

The Parish of St Dunstan and St Jude

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. Philip Harrop
Assistant Priest: Rev. Fr. John Waters
Deacon: Rev. Mr. David Fairbotham
Pastoral Assistant: Sr Catherine Burke

Telephone: 0121 444 1386
Email: stdunstan.bham@rcaob.org.uk
Facebook: St Dunstan and St Jude's
Parish Twitter: stdunstanandstjude

Sunday 31st January 2021

www.stdunstanandstjude.co.uk

Sat 30 th	<i>Our Lady</i>	11.00am 5.30pm	Holy Mass Vigil Mass	Noreen (ints), Pro Populo Louise Sullivan RIP
Sun 31 st	FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9.15am (<i>St Jude's</i>) 10.30am 12noon 6.30pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	Winnie Sumner (RIP) Colette Hickey Frank McHenry (RIP) Theresa Gallagher (RIP Anni.)
Mon 1 st Feb	<i>Feria</i>	9.30am	Holy Mass	Tracy Todd
Tues 2 nd	The Presentation of the Lord	10.00am (<i>St Jude's</i>) 7.00pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass	Mother Marie Christin and Community Margaret Stanley
Wed 3 rd	<i>Feria</i>	9.30am 5.30pm	Holy Mass <i>Vigil and Reception for</i>	Private Intention Ena Cole (RIP)
Thurs 4 th	<i>Feria</i>	10.30am 7.00pm	Requiem Mass Holy Mass	Ena Cole (RIP) Kathleen Goodwin (Ints.)
Fri 5 th	<i>St Agatha</i>	9.30am 7.00pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass	Margaret Kane (Ints.) Anthony Greene
Sat 6 th	<i>St Paul Miki and Companions</i>	11.00am	Holy Mass	Ena Cole (RIP)
		11.30am-1pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
		11.30am-12.30pm 4.45-5.15pm 5.30pm	Confessions Confessions Vigil Mass	Mrs Faye
Sun 7 th	FIFTH 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	Gerald O'Neill (RIP) Patricia Conaty Eileen Dixon Margaret Maddison

TUESDAY IS THE FEAST OF CANDLEMAS - also called *The Presentation of the Lord*. In the Jewish custom of the time, a firstborn son was taken to the Temple on the 40th day following his birth when the parents would present their son before the Holy of Holies, and offer sacrifice in thanksgiving. At the Temple Mary and Joseph are met by Simeon and Anna. These two characters of Simeon and Anna are both elderly. Yet they see what many younger eyes around them seem to miss – the presence of God in Christ among them. This serves to remind us of the importance of the more senior and experienced among us – that the old, as well as the young, are an important part of the Church of today and tomorrow. We see this especially in the role that grandparents frequently play in the passing on of the faith to their grandchildren, especially when parents show a lack of commitment or desire to pass on the faith themselves.

Simeon speaks to Mary of the sorrows that will come to her because of her son. Candlemas, therefore, is not only a last look back towards the crib, but a feast which turns our eyes towards Lenten journey to come, which in turn leads us to the cross.

Simeon calls Jesus ‘the light to enlighten the gentiles’ and so, at Mass this day, we begin with the lighting and blessing of candles, after which the priest processes to the altar – the holy of holies of the new covenant. The *Liturgy of the Word* culminates in the Gospel - describing the wonderful events in the Temple – for on this day the Lord, to whose glory the Temple was built, enters its gates in the flesh. Finally we come to the Eucharistic Liturgy where Christ comes seeking his altar-throne, and where we welcome him with joy, as did Simeon and Anna on that first Candlemas Day.

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. He was diagnosed with cancer shortly before Christmas and died peacefully at his home in the seminary last Thursday. Please remember Fr Giles and the seminary community at Oscott in your prayers.

Newspapers. Due to current restrictions newspapers cannot be left in church. If you normally get one of the Catholic newspapers, you will be able to order these for yourself from your local newsagent.

Holy Communion to the Sick and Housebound. 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.

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 exacerbated 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.

We pray for those who have died recently:, Ena Cole, Michael Butler (Requiem 9th Feb), Anita Ronca (Requiem 16th Feb), Fr Pat Joyce, Philip Green, Peter Bartram, Gladwyn Bantleman, Baby Casper, and Canon Giles Goward.

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 next Sunday 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.rpbbooks.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.

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.

COLLECTIONS

	St Dunstan's	St Jude's
Gift Aid	£ 239.00	£ 48.00
Non-Gift Aid	£ 284.84	£ 13.00

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.

READINGS FOR SUNDAY MASS

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Moses said to the people: 'The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like myself, from among yourselves, from your own brothers; to him you must listen. This is what you yourselves asked of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the Assembly. "Do not let me hear again" you said "the voice of the Lord my God, nor look any longer on this great fire, or I shall die"; and the Lord said to me, "All they have spoken is well said. I will raise up a prophet like yourself for them from their own brothers; I will put my words into his mouth and he shall tell them all I command him. The man who does not listen to my words that he speaks in my name, shall be held answerable to me for it. But the prophet who presumes to say in my name a thing I have not commanded him to say, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die.'"

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**R: O that today you would listen to his voice!
Harden not your hearts.**

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord,
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, living thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord. **R.**

Come in; let us kneel and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made us
for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand. **R.**

O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my work.' **R.**

SECOND READING

Corinthians 7:32-35

I would like to see you free from all worry. An unmarried man can devote himself to the Lord's affairs, all he need worry about is pleasing the Lord; but a married man has to bother about the world's affairs and devote himself to pleasing his wife: he is torn two ways. In the same way an unmarried woman, like a young girl, can devote herself to the Lord's affairs; all she need worry about is being holy in body and spirit. The married woman, on the other hand, has to worry about the world's affairs and devote herself to pleasing her husband. I say this only to help you, not to put a halter round your necks, but simply to make sure that everything is as it should be, and that you give your undivided attention to the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed are you, Father,
Lord of heaven and earth,
for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom
to mere children.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL READING

Mark 1:21-28

Jesus and his disciples went as far as Capernaum, and as soon as the sabbath came he went to the synagogue and began to teach. And his teaching made a deep impression on them because, unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority.

In their synagogue just then there was a man possessed by an unclean spirit and it shouted, 'What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God.' But Jesus said sharply, 'Be quiet! Come out of him!' And the unclean spirit threw the man into convulsions and with a loud cry went out of him. The people were so astonished that they started asking each other what it all meant. 'Here is a teaching that is new' they said 'and with authority behind it: he gives orders even to unclean spirits and they obey him.' And his reputation rapidly spread everywhere, through all the surrounding Galilean countryside.

THE ANGELUS

The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.
And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.
Hail Mary...

Behold the handmaid of the Lord.
Let it be done to me according to thy word.
Hail Mary....

And the Word was made flesh.
And dwelt among us.
Hail Mary...

Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.
That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray. **Pour forth, we beseech thee O Lord, thy grace into our hearts, that we to whom the incarnation of Christ thy Son was made known by the message of an angel, may by his + Passion and Cross be brought into the glory of his Resurrection. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen**