

The Parish of St Dunstan and St Jude

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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Sunday 7th February 2021

www.stdunstanandstjude.co.uk

Sat 6 th	<i>St Paul Miki and Companions</i>	11.00am 5.30pm	Holy Mass Vigil Mass	Ena Cole (RIP), Pro Populo Mrs Faye
Sun 7 th	FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9.15am (<i>St Jude's</i>) 10.30am 12noon 6.30pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	Gerald O'Neill (RIP) Patricia Conaty Eileen Dixon Margaret Maddison
Mon 8 th	<i>Feria</i>	9.30am 5.00pm	Holy Mass <i>Vigil and Reception for</i>	Mary Donohoe (RIP) Michael Butler (RIP)
Tues 9 th	<i>Feria</i>	10.00am (<i>St Jude's</i>) 10.30am 7.00pm	Holy Mass Requiem Mass Holy Mass	Hilda Walsh (RIP) Michael Butler (RIP) Patricia Conaty (RIP)
Wed 10 th	<i>St Scholastica</i>	9.30am	Holy Mass	Michael Quinn (RIP)
Thurs 11 th	<i>Feria</i>	7.00pm	Holy Mass	John McCann (RIP)
Fri 12 th	<i>Feria</i>	9.30am 7.00pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass	Joan Johnson Phelan and Dunne families
Sat 13 th	<i>Feria</i>	11.00am	Holy Mass	Fr David Barry (Golden Jubilee) and Pro Populo
		11.30am-1pm	<i>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</i>	
		11.30am-12.30pm 4.45-5.15pm 5.30pm	Confessions Confessions Vigil Mass	Phillip Green (RIP)
Sun 14 th	SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9.15am (<i>St Jude's</i>) 10.30am 12 noon 6.30pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	Claire Grady Lennon Mary O'Connor (RIP) The Whiston family Ena Cole (RIP)

WELCOME TO 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 to illness or because they are isolating. They are very much part of the prayers and the sacrifice we offer today.

A reminder of the guidelines for the celebration of Mass during this time of pandemic.

- 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 oneway 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.

Some of these – especially the way of receiving Holy Communion and wearing face coverings – a few have found onerous. Nevertheless it is a price worth paying for the continuation of public worship.

Canon Giles Goward RIP. Fr Giles was rector of the seminary at Oscott, and at various times in recent years has helped out in celebrating Mass here, especially during holiday times. His Requiem Mass will be at Oscott College Chapel tomorrow (Monday) at Noon. Numbers are limited due to government regulations, but the Requiem Mass will be livestreamed and can be accessed from the college website: oscott.net

Please remember Fr Giles and the seminary community at Oscott in your prayers.

The Season of Lent begins a week on Wednesday.

The Holy See has issued guidance for the giving and receiving of ashes on this day. Usually our custom is to receive ashes in the sign of the cross on the forehead. Due to the possibility of infection at the moment we have been asked to adopt the custom of the Roman Church for this year – this is where ashes are sprinkled on the penitents head rather than the sign of the cross being marked. The usual formula 'Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return' (a particularly poignant statement in the light of what we are living through) will be said by the priest before the ashing happens, so that the sprinkling will be done in silence.

As usual the 'Walk with Me' books will be available for you to take. There will be opportunities for Stations of the Cross as well as daily Mass. We will again have the Early Bird Masses – though sadly without a communal breakfast this year due to restrictions. #

Last year our communal celebration of this holy season was interrupted by the lockdown, so let us pray that we will together be able to walk the pathway of Lent into the glory and hope of Easter.

Helping Others During Lent - the SVP. Ash Wednesday is only ten days away but I'm sure we all feel that with the year that we've had since the last one there probably isn't a great deal we can give up. (or a desire to do so!) – so much has already been denied us!

So, here is a thought: rather than give up one of our remaining pleasures, perhaps we could instead do something for those who are finding life particularly difficult in these strange times. The SVP continues to provide food for struggling families - particularly via the "bank" at St. Jude's. It would be wonderful if you could help us supplement this by providing some hygiene and sanitary items (e.g. shower gel, shampoo, soap, and women's sanitary products) and drop them off in the Church entrance (box under the stairs) before weekend Masses.

Another way to help would be to keep a large cardboard box in your household and, each day during Lent, adding an item for the "foodbank"; suggested goods – cereals, tea, coffee, tinned meat, tinned tomatoes, tinned vegetables, hygiene products. The boxes could be brought to Church during the last week of Lent or, if need be, we can collect them.

As ever, our heartfelt thanks for your past generosity, and for recognising that in the midst of this current storm, we are not "all in the same boat"; some of us are in superyachts, some in ferries and some in very leaky dinghies!

Holy Communion to the Sick and Homebound.

Once again it would regrettably seem sensible to pause with sick and home communions during this special national effort to get the infection rate down. Hopefully some of our more elderly or frail parishioners will soon be receiving the vaccine which will make this ministry easier and safer. The sacraments for the dying are, of course, available at need.

We pray for those who have died recently:, Ena Cole, Michael Butler, Anita Ronca (Requiem 16th Feb), Peter Bartram, Gladwyn Bantleman, Baby Casper, Canon Giles Goward, Father Patrick Joyce, Margaret Ann Kelly (Requiem 18th Feb), Fabien Wright, Aninha Cruz (Requiem 24th Feb), and Margaret Wilkins (Funeral Service 4th March).

Queen Elizabeth and Birmingham Women's Hospitals and St Mary's Hospice. Following Fr Charles' departure there is no fulltime chaplain at these places.

Therefore, with regard to the sacraments, if you know that you (or a family member or friend in the parish) will be going to hospital, it is important to have confession, the anointing of the sick and holy communion from one of the priests here before you/they go in to hospital as It will often not be available during your stay. Just have a word after Mass or ring or email the presbytery. This problem has been somewhat exasperated by the pandemic as no casual visits by family or clergy are permitted - and then only on very specific grounds – to try and reduce the danger of infection to patients. **There is a cover rota provided by priests around the area. This is for emergency use only when there is danger of death. Such visits are arranged from the hospital so that the priest on call will be allowed admission.**

For reference - it's worth remembering that the sacraments should be received when a person is conscious and able to participate as much as possible. This is essential for holy communion - *and viaticum or 'last holy communion' (not anointing) is the sacrament of the dying* – along with confession.

Sadly a number of people think they need to wait to until it is often too late. So if we can remember – and teach others – that such things should be done, when circumstances permit, with plenty of time.

Government restrictions for funerals stipulate a maximum of 30 attending.

Sacrament of Baptism: The Government 'Task Force' which issues advice and instructions to places of worship during the pandemic has said that celebrations of baptism (*apart from those in periculo mortis*) are to be deferred to a later date. For parents who had booked a baptism we will announce in the newsletter when this restriction is lifted. As things change so fast, the wisest thing when this happens will be to jump in as soon as possible!

Confessions are at the normal advertised times. 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.**

Church Cleaning will take place on Wednesday after Mass. If you can help you will be very welcome.

Please note that the toilets are presently closed due to COVID regulations, and the side chapel will be out of bounds apart from for Confession.

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.

Archbishop Bernard Longley will offer a Mass of Thanksgiving for the work of the Pastoral Care Project over the last 26 years at the Cathedral today at Noon. It will also be livestreamed so that people can be part of the Mass remotely.

Although the charitable status of the project has sadly come to an end, the legacy continues in a secure way through Redemptorist Publications. Please visit www.rpbooks.co.uk for information and resources for *My Funeral Mass* and *Dementia Prayer Week 12-19 March 2021*.

Stories by SIFA Fireside is a short collection of treasured memories about sr Sabina has been recorded on a CD.

A special webpage has been dedicated to Sister Sabina with the audio from the CD available to listen to: website <https://www.sifafireside.co.uk/pages/266-in-loving-memory-of-sister-sabina> Alternatively, there are a limited number of CD's available from the presbytery office.

Crib Offerings, which this year raised £723.70 will be going to 'Let the Children Live'. This charity, founded from Our Lady's Shrine at Walsingham, provides accommodation and education for street children in Columbia, working to draw them away from lives of drug trafficking and prostitution. You can look at what they do on letthechildrenlive.org Thank you for your kind donations.

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.

READINGS FOR SUNDAY MASS

FIRST READING

Job 7:1-4,6-7

Job began to speak:

Is not man's life on earth nothing more than pressed service, his time no better than hired drudgery? Like the slave, sighing for the shade or the workman with no thought but his wages, months of delusion I have assigned to me, nothing for my own but nights of grief. Lying in bed I wonder, 'When will it be day?' Risen I think, 'How slowly evening comes!' Restlessly I fret till twilight falls. Swifter than a weaver's shuttle my days have passed, and vanished, leaving no hope behind. Remember that my life is but a breath, and that my eyes will never again see joy.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R: Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.

Praise the Lord for he is good:
sing to our God for he is loving:
to him our praise is due. **R.**

The Lord builds up Jerusalem
and brings back Israel's exiles,
He heals the broken-hearted,
he binds up all their wounds.
He fixes the number of the stars;
he calls each one by its name. **R.**

Our Lord is great and almighty;
his wisdom can never be measured.
The Lord raised the lowly;
he humbles the wicked to the dust. **R.**

SECOND READING

Corinthians 9:16-19,22-23

I do not boast of preaching the gospel, since it is a duty which has been laid on me; I should be punished if I did not preach it! If I had chosen this work myself, I might have been paid for it, but as I have not, it is a responsibility which has been put into my hands. Do you know what my reward is? It is this: in my preaching, to be able to offer the Good News free, and not insist on the rights which the gospel gives me.

So though I am not a slave of any man I have made myself the slave of everyone so as to win as many as I could. For the weak I made myself weak: I made myself all things to all men in order to save some at any cost; and I still do this, for the sake of the gospel, to have a share in its blessing.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
anyone who follows me will have the light of life.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL READING

Mark 1:29-39

On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him about her straightaway. He went to her, took her by the hand and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait on them.

That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils. The whole town came crowding round the door, and he cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast out many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, because they knew who he was.

In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Simon and his companions set out in search of him, and when they found him they said, 'Everybody is looking for you.' He answered, 'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came.' And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out devils.

COLLECTIONS

	St Dunstan's	St Jude's
Gift Aid	£ 658.50	£113.00
Non-Gift Aid	£ 656.19	£ 80.00
Crib Collection	£ 677.95	£ 45.75
January Standing Orders	£1,387.00	£ 177.00

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.