

**ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (Solemnity)**

Reading Cycle A

Psalter Week 4

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> August 2020

Chaplains:

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**THE CHURCH IS NOT OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER THIS WEEK.  
MASSES IN THE WEEK**

<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>15<sup>TH</sup> AUG</b>	<b>FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY</b>	<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Charles Fry and Johanna Newell</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>16<sup>TH</sup> AUG</b>		<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Cowley and Millar Family</b>

<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>17<sup>th</sup> AUG</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>		
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>18<sup>th</sup> AUG</b>	<b>Weekday in Ordinary Time</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Margaret Roche</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>19<sup>th</sup> AUG</b>	<b>REQUIEM MASS</b>	<b>12.00pm</b>	<b>Bernard Driscoll</b>
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>20<sup>th</sup> AUG</b>	<b>ST BERNARD (Memorial)</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Ellen Chisholm</b>
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>21<sup>st</sup> AUG</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>		

<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>22<sup>nd</sup> AUG</b>	<b>21<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME</b>	<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Walsh Family</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>23<sup>rd</sup> AUG</b>		<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Ann and John Parker</b>

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK, ANNIVERSARIES AND THOSE WHO HAVE RECENTLY DIED:**

We pray for those in our families or in our Parish Community who may be sick, housebound, worried or in need. We ask that the love of the Lord be with them and all who are in self isolation during the coming week. To all our parishioners who are indisposed we pray that they may receive every grace and blessing. We pray especially for the Repose of the souls of David Hassan, Mary Ellen Bridge (Eileen) and Bernard Driscoll who have died recently. May they Rest in Eternal Peace + We also pray for Kerry Ackland and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time. Let us not forget to pray for all those who have died and for their families, as well as a prayer of thanks to those working in our hospitals and care homes.

**CANDLES FOR SICK & HOUSEBOUND** Each week votive candles are lit by you, they last approximately 2hrs. You will have an opportunity to buy a 7 day candle which will be left either at the Sacred Heart and Our Lady's Altar for the duration of a week. The charge will be £5. A second candle will be lit for the sick and housebound. Candles for specific people will continue to be lit each week. **This week's candle will be lit for Elizabeth and William Prosser**

**PRAYERS:** It is our duty to pray for each other, for those who are sick and those who care for them. But I also ask your prayers for the Chaplains who sit with those who will die, then with the families and then to stand at the graveside bringing the Peace of Jesus, to these broken families. I remember my good friend at Llandough, Peter Davies RC Chaplain, and Dave Pritchard at the Heath.

**EXAM RESULTS:** Let us remember all our young people who have already received their A-Level results and those who will receive the results of their O-levels this week. We congratulate all those who have received the results that they hoped for and in these unprecedented times those who will need to go through the appeals process, we wish you well.

**'THE FORGOTTEN ARMY'** August 15<sup>th</sup> this year marks the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the end of all hostilities in the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War. While peace arrived in Europe in May 1945, those fighting in the Far East continued until Japan's surrender in the wake of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki atomic bombs. The war in the Far East, also commonly known as 'the Burma Campaign', was the longest campaign fought by the British and Commonwealth armies in the Second World War. Let us remember those who gave their lives in war so that we can enjoy the freedoms we have today.

**GOING INTO HOSPITAL?** Please let your parish priest know as he will be pleased to celebrate the Sacrament of the Sick and/or any pastoral support you need, as the team of priests who currently provide 24/7 cover are under a great deal of pressure and therefore no guarantee that a priest will always be available at any particular time. If you know any Catholic already in Hospital who needs a visit or sacramental support please leave details with the Cardiff & Vale Hospital Chaplaincy 029 20743230

**GIFT AID COLLECIONS;** Would people who ‘gift aid’ their collection please put your contributions in a plain envelope with your name on it and drop it into the ‘bucket’ on your way out of Mass. The new ‘Gift Aid’ envelopes will be available in a few weeks time. Parishioners who do not ‘gift aid’ please put your contributions also into the bucket until envelopes become available.

**CONTACT:** As I said before, you have my telephone number but I don’t have yours. So if you want a chat or are in need of help please phone me and leave a message so I can get back to you.

**WHAT’S NEW ON THE WEBSITE:** The readings for the day will hopefully be posted each day as well as other items of interest. There are links on the website which may help you with your devotion.

**SAFEGUARDING:** Please click on the link for Helplines and Information on the website homepage.

**ON-LINE MASS:** There are many sites which stream Catholic Masses. Links are on the Website Eg.

<http://www.catholictv.org/masses/catholictv-mass> Daily Mass ( On Demand)

<https://www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-mary-of-the-angels> Daily Mass

**The obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains suspended.**

### **MESSAGE FROM CANON MIKE**

I was overcome with grief last Friday when I failed to travel to my time-share in the South of France with the wife and kids ! Truly, I was a little downhearted when for the first time in 50 years I failed to cross the Irish Sea. A little different from St Tropez! Those who have travelled are maybe now finding on their return they must isolate for 14 days. So it’s a tent in Grange Gardens this year !

Whenever people travel they encounter the Lord, as the last sentence in this Sunday’s first reading states

**“ Those who travel, if they care for justice , act with integrity,  
it is then we will meet in my House, which is called a House of Prayer for all peoples.”**

How many of us who come to the ‘House of Prayer’ act with integrity and justice?

Our Prayer and Worship is useless, without foundation, unless it is based upon integrity and justice. Prayer is more than just words. The motto of the Cistercians is “ Laborare est Orare -- to work is to pray “

Parishes without integrity and justice are failing the Command of the Lord. We are no longer fellow travellers with Jesus. Our journey becomes one of isolation. We travel alone rather than as a Community of believers who makes their Parish Church a living Church , a House of Prayer which gives them the Power and the ability to put into action the dictates of the Lord.

Coronavirus has affected the whole world: North, South, East and West. People’s attitudes differ towards the epidemic, but the epidemic has no respect for humanity. Believers and Non Believers have been and will continue to be affected even to the point of death.

Parish life throughout the world has changed. People’s attitudes to Mass attendance has changed; will we ever get back to weekday Mass? As I write, Sunday Obligation is still non-obligatory, Some are not attending due to isolation, old age or sickness. Whilst others have got a liking to “attending Mass” via the TV or Internet.

Do you think that the Vatican could or should look with new understanding of this issue, because it has affected the whole Church?

I have printed out an article on this subject from the “Tablet”. This is at the end of the newsletter. It made me think that we still remain followers of the Lord whatever the outcome of Sunday Obligation.

So continue to pray and act with integrity and justice so that people will find here in St Patrick’s a living, vibrant Community of Believers, who meet and act on the teachings of the Lord.

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### **Just a few reminders.**

**In order to comply with the Social Distancing rule of 2 metres the maximum number of people attending each Mass will be 50. Available seats will be marked with a green tick.**

**There are no paper newsletters, no lighting of candles and the piety shop is closed.**

**PLEASE DO NOT USE KNEELERS. THESE MUST REMAIN IN AN UPRIGHT POSITION.**

**When it is time for Holy Communion which is at very end of Mass, please stay in your place until the steward invites you to come forward. Even if you are not receiving, please join the line.**

After you have received Holy Communion please leave the Church through either of the porch doors. You will not be able to return to your place so please take your bag with you when you go up for Communion. Also if you need to see me for any reason please sit in one of the transept pews so that the exit is unobstructed. Be careful on the steps as you go through the porch. There is one step into the porch and two more as you step outside.

A steward be there with a bucket for the retiring collection.  
Please leave the grounds of the Church and maintain Social Distancing at all times.

### LIFE'S LIKE THAT!

Once you realise we are all mad,  
life starts to make sense



A naval officer met a pirate in an inn and couldn't help noticing that the pirate had a wooden leg, a hook and an eye patch.

"How did you get the wooden leg?" asked the officer.

"Well" said the pirate "we were in a storm at sea and I was swept overboard into shark-infested waters. And one of the sharks bit off my leg."

"That's terrible" said the officer "How about the hook? How did you come by that?"

"Well" said the pirate "we were boarding an enemy ship and in the heat of battle my right hand was sliced off by an enemy swordsman."

"How terrible" said the officer "And the eye patch?"

"A seagull dropping fell into my eye"

"You lost your eye to a seagull dropping?"

"Well, it was my first day with the hook."

"The car won't start" said a wife to her husband, "I think there's water in the carburettor."

"How do you know?" said the husband scornfully.

"You don't even know what the carburettor is!"

"I'm telling you" insisted the wife "I'm sure there's water in the carburettor"

"We'll see." said the husband patronisingly. "Let me check it out. Where's the car?"

"In the swimming pool".

A coach load of tourists arrived at Runnymede. They gathered around the guide who said "This is the spot where the Barons forced King John to sign the Magna Carta"

One of the tourists asked "When did it happen?"

"1215" said the guide.

"Damn" said the tourist looking at his watch.

"Missed it by half an hour".

### A meaningful life

is not being rich, being popular, being highly educated, or being perfect. It's about being real, being humble, being able to share ourselves and touch the lives of others.



During the rounds of his barns in a remote country area, a farmer came across a parachutist who had landed in a bale of hay.

"What happened?" asked the farmer

"My chute failed to open"

"Ah well, if you'd asked the locals before making your jump, they'd have told you that nothing round here opens on a Sunday."

*Thought for the week*

# THE TABLET

## *COVID REVEALS HIDDEN TRUTHS*

Until the end of last month , the practising Catholic population of the United Kingdom was approximately zero – if by ‘practising Catholics’ is meant someone who attends Mass on Sundays and Holy Days. Even now with the Church doors half open, normal Catholic life remains disrupted.

So one truth the Coronavirus has unearthed is that Christian discipleship cannot simply be defined by participation in the liturgy. The obligation under Canon Law to hear Mass every Sunday cannot be re-imposed as if nothing has happened.

The distinction between the ‘practising’ and the ‘lapsed’ -- meaning ,essentially non-practising -- Catholic has been in effect, dissolved. Not all those who were once practising, in this sense, will return to weekly Mass-going. This does not mean that they no longer live by the Gospel. Indeed, if the virus remains endemic in the population long-term , large gatherings of the faithful such as in a typical parish, on a typical Sunday, may be a thing of the past.

Masses have continued to be celebrated, of course, with the invisible congregations watching at home via computer screens. Much praise is due to those who have kept things moving, and, anecdotally at least, this unusual procedure has concentrated hearts and minds on neglected distinctions between good liturgy and bad. But it has also placed a focus on the community present at Mass, and how we feel when it is absent. Catholic parishioners may not communicate verbally with each other very much , but being in each other’s presence does have a transformative effect.

Even more significant, watching remotely is not just a poor substitute for ‘being there’, but a different kind of reality. To be in the real presence of the Body and Blood of Christ is to be where Heaven and Earth are mystically joined. The God who created the Universe becomes present in this small space, among His people. This is, as Vatican II’s decree *Lumen Gentium* declares, the ‘source and summit of the Christian life’.

Medieval churches had tall spires rising above the tree tops so people could see from afar the place where this miracle happened. Stand close to the base of the spire and look upwards, and it becomes an infinite column, reaching above and beyond the sky. It is a symbol, as the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* condescendingly puts it “ of the heavenly aspirations of pious medieval men”. They obviously knew something they were later forced to forget.

All these glimpses of truth and many others have been uncovered by the coronavirus earthquake, and remain to be collected and used. It would be a shrewd move by the bishops’ conferences of these islands if they were to commission research into this episode and the effect it has had on the faith of the People of God, knowing that Providence leaves nothing wasted, even disasters and their consequences.