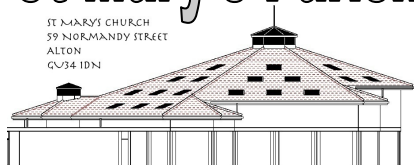


St Mary's Parish Newsletter



ST MARY'S CHURCH
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PRIVATE MASS ONLY

PUBLIC MASSES TO RESUME 4TH JULY

(WITH RESTRICTIONS)

MASS INTENTIONS

w/c Sunday 5th July, 2020

14th Sunday of the Year (A)

(Psalter Week 2)

Saturday	<i>Our Lady on Saturday</i> Intention of Fr. James
Sunday	<i>14th Sunday of The Year</i> The People of The Parish
Monday	<i>Feria</i> Teresa Carling, RIP
Tuesday	<i>Feria</i> Intention of Fr. James
Wednesday	<i>Feria</i> Intention of Fr. James
Thursday	<i>Feria</i> Intention of Fr. James
Friday	<i>Feria</i> Fr. Seamus Hetherington, RIP (Archdiocese of Southwark)
Saturday 5.30pm	<i>St. Benedict</i> Theresa Carter, RIP
Sunday 10.30am	<i>15th Sunday of The Year</i> Amy & Leonard Gilbert, RIP
Confessions:	<i>Please email or call the Parish Office for an appointment</i>

The Regina Caeli

Reader: *Queen of Heaven, Rejoice, Alleluia*

All: *For He whom you did merit to bear,
Alleluia - Is risen, as he said, Alleluia
Pray for us to God, Alleluia.*

Reader: *Rejoice, and be glad. O Virgin Mary.
Alleluia.*

All: *For the Lord is risen indeed, Alleluia.*

Reader: *Let us pray.*

All: *O God, you gave joy to the world through
the resurrection of your son, Our Lord
Jesus Christ, grant, we beseech you, that we
may obtain, through His Virgin Mother,
Mary, the joys of everlasting life.
Through the same Christ, Our Lord. Amen*

Reopening the Church for Public Mass THE DISPENSATION FROM SUNDAY OBLIGATION REMAINS IN PLACE

**PLEASE FOLLOW THE GUIDANCE
OF THE STEWARDS AT ALL TIMES**

**PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN MASK
(and gloves if you wish)**

Following the recent announcement by the Bishops of England and in accordance with Government and Diocesan Rules I am delighted to say that it is hoped to open St. Mary's Church for Public Mass on the weekend of the 11th and 12th July.

The following rules will be in place in accordance with COVID19 directives.

The Church will have, until further notice, a maximum capacity of 40 persons.

To be fair to all, there will be a booking system in place. You will need to supply your name, address, telephone number and e-mail address. You may only book for yourself, in the case of a family (living in the same house) you may register your family, including all the names of those wishing to attend on your booking application. Booking will be by phone(**82030**)—if no reply, please leave a message and your contact number. or email (stmarysalton@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) Making a request is not a guarantee of a place. Please wait until you receive an email or phone call to confirm. Given the limited number of persons per Mass, it would be appreciated if you would limit your bookings, initially, to once per month to give all those who wish, a chance to attend.

Upon arrival, please queue 2metres apart and wait for a Stewards to invite you in. Once inside, please sanitise your hands and wait to be directed to your seat.

Places you may use will be marked.

In Church please continue to wear your mask, which should only be removed for Communion.

Holy Communion will be ministered by the Priest alone and only under one kind, namely under the form of Bread. Holy Communion may only be received directly in the hand (gloves may not be worn at this point.).

At the place where Communion is to be distributed, a small table will be placed to socially distance the Priest from Communicants.

When approaching, Communicants should do so with arms at "full stretch" so that there is a good distance between themselves and the Priest. Hands, palms upwards, one on top of the other, should be extended as flatly as possible.

The Stewards will direct you at Communion time when a one way system will be in operation.

1 Meter rule applies.

There will be no mass sheets or books in use.

The Sign of Peace will not be exchanged during Mass. There will NOT be an Offertory Procession. The bread and the wine to be used during Mass will be prepared before-hand and kept safely on the Sanctuary.

There will NOT be a pause during Mass for the Offertory Collection so please place your offering in the basket which will be available inside the Church.

There is fresh encouragement for members of the Parish to make their offerings by Standing Order or Direct Debit. If you would like further details and/or a form, please email the Secretary :

stmmarysalton@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

For the present time singing is not permitted at Mass as it increases the risk of transmission of the virus.

No cushions or soft furnishing are permissible and until further notice the toilets and halls will be closed.

This is allow the teams to clean and sterilise the Church after each Service, in accordance with the COVID 19 regulations .

These measures are in place for your protection and the protection of the community..

I would respectfully request that the vulnerable and over 70s, for their own health and safety, avoid the Saturday and Sunday Masses. I intend to have a weekday Mass for this group once we have established the weekend Masses. At this Mass, the Church capacity will be reduced to 30 persons, therefore allowing for more social separation. Further details to follow.

In accordance with COVID 19 regulations, Masks and gloves should be disposed of at home and not in the Church or its grounds. This is to protect the stewards and cleaners and others in the community.

Please DO NOT socialise after Mass in either the Church or Car Park.

Further details will follow as I have been informed that the Diocese is preparing revised rules in accordance with recently released Government directives and therefore the information above may be subject to change in the next few days.

Yours in Christ, Fr. James

Thought for the Day

Prayer begins through our recognition of ourselves as creatures, finite and yet aware of something greater. It is an impulse that takes us outside of ourselves, inspired by the expectation of some deeper meaning or the longing for an infinite existence. Prayer doesn't issue from a sense of resignation about our condition but rather from a sense of hope: There must be something more. Through the act of prayer, a person attempts to reach beyond the boundaries of space and time and touch something transcendent, some ultimate Other who is responsible for everything that exists. Prayer expresses an all-pervasive longing for happiness, not in terms of emotional satisfaction but in terms of personal fulfilment. The impulse that grounds the act of prayer is an unconditional and sensitive openness to that which transcends all the ins and outs of everyday life. Prayer addresses the basic questions of human existence.—from the book

[*Inspired: The Powerful Presence of the Holy Spirit*](#)

by Fr. Gary Caster

**'Come to me, and I will give you rest'
O God, who in the abasement of your Son
have raised up a fallen world,
fill your faithful with holy joy,
for on those you have rescued from slavery to sin
you bestow eternal gladness.**

There is a very welcome thread of joy and encouragement woven throughout the readings for this Sunday.

The First Reading is a foretelling of the joyous Kingdom over which Jesus will reign, and a prophecy of his triumphant entrance into Jerusalem before his death and resurrection. His way is a way of simplicity and humility, bringing peace to all nations.

Today's Psalm is at the heart of Jewish worship, and is recited three times a day. It joyfully declares that God our King rules the whole of creation with compassion and love; he is faithful and lifts up all those who are bowed down.

In Paul's letter to the Romans, we are reminded that we are not fully alive until we wake up to the reality of Christ's Spirit living within us (Second Reading).

It is in this same Spirit that Jesus declares in the Gospel – that he is one with the Father, and that all things have been entrusted to him. He invites all those who are overburdened to come to him, for his yoke is easy, his burden light.

The Spirit of Christ living within us gives us hope, that even in the midst of the trials of our times, Jesus is with us, sharing in our suffering, carrying us in ways that we may not yet even recognise. Let us pray that we, as the body of Christ in the world today, will have the courage and strength to carry compassionately all those who feel weighed down by the effects of the recent pandemic.

Diocesan Safeguarding Commission

Our Diocese of Portsmouth is seeking to re-establish a professional and credible Safeguarding Commission, who can provide leadership and strong oversight in the development of safeguarding practice across the Diocese, in the context of wider developments in safeguarding within the Catholic Church. We are seeking a number of skilled and experienced professionals who are passionate and committed to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable people and sympathetic to the teachings and ethos of the Catholic Church, with capacity to undertake this important volunteer role. You will need to have comprehensive knowledge of safeguarding legislation, policy and procedure and be able to advise on best practice. With a background in statutory services such as: social care, police, probation or health services, you will need specific experience as a senior safeguarding professional within your organisation.

Volunteers are sought for the following roles:

Chair of the Commission - you will play a strategic role in the ongoing development of safeguarding across the Diocese. As a Chair, you will have significant experience of chairing multi-disciplinary meetings, demonstrating strong, inspiring leadership skills, and a passion for safeguarding the vulnerable.

Member(s) of the Commission – you will provide support to the Chair in the ongoing development of the safeguarding work across the Diocese. Providing scrutiny and oversight on the work of the Diocesan safeguarding office, you will assist in ensuring arrangements are appropriate, continuously evaluated and developed.

We are specifically (but not exclusively) seeking Commission members with a background in children's social care, adult social care, and policing. If you wish to have a discussion regarding the above opportunities, in the first instance please contact Ruth Attfield, Diocesan Safeguarding Coordinator. rattfield@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk