

mThe Parish of Our Lady of Mount Carmel & St Wilfrid, Selsey

The Presbytery, 12 Church Road, Selsey, West Sussex, PO20 0LS
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PARISH PRIEST: Father John Healy

6th SUNDAY OF EASTER

16th/17th May 2020

Mass is Suspended until Further Notice

Saturday	5.30pm	No Mass	
Sunday	10.00am	No Mass	
Monday		Weekday in Eastertide	No Mass
Tuesday		St Dunstan	No Mass
Wednesday		Weekday in Eastertide	No Mass
Thursday		The Ascension of the Lord	No Mass
Friday		Weekday in Eastertide	No Mass
Saturday		Weekday in Eastertide	

7th SUNDAY OF EASTER

	5.30pm	No Mass	
Sunday	10.00am	No Mass	

Sacrament of Reconciliation: *None this Saturday*

ASCENSION DAY: The familiar format above is not a “space filler” at the top of the weekly Newsletter but an important reminder that our of faith is determined by a calendar of prayer and worship. This weekly calendar is, in turn, determined by the unfolding of the great events year by year that celebrate the mysteries of that faith. After weeks of being in lock-down many people are beginning to experience time as a formless void: hours become days and nights, days become weeks, each not very different from the one before and probably from the one to follow. Our liturgical calendar can be a helpful structure around which we can order time, particularly if it is dragging during lock-down!

As a result of the current epidemic our forty days of Lent was interrupted; the three days of The Easter Triduum didn't happen; the celebration of the eight days of Easter Week was unlike any we have known. And now we are coming towards the end of the fifty days of Eastertide with the remaining great feasts of Easter – the Lord's Ascension and the Day of Pentecost – fast approaching.

Ascension Day celebrates the Real Absence of Jesus who, on this day, returned to “sit at God's right hand” leaving his disciples standing and looking up into the sky! They had known him as a friend and master since the beginning of his mission and had followed him around Galilee, into Judea and on to Jerusalem. From the day of his Ascension they were going to have to learn to know him in a new and different way. But first they went into self-isolation and lock-down (experiencing similar emotions that many people may have being experiencing during the last few weeks) before they received the Holy Spirit of God who helped them to discover the Real Presence of Jesus “whenever two or three come together in his name”; in the poor; in His Word; in “the breaking of bread;” in the Sacraments; in the Church. Every year during Eastertide we, too, learn again to belong to the Church – but this year in a very different way!

WEEKLY MASS FOR ALL AFFECTED BY COVID-19: This week's Thursday evening Mass at 7.00pm, live-streamed from a Catholic Cathedral, will be from Shrewsbury Cathedral and will be celebrated by Bishop Mark Davies. Next week Bishop Terence Drainey will celebrate the Mass from Middlesbrough Cathedral. For details visit the Bishops' Conference webpage – cbcew.org.uk – or the webpage for the individual Cathedrals.

LOOKING AHEAD: Following recent ministerial announcements in Parliament and elsewhere the beginning of July is a time to look forward to, but with a note of cautious optimism. The beginning of the opening of places of worship comes into Stage 3 starting on 4th July. However, the word is: **cautious!** It is very unlikely that celebrating Mass in public will be permitted in the first instance. Some Churches (but **not** all) will be allowed to open for personal prayer and visits to the Blessed Sacrament at restricted times and provided that they are able to fulfil the required safeguarding protocols. During the next few weeks there will be further instructions from Bishop Richard and from appropriate diocesan agencies: please be sure to read the Newsletter every weekend – on the parish website; in printed copies delivered to your door; on the two notice-boards at the Church. For further general updates you can log -in to the Bishop's Podcast and to the diocesan e-Newsletter at www.dabnet.org.

SWIMATHON 2020: We are able to publish the results of the funds raised in this year's sponsored swim at the beginning of March. Unfortunately, the lock-down was imposed soon after which has meant it has taken a little longer than previously to collect all the promised sponsorship money and allocate it to the Selsey First Responders and to our own Church Maintenance Fund. The final outcome was a donation to our chosen charity – the Responders – of £850.00p, and the rest raised of £595.00p is for the Church Maintenance Fund. Our thanks, and congratulations, to those who spent hours in the pool notching up the lengths; to those who sponsored or in others ways supported them; and those who put in the hours organising the event.

CHAPLAINCY CARE IN HOSPITAL: Please remember that if you are admitted to hospital during the present crisis – or, indeed, at any time – it is very important that you (or the family member or friend accompanying you to the hospital) informs the person admitting you that you are a Catholic. In normal circumstances this will ensure that you will receive a visit from a local priest chaplain and, if you wish, a Minister of Holy Communion bringing you Holy Communion. During the present crisis, however, visiting St. Richard's Hospital in Chichester is very restricted. It is not possible for Ministers to take Holy Communion to patients. If a patient (or relative) requests an urgent visit from a priest the Ward staff will 'phone St Richard's Presbytery and advice what safeguarding protocols are in place for that particular ward.

SUPPORTING THE PARISH: Following on from the notes in last weekend's Newsletter – that there is now a steady income flowing into the parish as parishioners continue to find ways of supporting the parish during the lock-down – we are now going to add the monthly income from those who have a standing order in favour of the parish . Adding the new standing orders to those already existing we can report that the income from this source was £248.50p for the first month.

PLEASE PRAY FOR: Joanne Donoghue, Max Foreshew, Magda Gallanti, Angela Goff, Nell Hassett, David Mortby, Brian Rogers, Cyril Wass and all in the parish who are sick.

Please speak to Fr. John if you would like the parish to pray for you, or for someone in your family.

ANNIVERSARIES: Fiona MacDiarmid, Margaret Kortens, Gerald Domone. May they rest in peace!

Collections	9 th /10 th May 2020	Offertory Collection	£145.00p
		Monthly Standing Orders	£248.50p
		Church Maintenance Fund	£45.00p