Lent Groceries/ Feeding Projects. Many thanks from the SVP to all the people who contributed so generously to our appeal for groceries and hygiene products during Lent. Thanks also to the kind souls who gave cash donations towards this instead. Thanks to you we've been able to make weekly deliveries to St Jude's school and/or Manningford Hall to support struggling families in that part of the parish. God willing, we have got enough funding to carry on doing this until at least the end of May. Thanks again - and God Bless.

Becoming Catholic? Two or three people have mentioned the possibility of instruction in the faith. If anyone is interested, could you email the presbytery or speak to Fr Philip or Fr John. For those who desire to be baptised or received into the Catholic Church there will be an expectation of attendance at Sunday Mass at St Dunstan's or St Jude's as well as the instructions. If there is sufficient interest, we will hope to begin in May or June depending on the schedules for the easing of restrictions.

Queen Elizabeth and Birmingham Women's Hospitals and St Mary's Hospice. If you know that you (or a family member or friend in the parish) will be going to hospital for significant treatment, it is best to have confession with anointing of the sick before you/they go into hospital as these sacraments are not readily available during a hospital stay. **There is a cover rota provided by some priests from the local parishes. Such visits are arranged from the hospital, however, so that the priest on call will be allowed admission.**

Confessions are at the normal advertised times from next weekend. Social distancing means using the side chapel at St Dunstan's. **Please keep the time spent in the confessional to a minimum (5 minutes max) to both make it as safe as possible, and so that others have opportunity for the celebration of this sacrament.**

Weekly offerings can be placed in the baskets in church during Mass or posted through the Presbytery letterbox. Please place offerings in either the usual Gift Aid envelopes or a plain envelope marked 'St Dunstan' or 'St Jude'. Standing orders are also a great way of giving. Standing order forms can be requested from the Parish office.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES. If you didn't pick up your box last weekend from either St Dunstan's or St Jude's, could you do so today!

First Holy Communion cards and rosary beads are available from the Parish office on a Wednesday and a Friday.

Priest's Mass Intentions are currently booked up into August. If you would like to know the date of a Mass intention you have requested, please leave a telephone number with your request.

St. Jude's Catholic Primary School has a lovely Nursery which runs five days a week during term time from 9am to 12pm. There are some places available for September 2021. Please contact school on 0121 464 5069 if you would like to find out more.

Bishop Challoner TSA is currently working with around 40 Primary and Secondary schools in the Birmingham area to help new teachers into the profession. Anyone is welcome to join for a free online information event on Thursday 13th May at 5pm to find out more about the School Direct / PGCE route into this exciting and rewarding profession. See www.bctsa.org for details, or email teachingschool@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk.

COLLECTIONS

	St Dunstan's	St Jude's
Gift Aid	£ 673.10	£ 58.00
Non-Gift Aid	£ 480.21	£ 163.49

If you would like a standing order form, please contact the Parish Office.

The Parish Office will be open from 9.00am until 5.00pm on Wednesday and Friday each week. In order to minimise the number of people in the office and for the safety of those at work, until further notice we ask you to observe the following:

If you need to see the Parish Administrator or one of the Priests: we would ask that you phone or email in advance, so that an appointment can be arranged at a convenient time for both. You will not be invited in the office unless you have a re-arranged appointment.

If you have an enquiry: please phone or email first to see if it can be sorted in this way.

For those wishing to book Mass intentions: please bring a sealed envelope clearly labelled with the intention details (person's name, required date etc) and include the offering inside. This can then be handed in at the office and if requested a Mass card be signed and given.

READINGS FOR SUNDAY MASS

FIRST READING

Acts 9:26-31

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus. The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R: You, Lord, are my praise in the great assembly.

My vows I will pay before those who fear him.
The poor shall eat and shall have their fill.
They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him.
May their hearts live for ever and ever! **R:**

All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord,
all families of the nations worship before him.
They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust. **R:**

And my soul shall live for him, my children serve him.
They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come,
declare his faithfulness to peoples yet unborn:
'These things the Lord has done.' **R:**

SECOND READING

John 3:18-24

My children, our love is not to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active; only by this can we be certain that we are children of the truth and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence, whatever accusations it may raise against us, because God is greater than our conscience and he knows everything. My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants. His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to. Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Make your home in me, as I make mine in you.
Whoever remains in me bears fruit in plenty.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL READING

John 15:1-8

Jesus said to his disciples:

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that bears no fruit he cuts away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes to make it bear even more. You are pruned already, by means of the word that I have spoken to you. Make your home in me, as I make mine in you. As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself, but must remain part of the vine, neither can you unless you remain in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty; for cut off from me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me is like a branch that has been thrown away – he withers; these branches are collected and thrown on the fire, and they are burnt. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask what you will and you shall get it. It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit, and then you will be my disciples.'

YEAR OF ST JOSEPH

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage,
and defend us from every evil. Amen.