

The Parish of St Dunstan and St Jude

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. Philip Harrop
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Sunday 16th May 2021

www.stdunstanandstjude.co.uk

Sat 15 th	<i>Easter Feria</i>	11.00am	Holy Mass	Anne O'Sullivan (RIP) Pro Populo
		11.30am-1.00pm	<i>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</i>	
		11.30am-12.30pm 4.45-5.15pm	<i>Confessions</i> <i>Confessions</i>	
		5.30pm	Vigil Mass	John Connolly (RIP)
Sun 16 th	SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	9.15am (<i>St Jude's</i>)	Holy Mass	Aileen Gallagher (RIP Anni)
		10.30am	Holy Mass	Joseph Koziol (RIP)
		12noon	Holy Mass	Breid Hannigan (RIP)
		6.30pm	Holy Mass	Daniel Campbell (RIP)
Mon 17 th	<i>Easter Feria</i>	9.30am	Holy Mass	Noel Stanley
Tues 18 th	<i>Easter Feria</i>	10.00am (<i>St Jude's</i>)	Holy Mass	Brid McDonagh (RIP)
		7.00pm	Holy Mass	Philomena Tracey (RIP)
Wed 19 th	Feast of St Dunstan	9.30am	Holy Mass	Elizabeth Denne
Thurs 20 th	<i>Easter Feria</i>	7.00pm	Holy Mass	Mary Masterson
Fri 21 th	<i>Easter Feria</i>	9.30am	Holy Mass	Bridie and John O'Connor
		7.00pm	Latin EF Mass	Mark Woodcock (RIP)
Sat 22 nd	<i>Easter Feria</i>	11.00am	Holy Mass	Margaret Byrnes (RIP) Pro Populo
		11.30am-1.00pm	<i>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</i>	
		11.30am-12.30pm 4.45-5.15pm	<i>Confessions</i> <i>Confessions</i>	
		5.30pm	Vigil Mass	Eilish Byrne(RIP)
Sun 23 rd	SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST	9.15am (<i>St Jude's</i>)	Holy Mass	Liz Browne (RIP)
		10.30am	Holy Mass	Pat Fitzpatrick (RIP)
		12 noon	Holy Mass	Pat Conaghan (RIP)
		6.30pm	Holy Mass	Marion Fletcher (RIP)

This Sunday marks a bit of an 'in-between' day!

On Thursday we celebrated the feast of the glorious Ascension of the Lord. Following the Ascension, the apostles and disciples returned to Jerusalem to await the gift promised by Jesus – the Paraclete or advocate - the gift of the Holy Spirit that will come on Pentecost day. Both these feasts are celebrations of Christ's presence – not his absence! Jesus promised that he will be with his Church until the end of time. That promise still holds! We give thanks today for the many ways that Christ fulfils his promise to us – and above all in the most Holy Sacrament of the Altar.

'Caritas International' have called for an appeal for

India for the alleviation of the crisis caused by a devastating wave of the coronavirus. Caritas is the Catholic Church's international organization for crisis aid, among other things. Any donations will go towards the work they are doing on the ground in India. There will be a collection bucket as you leave Mass today for those who wish to contribute. Some of you may prefer to give online at Caritas.org.

This Saturday and in the coming weeks a good number of our young parishioners will be making their first confession in preparation for their first Holy Communion in the coming weeks. Please do keep them in your prayers over the coming days. It has been great to see a good number of parents who have been bringing your children to Mass. What you have done, and the time you have given, will be so important as they look forward to this special moment in their lives as Catholics.

Church Linens. Are there any volunteers to help with the washing and ironing of altar linens at St Dunstan's? These are mostly the small items used during the celebration of Mass – the purificators and lavabo cloths. Training will be given in how they fold etc.

Spam Mail. Please beware that if you get an email asking for iTunes vouchers etc, etc from Fr Philip or the parish, they are attempts to defraud you. Please do not respond! Please let the office know if you have any suspicious emails from the parish. Sadly, such spam mail is quite common these days.

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.*

First Friday Mass at St Jude's. Before the lockdown we have usually had a celebration of Mass on the first Friday of the month at St Jude's. There are already two celebrations of Mass in the parish on that day, but if there are enough St Jude's attenders who would come along, then that's something we could introduce. If you would come along to this Mass each month then please sign the sheet by the piety stall so that we can see what interest there is.

Prayer to Our Lady in 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 effectiveness of 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.

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.

We pray for those who have died recently: Maureen Cody, Kathleen Mannion and Margaret McCarthy.

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 on Tuesday 1st June at 7.45pm in St Dunstan's church.**

Easter Garden. A huge thank you to all who contributed plants for the garden which will be dismantled after Whitsun Sunday:

1. Plants on loan can be collected from the main entrance from Tuesday 25th May (I hope they come back as happy as they left your homes and gardens as everything was done as far as possible to care for them).
2. As the garden area needs substantial clearing some muscles are needed to help. If you are in that category and can help, please phone Bernard on 07505363791
3. If someone has a substantial sack truck, they can loan for the task of dismantling that would be much appreciated!

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.**

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.

Walsingham Pilgrimage Friday 3rd - Sunday 5th September 2021. £170 for a standard room with shared bathroom. £200 for an en-suite room. The cost

includes transport and accommodation with breakfast and dinner. A non-refundable deposit of £20 is required to secure your place and the remaining balance must be paid in full by **Friday August 20th**. Payments can be made by cash or cheque (please make cheques payable to 'St Dunstan's Church'). Payments in an envelope marked 'Walsingham' with your name, address and contact number. Please let Isabel O'Connell know if you have any special requirements e.g. diet or mobility. The pilgrimage was originally organised in 2020 but was postponed as a result of the COVID pandemic. As a result, all of the places have been allocated however it is possible that a small number of rooms may become available. If you would like to be placed on a waiting list, contact Isabel O'Connell on 07758004306.

CAFOD LIVE SIMPLY AWARD

As part of our bid for the award, the three parish Primary Schools and Bishop Challoner College are inviting pupils and their families to undertake three half-term holiday activities, based on Pope Francis's model of See-Judge-Act. As parishioners, we can also rise to the challenge of living Simply and Sustainably and in Solidarity with those in poverty by taking part. We can record our responses to the three activities below on the parish's Facebook or Twitter.

SEE go for a walk and take a photo.

REFLECT pray with Pope Francis' *Laudato Si*.

ACT turn something old into something new.

Why not pause and share in these moments together? Take a picture and share on our Parish social media pages.

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 1:15-17, 20-26

One day Peter stood up to speak to the brothers – there were about a hundred and twenty persons in the congregation: ‘Brothers, the passage of scripture had to be fulfilled in which the Holy Spirit, speaking through David, foretells the fate of Judas, who offered himself as a guide to the men who arrested Jesus – after having been one of our number and actually sharing this ministry of ours. In the Book of Psalms it says: Let someone else take his office.

‘We must therefore choose someone who has been with us the whole time that the Lord Jesus was travelling round with us, someone who was with us right from the time when John was baptising until the day when he was taken up from us – and he can act with us as a witness to his resurrection.’ Having nominated two candidates, Joseph known as Barsabbas, whose surname was Justus, and Matthias, they prayed, ‘Lord, you can read everyone’s heart; show us therefore which of these two you have chosen to take over this ministry and apostolate, which Judas abandoned to go to his proper place.’ They then drew lots for them, and as the lot fell to Matthias, he was listed as one of the twelve apostles.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R: The Lord has set his sway in heaven.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord;
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings. **R:**

For as the heavens are high above the earth
so strong is his love for those who fear him.
As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins. **R:**

The Lord has set his sway in heaven
and his kingdom is ruling over all.
Give thanks to the Lord, all his angels,
mighty in power, fulfilling his word. **R:**

SECOND READING

John 4:11-16

My dear people, since God has loved us so much, we too should love one another. No one has ever seen God; but as long as we love one another God will live in us and his love will be complete in us. We can know that we are living in him and he is living in us because he lets us share his Spirit. We ourselves saw and we testify that the Father sent his Son as saviour of the world. If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in him, and he in God. We ourselves

have known and put our faith in God’s love towards ourselves. God is love and anyone who lives in love lives in God, and God lives in him.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord; I will come back to you, and your hearts will be full of joy.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL READING

John 17: 11-19

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:

‘Holy Father, keep those you have given me true to your name, so that they may be one like us. While I was with them, I kept those you had given me true to your name. I have watched over them and not one is lost except the one who chose to be lost, and this was to fulfil the scriptures. But now I am coming to you and while still in the world I say these things to share my joy with them to the full. I passed your word on to them, and the world hated them, because they belong to the world no more than I belong to the world. I am not asking you to remove them from the world, but to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world any more than I belong to the world. Consecrate them in the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world, and for their sake I consecrate myself so that they too may be consecrated in truth’.

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.

COLLECTIONS

	St Dunstan's	St Jude's
Gift Aid	£773.90	£ 88.50
Non-Gift Aid	£535.02	£443.85