



R.C. Parish of the Sacred Heart,
North Gosforth.
Bulletin:
5th April, 2020

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CORONA VIRUS EMERGENCY:

THERE ARE NO PUBLIC SERVICES, AND THE CHURCH MUST REMAIN CLOSED, UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

THE PRIEST WILL SAY THE MASSES RECEIVED FOR YOUR INTENTIONS, BUT WITH NO-ONE PRESENT.

This Weekend: Palm Sunday

Intentions: Parishioners / Douglas Welsh

Next Weekend: EASTER SUNDAY

Intentions: Parishioners / John Lynn

Feasts and Mass Intentions during the week.

Monday	April 6	Monday of Holy Week	Not public	Tony Grant
Tuesday	April 7	Tuesday of Holy Week	“ “	Eileen Patterson
Wednesday	April 8	Wednesday of Holy Week	“ “	Ray Carroll
Thursday	April 9	HOLY THURSDAY	“ “	Private Intention
Friday	April 10	GOOD FRIDAY	“ “	No Mass today
Saturday	April 11	HOLY SATURDAY	“ “	No Morning Mass

A VERY STRANGE HOLY WEEK!

Dear friends, we must continue with the shut-down of all religious services. The government also ordered the closure of most public buildings, including all churches. Given our long tradition of having the church open all day, every day, this has hit us hard. In Friday's edition of *The Times*, a Catholic writer, Melanie McDonough, argued that if allotments and off-licences were regarded as "essential facilities to be kept open", why couldn't the same be said of churches?

This is the main week in the whole of the Church Year. Palm Sunday marks Jesus' entry into Jerusalem - a seemingly triumphant event, with a crowd throwing palm (and other) branches on the ground in front of Jesus, and shouting that he was their long-awaited Messiah. However, this started a process of confrontation with the religious authorities in the city that would lead to his execution the following Friday. Unlike the Pharisees, with whom Jesus had had ding-dong arguments all through his public life, the Jewish leaders in Jerusalem were on good terms with the Roman administration, and so were far more dangerous. Thus, the week that began so spectacularly well on Palm Sunday ended equally spectacularly - but badly - with Jesus' arrest and execution by the Romans. This was at the request of the Temple High Priest and his colleagues. Elsewhere on our website you'll find some excellent photos of our parish symbols that we use in Holy Week, along with some prayers and a short commentary from me. These apply to Palm Sunday, Holy (Maundy) Thursday and Good Friday.

If you follow the weekday readings for the Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday of this week (you'll find them either in a missal, or on the home page of our website, in the Daily Service section, when we join up for prayer at 7pm), you'll see that the first reading each day is taken from the strange "Suffering Servant" bits in the Prophet Isaiah. Who or what this person was is a mystery. (Perhaps he represents the whole people of God?) In any event, he is maltreated by others, even though he is innocent, and trying his best to bring justice and peace. Possibly, Jesus saw his own work and suffering in terms of this suffering Servant of God; certainly, the early Church saw it that way. The last of the four readings about this servant is on Good Friday, when we read: *He was despised, and we took no account of Him; and yet, ours were the sufferings he bore; ours, the sorrows he carried. He was pierced-through for our faults, crushed for our sins.* Sombre words for sombre times. On the other hand, many are rallying round to help people whom they don't know. Good Friday led to Easter Sunday; darkness to light; death to life. Please keep well! *Fr Jim.*

Please pray for the dead:

Recently Dead: **Dorothy Glancey**, of Weetslade Court, after long illness;
Bill Stewart (75), at St Joseph's Home; he was a cousin of John & Sheila Cunningham.
Current rules mean that both funerals must be private, and not open to the general public.

Anniversaries:

Ann Robertson	Tony Grant
Bernard Wilson	James Linton
Matthew Walker	Ray Carroll
Nora Arkle	Billy Mann

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

Please pray for those who are ill, and their carers:

Irene Farnel	Daniel
Helen Causier	Julie
Michelle Wilkinson	Mark Bennett
John Hutchinson	Natasha Rose
Margaret Custis	Marie McGinity
Fr. David Tanner	Dorothy Emmerson
Fr. Richard Harriott	Betty Alder
Terry Donnelly	Reg James
Nicola Gauld	Maureen Keddy
Michael Bowers (Sen)	Julie Yoeart
Susan Hope	Roger Gray
Albert	Caroline Dixon
Fr Tony Duffy	Anna Zuccaroli
Anne Marie Troy (Dublin)	Fr Arthur Nearey (Salford)

Lord, pour out the Spirit of your love on them.

The Sacraments of Family Life

During the present emergency there can be no baptisms/weddings here.

Thank you for your Generosity:
Final donations: CAFOD family fast = £58.70.

The parish thanks you for your continuing support.

**NORTHUMBERLAND
VICARIATE ; SEATON
DELAVAL PARTNERSHIP:**
the parishes of Annitsford, Blyth, Cowpen,
Cramlington, New Hartley, & North Gosforth.

**CORONA VIRUS: URGENT
MEASURES: SEE PAGE 1
It MAY still be possible to hold the
First Communion Mass on Sat June 13**

MASS INTENTIONS

If you would like to request mass for a special intention during the coronavirus disruption, please put the name of the intention, the day you would like it for and your name on an envelope with the Mass offering, and post it through the Presbytery letterbox, or send an email or phone Fr Jim.

CONTACT WITH OUR COMMUNITY

We have a large list of email addresses. So over the last week regular emails have gone out to keep people up to date with what is going on in the parish. If you haven't been receiving these emails and would like to, please email jo.a.shepherd@googlemail.com. If you know of people who would like to hear from the parish but do not use email, perhaps we can text them with information. With their permission email their phone number to jo.a.shepherd@googlemail.com.

**SUPPORT FOR THE SICK AND HOUSE
BOUND**

Ged Downey is co-ordinating our support for the sick and housebound. He is pairing up all those on Fr Jim's list for sick visiting with a volunteer who will be a prayer sponsor. As long as the sick person wishes it, the volunteer will also be invited to make telephone contact with their partner and keep in touch with them, to be a friendly voice at the end of the phone line. If you know of anyone who would benefit from this support, please let us contact Ged on 01912421718 or 07740336459.

PUBLICATIONS

The new Easter editions 'Bible Alive' and 'Living Faith' are available from the church porch. Please pay for them by putting the money in an envelope and post it through the Presbytery letterbox. Sunday Mass sheets and other prayer resources are also available from the church porch.

EASTER DUTIES

Cardinal Nichols has produced a video explaining what will be happening in the Church regarding Easter Duties. You can watch the video on the Diocesan website: www.rcdhn.org.uk

A PRAYER FOR OUR PARTNERSHIP:

Risen Christ, from your abundant grace, pour out afresh your Holy Spirit upon our Diocese. As we build on the deep foundations of faith, laid by the countless saints of our Northern lands - by Oswald, Aidan, Hilda, Cuthbert, Wilfrid and Bede, may our Seaton Delaval Partnership continue its mission to build your Kingdom on Earth. May we give living witness to the love, compassion and hope you offer to our world. We pray in trustful confidence that your power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

KEEPING IN TOUCH

Until we can all be together again, please keep checking the parish website and a new FaceBook page, 'Parish of the Sacred Heart North Gosforth'; plus the Partnership Facebook page, 'Seaton Delaval Catholic Partnership'. Some people may not have access to the internet, so please reach out to them and help to keep them informed.

DAILY CALL TO PRAYER

To join in each evening at the 7.00 pm Call to Prayer, why not stop what you are doing and sit together as a family, light a candle, and follow the very simple order of service you can find on the website and on the FaceBook page. Just go to the Sacred Heart website and click on 'Order of Service'. There is a short liturgy and a brief word on one of the day's readings from Deacon John.

Fr Jim will be saying Mass each day - see the bulletin in the 'WeeklyNotices' section of the website for the intentions. One way to keep in touch with that might be to read the readings of the day, perhaps at the normal Mass times. You can use the link <https://www.universalis.com/Europe.England.Westminster/mass.htm> to get the readings. If you like to pray the Stations of the Cross, the images of our own stations are on the website together with a traditional text.

**FREE ACCESS TO THE APRIL EDITION OF
THE NORTHERN CROSS**

The April edition of the *Northern Cross* has had to go digital. To contact them please send your name and email address to norcross@btconnect.com
To obtain your free *Northern Cross*, simply click the PDF on the northerncross.org.uk home page, from Friday 3rd April.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

During Holy week we will be uploading to the parish website materials for each of the services. It may also be possible to upload some of our own music. We will start today with Palm Sunday but then add the services of the Triduum: Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday. The presentations will give a sample of the prayers and readings of the services alongside images which will include the elements we use in our church. The presentation will also include a reflection by Fr. Jim. You may wish to sit quietly at the time when we would be gathering for the services in more normal times: -

Palm Sunday - normal Mass times

Maundy Thursday - 7.00pm

Good Friday - 3.00pm

Holy Saturday - 6.30pm

Easter Sunday - normal Mass times.

You may wish to light a candle, put on some appropriate music and quietly read through the whole service. You may prefer to scan through the service and pick out a prayer or a piece of scripture that you speaks to you. If you only read one part, then perhaps Fr Jim's reflection may be the thing to read.

On Holy Saturday evening it would be good if in every home in the parish we lit a candle to represent the Paschal Candle. Perhaps we may even be brave enough to light a fire in the garden and from that fire light our candle.

Then on Easter Sunday morning we could all pray together in our own homes before holding our own egg jarping competition, producing many champions. When we can come back together perhaps we will be able to find the champion of champions!

LINKS THAT MAY PROVE USEFUL

<https://www.churchservices.tv/timetable/> - a schedule of services that are streamed live throughout the day from churches across the UK and Ireland
<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2020/03/No-Mass-A5.pdf>
this is a service provided by the bishops to use if we cannot get to Mass.
<https://www.universalis.com/Europe.England.Westminster/mass.htm>
this gives the readings of the day
https://www.catholic.org/bible/daily_reading/ - this allows you to listen to the readings
<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/word-of-the-day/2020/03/18.html> - this gives the reading plus a thought from the Pope
<https://www.pathwaystogod.org/lent-retreat-2020-reflections-for-each-day-in-lent>.
<http://www.usccb.org/bible/reflections/> - daily videos from US bishops
https://www.taize.fr/en_article27540.html - daily prayer from Taizé at 7.30pm

And with children:

<https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Children-s-liturgy> - CAFOD are providing a virtual children's liturgy.

Please check Jo Shepherd's regular emails for updates of useful websites, or add your name to the list for emails at jo.a.shepherd@googlemail.com.

NORTH TYNESIDE COUNCIL

Since our church sits within the boundaries of North Tyneside, we have been contacted to be ready if necessary to offer support in their efforts to look after the vulnerable members of the community. They may need our hall as a depot and they may need volunteers to deliver food and medicine or to make phone calls to check on the wellbeing of vulnerable people. If they come back to us, we will reach out to the parish for volunteers.

DIOCESAN REFUGEE PROJECT

http://www.rcdhn.org.uk/social_concerns/justice_and_peace_refugeenew.php Sadly the Diocesan Refugee project has had to temporarily close during the current crisis. All food donated up to last week has been given to the West End Food Bank, the busiest food bank in the country. However, the project is still trying to support financially the 140 clients who are the most destitute. These are the refugees whose application for asylum has been rejected. Therefore they do not receive any state financial support whatever during the appeals process. So if anyone is able to donate money to the project, it will be gratefully received. Their bank details are:

Bank: HSBC
Account: DHN Destitute Asylum Fund
Account number: 52854058
Sort Code: 40-34-18

FR. JIM'S TAILPIECE

(1) Mrs Jackson answered the doorbell one evening. On the doorstep was a young lady, who asked very politely if she was prepared to give a donation. The charity lady added: "We're collecting for the local home for drunks, so would you be willing to offer something?" Mrs Jackson replied: "Not just a this moment; but come back later, when the pubs are shut, and you can have my husband..." (2) Bill and Daisy met at the local OAP lunch club. They became friends; things progressed so far that, one evening, Bill treated Daisy to a special dinner and said: "I know we're really getting on in years, but will you marry me?" The next morning, Bill woke up, thinking of the lovely evening he had spent with Daisy - then went into a panic: had she said 'yes', or not? He couldn't remember. In the end he just had to telephone her, to find out the answer. To his relief, she didn't seem angry. She said: "I've been worried all morning. I remember saying 'yes' - but I couldn't remember who to..."