

Sacrament of Reconciliation :

By appointment only - please phone 020 8529 1804

Although all parishes in England & Wales (and in many other countries too) are not able to celebrate Mass for parishioners to attend, please be reassured that Mass is still being celebrated for you and your loved ones – but behind closed doors.

The following are the intentions that Fr Francis will be offering Mass for during the next week.

Mass Intentions 21st – 29th March 2020

Saturday	Peter Culba RIP (Howlett)	
Sunday 22nd	People of the Parish	4 th Sunday in Lent
Monday	Edith Mary Dunne (Foundation)	
Tuesday	Maria Sanches (anniv) (Bugosen)	
Wednesday	John Andrews RIP (Corrigan)	
Thursday	Annie Williams (90 th birthday) (Church friends)	
Friday	Ints Brigit Agusiobo (Agusiobo)	
Saturday	Ellen O'Sullivan (Murtagh)	
Sunday 29th	People of the Parish	5 th Sunday in Lent

Sick or housebound parishioners and former parishioners:

Elisabeth Abbott, Craig Allison, June Allison, Sue Allison, Terri Arend, Jackie Ayers, Caitlin Barrett, Jim Broderick, Tom Tom Cahill, Andy Chipperfield, Bridie Conlon, Lena Costello, Jodie Denver, Morris & Celia Duranti, Fr Paul Dynan, Mary Enright, Antonia Evans, Roddy Feeney, Mercy Fernandez, Mary George, Rikki Gill, Margaret Green, Jackie Hill, Peter Hastie, Teresa Hoban, Maureen Jayes, Simone Jones, Della Kerr, Maureen Kerrigan, Louise Lecointe, Thelma Lizarondo, Maria Ludwig, Anne Manning, Isobel Manz, Fr Jean-Laurent Marie, Pat Marshall, Margaret Metcalfe, James McNaboe, Jada Miller-Lewis, Brian O'Donnell, Charlie O'Donnell, Noreen O'Shea, Helen Parker, Maxine Pereira, Kathleen Petterson, Ana Pitts, Brigit Radcliffe, Teresa Raymond, Joe & Janr Robinson, Caroline Simpson, David Sparks, Katie Stringer, Marianne Tarrant, Sharon Taylor, Renata Wallis, Ellen Williamson & Mary Wright..

Mass Attendance last weekend was 399.

I am

The main collection was £813.53 (£446.16 envelopes and £367.37 loose). Thank you all very much indeed.

We would also like to thank parishioners who make their offerings by standing order.

Although Mass is not being celebrated in public, the parish still has bills to pay.

If you wish to make a donation to help the parish in these extraordinary times, please put your donation in an envelope and put it through the letter box at 1 Kings Road.

**Our Lady of Grace & St Teresa of Avila
Parish Newsletter**

Parish Priest

Fr Francis Coveney 1 Kings Road
Fr Jean Laurent Marie (in residence) Chingford
Sunday 22nd March 2020 London
A registered charity E4 7HP
chingfordolgsta@dioceseofbrentwood.org 020-8529 1804

4th Sunday in Lent (Year A)

Happy Mothers' Day to all Mothers.



“So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.” John 9:7

Readings 1 Samuel 16:1.6-7.10-13 Ephesians 5:8-14 John 9:1-41

Responsorial Psalm The Lord is my shepherd,
there is nothing I shall want

Gospel Acclamation Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!
I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
Anyone who follows me will have the light of life.
Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!

Weekday Morning Prayer Psalter Week 4

Lectionary: Sundays (Cycle A); Weekdays 4th week of Lent (Year 2)

For more information see: <http://universalis.com/>

Prayer of St Ignatius of Loyola:

Teach us, good Lord, to serve you as you deserve;
to give & not to count the cost; to fight & not to heed the wounds;
to toil & not to seek for rest; to labour & not to ask for any reward,
save that of knowing that I do your holy will.

FR FRANCIS WRITES

Mass is being celebrated – but in private

Although all parishes in England & Wales (and in many other countries too) are not able to celebrate Mass for parishioners to attend, please be reassured that **I am still celebrating Mass for you and your loved ones** – but behind closed doors. *And so is Fr Jean Laurent (who begins his chemotherapy this week).*

Our church is still open for prayer

Our church is still open for prayer **every day from 8.30am until dusk.**

Please continue to pray also at home with your families.

Please pray the Rosary & The Angelus: our country needs Our Lady's help & protection more than ever.

Please use the Simple Prayer Book, the Magnificat magazine & the leaflets you will find in church.

England: the Dowry of Mary

The Bishops of England & Wales have asked us all to re-dedicate ourselves & our country to Our Lady by praying each day the Angelus. **Please take an Angelus Prayer Card.**

Wednesday this week is the Feast of the Annunciation – exactly 9 months before Christmas Day. Next Sunday (29 March) our Bishops will rededicate our country as the Dowry of Mary.

Please Pray For

Syvia Toussaint who has died. Her Funeral arrangements have not yet been made. May she rest in peace.

PARISH EVENTS

Our New Junior Choir

Cancelled until further notice.

KSC Charity Quiz in the Parish Hall

The Quiz on 28 March is cancelled. We hope to reschedule the Quiz for 3 October

Parish Mission

Due to the current Coronavirus outbreak the Franciscan Friars have agreed to postpone the Parish Mission until Lent 2021.

Across Chingford

On behalf of Across Chingford I would like to say a big thank you to all who gave very generously to our appeal last weekend. Total amount raised £1,324. 60. May God Bless you all and keep us safe during these months ahead – Helen Dorgan.

Thank You from the SVP

Thank you to Fr Francis for organising the St. Patrick's Day Party and a big thank you to all those who attended. £461 was raised.

SACRAMENT CATECHESIS

First Holy Communion Program 2019/20

Unfortunately with the rapid spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, **we are now unable to safely proceed with the last two FHC classes on Saturday 28 March and Saturday 25 April.**

Once things are back to normal, we will reschedule these two classes.

We may also need to add an extra revision class to refresh the children's memory of what they have learnt.

Sadly the postponement of the classes on 28 March & 25 April means **the children will not now be prepared in time for the planned FHC dates of 9, 16 & 23 May.**

And so, with the heaviest of hearts, we also have to postpone the First Holy Communion Masses.

We are all in uncharted territory.

But we shall let you know what the new dates are as soon as we know ourselves.

Take care of each other.

God bless you,

Fr Francis Coveney

Confirmation Program 2020 - changes

Just as the candidates are getting school work electronically, so too **the**

Confirmation Programme will now

continue remotely. Tasks will be sent to the candidates by email to be completed by them and returned before the completion of the programme. **The Celebration of Confirmation can only take place after we resume public worship.**

TODAY'S GOSPEL John 9:1-9

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. His disciples asked him, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, for him to have been born blind?' 'Neither he nor his parents sinned,' Jesus answered, 'he was born blind so that the works of God might be displayed in him. As long as the day lasts I must carry out the work of the one who sent me; the night will soon be here when no one can work. As long as I am in the world I am the light of the world.' Having said this, he spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.'

A Reflection by Fr Adrian Gaffy on John 9:1-41

Once again this week we have a lengthy passage from the Gospel of John, the story of the man born blind. *Only the opening verses are given above and you are invited to complete the reading in your own Bible, by reading up to verse 41.*

This is another story of a journey in faith, which invites us to consider our own journey. The words of Jesus at the very start (verse 5) give us the theme: Jesus is the light of the world. Like the man born blind, we too have the opportunity of seeing again, seeing with greater clarity.

Even in the opening verses given above the man has already had to defend the reality of the healing. Yes, he is indeed the

man who was blind from birth and he has indeed been given his sight.

As the chapter continues he bears witness to Jesus more and more strongly and more and more indignantly. **In the end it is clear that there are none so blind as those who will not see.** The religious leaders refuse to see that Jesus brings light into the world. They refuse to acknowledge their own blindness.

It may seem strange that we have the story of David's anointing as king in the first reading. **But this reminds us that, as we were given the light of faith in baptism, we were also anointed for God's service.** St Paul tells the Christians of Ephesus in our second reading: 'You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord.'

What might we learn from the courageous witness of the man born blind?

Am I to some extent still blind and unwilling to see?

We pray for those who are still seeking the light and discouraged by darkness.

We pray for all those to be baptised at Easter.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

will be distributed when safe to do so. If you wish to join the Gift Aid Scheme to allow the parish to recover the tax you have already paid on your offerings please leave a note at the presbytery. You have to be a tax-payer to join the scheme.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO ROME

Sadly due to health concerns, the Pilgrimage has had to be cancelled. All deposits will be returned in the next few days. Hopefully, we will be able to organize a Pilgrimage to Rome next year.

EVENTS OUTSIDE THE PARISH

Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage:

This has been cancelled.