

HOLY NAME AND OUR LADY & ST. PHILOMENA PARISHES

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(Prison Chaplain) Rev. George Hamer

Fifteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

12th July 2020

Father Kevin's Desk

I can't begin to express what a joy it has been this week celebrating Mass with a real live congregation. It was obviously going to be a little weird with everyone having to wear face masks and leaving the church immediately after Holy Communion etc., however that did not detract from the joy I also witnessed on the faces of those receiving Holy Communion for the first time in over three months. It certainly has been a very strange and difficult time for everyone but please God, we can all keep safe and move forward as we begin again to celebrate Mass and other Sacraments and services on a regular basis including funerals Masses with limited numbers but without the distribution of Holy Communion.

On Monday both Fr. Thomas and I celebrate the anniversary of ordinations. Fr. Thomas is one year and I celebrate 23 years of Priesthood and although it will be a quiet celebration for both of us, I have been reflecting on the fact that almost half of my priestly life has been spent here with you. It is hard to imagine where those years have gone but I am eternally grateful for them and for the wonderful people I have had the privilege to know during these 11 years at Our Lady, St. Philomena and Holy Name. Soon however I will be moving on and I know that you will be praying for me as I will be for you during this period of transition which is always an unsettling time for everyone.

Last week Fr. John Hindley who is replacing me as Parish Priest visited our parishes and it was lovely to welcome him informally as your next PP beginning in September. I plan to take two weeks off in August and return for my final week on Monday 24th of August before actually leaving after the weekend Masses on Sunday 30th August. At this stage I don't think it will be possible to arrange a special leaving Mass as would be normal but I am sure that during that final week in August there will be an opportunity to say some goodbyes.

Whilst saying Good Bye is always a sad occasion with Jesus at the heart of our lives there can also be joy as Fr. Henri Nouwen explains;

Joy does not come from positive predictions about the state of the world. It does not depend on the ups and downs of the circumstances of our lives. Joy is based on the spiritual knowledge that, while the world in which we live is shrouded in darkness, God has

overcome the world. Jesus says it loudly and clearly: "In the world you will have trouble but I have overcome the world."

The surprise is not that, unexpectedly, things will turn out better than expected. No, the great surprise is that God's light is more real than all the darkness, that God's truth is more powerful than all human lies, that God's love is stronger than death.

Lord, help us to accept the changes that are a natural part of living especially when it involves saying 'good bye.' Fill us with the hope and joy that Jesus always brings until we are finally united together in your Kingdom where the words 'good bye' will have no place........Amen.

God Bless Father Kevin

A message from Father Kevin

Parish Income: message for those able to help!

As I am sure you are all aware, since lockdown 14 weeks ago the parish has had no income but we still have most of the usual bills to pay.

As the Church is now cautiously re-opening I would be very grateful if those parishioners who have not been effected financially during this time when you do return to Church would be kind enough to bring any envelopes or donations you may have been saving from previous weeks. I would like to stress that this message applies only to those who have not been effected financially during this crisis as sadly so many families are facing very challenging times ahead.

Offertory envelopes

For parishioners who gift aid and use offertory envelopes. A box of envelopes will be hand delivered in the week commencing 13th and 20th July.

For other parishioners who use offertory envelopes, the parish does not record your address. Offertory envelopes will be available <u>after Mass</u> in the week commencing 20th July. A separate table will be set aside and a volunteer will be on hand to safely distribute envelopes. For your own safety please sanitise your hands before and after collecting your box of envelopes.

Standing order

Given these recent extraordinary circumstances, setting up a standing order is clearly one of the best ways to support your parish financially. If you would like to do this, please email **holyname@rcaol.org.uk** or phone on **0151 476 0289**, and we will send you a standing order form. Please let us know whether it is for Holy Name or Our Lady & St Philomena. Please provide a postal address if you want the form posted, rather than emailed.

Please return the completed form to the parish office, or directly to your own bank. If returned to your own bank please let us know, or provide a copy of the form so that everything is recorded correctly. If requested, please use your name as a reference. The details on the form can be used to set up a standing order via on-line banking (the full parish name is required).

Catholic Pictorial – Latest edition

The July edition of the Catholic Pictorial is now available, bringing you news from across the Archdiocese. Please click <u>here</u> to read.

Synod 2020 – A message from the Synod team

When we set off on our Synod journey with the words '*Together on the Road*', we never imagined what God had in store for us. The last few month have been unexpected and they have taught us all that the road has many twists and turn on it and, as the Synod journey continues, God is calling us to listen, often in new and exciting ways.

Archbishop Malcolm has issued a video message and a revised Synod timetable has been published. Our Synod weekend will now take place on 18, 19, and 20 June 2021. You can watch the message and find full details of the changes on the Synod 2020 website: <u>synod2020.co.uk</u>

Woodlands Hospice Annual Forget-me-not Campaign

If you can't get out for all the right reasons at the moment our new and exciting online virtual forget-me-not meadow means that you can still dedicate a forget-me-not flower in memory of a loved one and help the hospice without leaving your home. Please help us fill our field with flowers along with a photo and message for your loved ones. <u>https://www.woodlandshospice.org/forget-me-not-2020</u>

Alternatively you can dedicate one of our beautiful metal Forget-me-not flowers which will go out on display and help Woodlands Hospice continue to improve the lives of our patients and supporting their families. To dedicate a flower visit <u>http://bit.ly/2U1D72h</u> or call Carole Riley, Individual Giving Manager on 07801 482157 for her to send you out a form to complete. Additionally, you can call Woodlands Hospice on 0151 529 2630 to dedicate a flower over the phone and pay by card and have the flower posted out to you.

Our Lady & St Philomena Catholic Primary School

Our Lady & St Philomena's Catholic Primary School are looking for a Mid-Day Assistant to help supervise pupils over lunch time. The hours are 12:00 - 13:00 daily starting in September 2020 Please contact the school office on 525 8552 or email on <u>philomenas-ao@ourlady-st-philomenas.liverpool.sch.uk</u> for further information or to express an interest in the post.

Our Lady and St. Philomena's parish group

This week we are still thinking about our way forward, as a parish, after lockdown. We express our feelings of gratitude and hope as we can come together in Mass again! We thank everyone who has made this possible. Our prayer intentions this week are:

- Monday For all of those who we will miss when we return to Mass
- > Tuesday For our volunteers who are doing a great job in keeping us all safe
- > Wednesday For the sick and housebound to always feel part of our celebrations of Mass
- > Thursday For those in despair, through grief, job losses or financial hardship
- Friday For teachers and school staff who have met many challenges through this time
- Saturday For our own intentions
- Sunday For our priests and parishioners

We remember in our prayers those who have died recently: Dave Rankin, Joan Common, Gilbert Corke, Anne Murphy, Ann Fitzgibbon, (Baby) Albie Cooper, Joseph Stone, Anne Eagan, Ellen (Nellie) Cox, Margaret Dunn, Bishop Vincent Malone, Peter Jones, Nora Ellison, Elizabeth Doran, John Phelan, Christine Cavanagh, Mark Lynn, Catherine Young, Rose Anne Cowan, Margaret Rita Woods, Edward Crawford, George Chaderton, Bernard Joseph Riley, May they rest in peace

<u>Mass Times, Services & Intentions</u> Saturday 11th July – Sunday 19th July 2020

	F	loly Name
Saturday 11 th	6.00pm	Mass (Parishioners)
Feast of St Benedict, Abbot, Patron of Europe. Day for Europe		
Sunday 12 th	11.00am	Mass (Jose Ramos Estabillo, 2 nd anniversary)
Sea Sunday		
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME		
Monday 13 th	NO MASS	
	10.30am	Funeral Mass – Dave Rankin
Optional Memorial of St Henry		
Tuesday 14 th	9.00am	Mass (Tony Walsh) [Please note different time]
Optional Memorial of St Camillus of Lellis, Priest		
Wednesday 15 th	10.00am	
Memorial of St Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor		
Thursday 16 th	NO MASS	
Optional Memorial of Our Lady of Mount Carmel		
Friday 17 th	10.00am	Mass (Lillian and Gillie Corcoran)
Saturday 18 th	6.00pm	Mass (Angela Campion)
Our Lady on Saturday		
Sunday 19 th	11.00am	Mass (Recently deceased)
SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME		
	Our Lad	y & St Philomena
Sunday 12 th	9.30am	Mass (Pat Paxton)
Monday 13 th	10.00am	Mass (Lily Doran)
Tuesday 14 th	NO MASS	
Wednesday 15 th	NO MASS	
Thursday 16 th	10.00am	Mass (Peter Jones)
Friday 17 th	10.00am	Mass (Paul Dainty)
Sunday 19 th	9.30am	Mass (Parishioners)

When coming to Church for a Mass or funeral, a face covering must be worn.

Due to a huge reduction of places in Church, would those who are able please attend Mass during the week and not on Saturday Night/Sunday, as the Sunday obligation is temporarily suspended and we don't want to turn anyone away if possible.

The number of mourners at a funeral remains limited to a maximum of 30, and to maintain social distancing, only invited family and friends should attend the funeral.

We plan to continue streaming one live Mass at either Our Lady & St Philomena or Holy Name each day. Please note our churches are not open for private prayer.