

# OUR LADY OF LOURDES, ROTTINGDEAN and ST. PATRICK'S, WOODINGDEAN



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Priest: Mgr. Benny O'Shea 07802 791394

Deacon: Rev. Neil Mercer 07801 706167

Also resident: Canon Oliver Heaney and Canon Daithi Foley



The Parish is part of the Diocese of Arundel & Brighton Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No.252878

**PLEASE NOTE** that due to COVID-19, the celebration of Mass in our church will take place without a public congregation. For the time being, masses including those requested for your intentions, will continue to be celebrated in private. Re: Live Streaming from OLOL. Please check Newsletter for LINK

**PLEASE CHECK THE PARISH WEBSITE REGULARLY FOR ANY UPDATES**

## Services and Intentions

## THE WORD WHO IS LIFE

Sunday 17 May	6.30pm (Sat.) 10.30am	Vigil Mass Sixth Sunday of Easter	People of the Parish Mary Timlin R.I.P (R)
Monday 18	9.00-9.55am 10.00am	Adoration Mass <i>St. John I</i>	Grant Butler R.I.P. (A)
Tuesday 19	9.00-9.55am 10.00am 10.30am-12.30pm	Adoration Mass <i>St. Dunstan</i> Eucharistic Adoration	Margaret Campbell R.I.P. (A)
Wednesday 20	9.00-9.55am 10.00am	Adoration Mass <i>St. Bernadine of Siena</i>	Peter Crumbley R.I.P.
Thursday 21	9.00-9.55am 10.00am  ** 8.00pm	Adoration Mass <i>The Ascension of the Lord</i>  <i>Holy Day</i>	Intentions of Pat and Clive Mudd (Diamond Wedding Anniversary)  **Celebrant's Intention
Friday 22	9.00-9.55am	Adoration Mass <i>St. Rita of Cascia</i>	Fr. Douglas Perkins R.I.P. (R).
Sunday 24 May	6.30pm (Sat) 10.30am	Vigil Mass Seventh Sunday of Easter	People of the Parish Roger Craven R.I.P. (A)

**Please Note:** - EVENING PRAYERS THIS WEEK at 7.00pm on – MONDAY & WEDNESDAY

**Please remember in your prayers** our recently deceased parishioners, Fr. Douglas Perkins, Eileen Stevens, Michael Leech, Mary Timlin, Theresa Burnett-Lloyd, Veronica Wishart, Peter Sharp, John Cheong, Kay Tidbury, David Stainthorpe, Moira Morris, Kathleen Healy, Christopher Jordan, Aidan Power, and Mary Hoban. May they rest in peace. Remember also their families at this time.

## FEAST OF THE ASCENSION – THURSDAY 21st MAY

The 'Great Commission' given by Jesus to his Disciples – '*Go make disciples of all nations, baptise them and teach them to observe all his commands*'. As Disciples of Jesus TODAY we might reflect on our own commissioning, asking if we, and our community are '*fit for purpose*' at this time in history. How do we celebrate Christ's ongoing presence? Do we listen carefully to his words and teachings in Scripture. Do we communicate that teaching and the spirit of Christ to others. How 'welcoming' is our parish community to others.

Personally, as a disciple, am I faithful to my commitment to follow Christ through a life of prayer and service to others?

One question we might ask as a community -are we fit for that most fundamental purpose, the reason why we exist as a Christian family – TO BE WITNESSES to the risen Christ, TO ALL PEOPLE. What a daunting task! However, we need have no fear for Jesus is with us ALWAYS – in word and sacrament and community- and he has sent us the Holy Spirit to give us power and confidence for our mission.

Let us pray for each other that, by our collective commitment to the Lord we may fulfil our role as His Faithful Witnesses in our world today. In this way we can lead others to come to a knowledge and love of Him.



**PLEASE PRAY** for all our sick parishioners who are in nursing homes or housebound, listed in our chapels, but especially for Alison Stainthorpe, Sami Ghazal, Sophie Reilly, Ann Chapman, John Heal, Sandra Waugh, Eileen Cross, Carole Goudy, Victor Hopkin, Eileen Noakes, Una McLaughlin, Veronica Westbury, Gabriel Arthur, Patricia and Joe Collins.

Please let Fr. Benny know if you would like a name added.

**Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School** There are two vacancies for Foundation Governors and one for a Co-opted Governor. If you are interested in being considered for one of these vacancies, please follow the Link on the parish website for further information and an application form.

**\*\*\*Our Lady of Lourdes School** has a project to help the Whitehawk Food Bank. Donations of food, especially tinned items, drinks, toiletries, etc. can be left on the porch steps of the School. The SVP can arrange collection if necessary. Phone Ann: 01273 301252 or Eve: 01273 303126. For collection from the Woodingdean area, kindly contact [zoegarbarz@lourdes.brighton.hove.sch.uk](mailto:zoegarbarz@lourdes.brighton.hove.sch.uk)

**Very many thanks** to Ian Watson who has made it possible for us to have mass on line at Our Lady of Lourdes. The link for live-streaming is <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCc4VXBr3EOa43nCxxzB-Edw>

**SVP Help Line** During this period many people need our support and help. If you know of anyone who needs help, the SVP are on hand to look after the needs of our neighbours, be it shopping or giving support and advice when necessary. Please contact Ann Knox on 01273 301252, e.mail: [john273knox@gmail.com](mailto:john273knox@gmail.com)

**MEAL DELIVERY SERVICE** St. Margaret's and Our Lady of Lourdes have been involved in organising a distribution service of hot lunches (£6 per head) on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. If anyone is interested, please ring Ann (301252) or Eve (303126). The meals will be delivered to your door by a volunteer group.

**Visits to the Sick/Hospital/Housebound:** If you know of anybody who is sick please contact the Parish Office with details.

**Weddings, Baptisms and First Holy Communion** – These celebrations are postponed until a time that allows for families and friends to gather safely within our churches.



## **Fr. Douglas Perkins R.I.P.**

**Parishioners can log on to the Web to watch Father Douglas' funeral service taking place on -- FRIDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> MAY @ 1.00pm**

### **Details**

**Go to the website Link given below, then type in the Login ID and then the Password:-**

**<https://www.wesleymedia.co.uk/webcast-view>**

**Login ID: 30928**

**Password: tbyvhhta**

**MAGNIFICAT – UNIVERSE & CATHOLIC TIMES** (Now Amalgamated)– **TABLET -BIBLE ALIVE – MY DAY by DAY** - **MASS LEAFLETS** with Readings etc which we usually have in our Churches on Sundays. If you regularly purchase any of the above in the Church Porch and would like to continue to receive the latest editions – **YOU CAN EITHER:** - **Pick them up from the steps by the Presbytery/Parish Office Door.** Alternately, **if you are unable to collect please leave a message on the Parish Office Phone (01273 302903)** with your Name/Tel No and Address- **OR** send an e-mail to: [ololandstp@outlook.com](mailto:ololandstp@outlook.com) with these details and Newspaper, Booklet or Mass Sheet you request will be sent to you via Royal Mail.

**Our Lady of Lourdes & St. Patrick's – MASSES - LIVE STREAMING**

**Link:** <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCc4VXBr3EOa43nCxxzB-Edw>

**SEE PARISH WEBSITE -[www.ololandstp.org](http://www.ololandstp.org) FOR ALL UPDATES**

Details of Masses on line:

[St Mary of the Angels, Worthing](#) - you can access an online Mass responses sheet [here](#).

[St Dunstan's, Woking, Sacred Heart, Hove, Sacred Heart, Caterham, St Paul's, Haywards Heath](#) will be streaming via Facebook, their page can be accessed [here](#). Christ the Prince of Peace, Weybridge  
Additional services will also be available further afield: [The Shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham](#) offers a 12 noon online Pilgrim Mass each day, a selection of previously recorded services and a [prayer request](#) facility. [Church Service TV](#) provides live streaming from churches around the country. [Heavensroadfm.com](#)

The website, [www.ChurchPaper.co.uk](#), contains the latest editions of the newspapers: A&B News, UCM News (Union of Catholic Mothers) Reach - Catholic Schools Paper

## Cardinal Nichols on 'Easter Duties' and the forgiveness of sins

At this time, we are coming nearer to Holy Week - to that most important week in our year. The week in which we celebrate with real solemnity, the final events of Our Lord's life. His entry into Jerusalem, His last supper with His apostles, His death on the Cross on Calvary, His entombment; and, of course, the glorious Resurrection of our Saviour from the dead.

Now, this year, with great distress and sadness, we know we will not be able to come together to celebrate these great days and we will have to do the best we can by the means that are at our disposal.

Now, I want to talk about a very important aspect of this.

You will know that it is an obligation on all Catholics to fulfil what is known as their 'Easter duties'. This is to receive Holy Communion at Easter time, or thereabouts, and it's often coupled, with the desire or the need to go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

I want to say with all clarity that this obligation is removed from us this year - in the same way as it is not an obligation on us to attend Mass on Sunday, because these circumstances make it impossible. So, too, the obligation to our Easter duties is removed.

I would not want anyone to be burdened by the thought they are failing to fulfil

their Easter duties. You are not. Now, also at this moment, we can recover another part of our Catholic tradition, a bit like the act of spiritual communion, which comes to our aid in times of great distress and difficulty.

It is the teaching of the Church that the Lord, in His mercy, will forgive our sins, even our grievous sins if we cannot go to Confession - go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation - as long as we make what is termed a perfect Act of Contrition, and resolve to confess our serious sins when we next have the opportunity to do so.

As I say, this is part of a deep Catholic tradition. It's not something new thought up for these very difficult circumstances.

So let me explain a little more.

What the Church teaches us, is that God in His mercy, forgives our sins when we are truly sorry for them. And when we turn to Him and express our sorrow in an Act of Contrition, it's called an Act of Perfect Contrition when its focus is on the mercy and the love of God rather than on the burden of our guilt.

So to make an act of Perfect Contrition, we simply need to turn to God and be, as it were, overwhelmed by God's mercy, and then express in our own words or in the words of the traditional Act of Contrition, the sorrow we feel for our offences against the goodness of God.

When we do that in all sincerity of heart, we may rest assured that God forgives our sins and that we come away from that Act of Perfect Contrition freed from those sins.

And, as I say, the only thing we have to remember is, when it is possible to make a Confession again, that we mention the grievous sins which were forgiven by this Perfect Act of Contrition.

You might say, well, why do we have to go to Confession and name our sins?

Part of the reason is often we don't really own them until we name them. And in the act of naming our serious sin, then we take hold of them and hand them over to Jesus on the Cross, because he takes on the burden of our sin.

And we, for our part, when we have that opportunity, name it to the priest who is there representing the person of Jesus and his mercy. So we can approach Easter with a clear conscience. And we can make use, under these extreme circumstances, of this great tradition of the Church. Through

it, the Lord forgives our sins that we may enter fully into the joy of the Resurrection.



## Coronavirus indulgences evoke Francis' 'ridiculously-pardoning' church

This article appears in the [Coronavirus](#) feature series. [View the full series.](#)

**ROME** — Announcement of the Vatican's offering of new plenary indulgences to those around the world affected by the coronavirus may have left some Catholics asking, "We still do that?"

The answer is yes. And theologians say the move, made [in a March 20 decree](#) from the apostolic penitentiary, shows a seemingly unprecedented level of pastoral care for those who suffer from the virus — especially those who may die in isolation without being able to receive final rites.

Jesuit Fr. James Corkery, an Irish theologian at the Pontifical Gregorian University, said the decree fits with Pope Francis' vision for a "merciful, welcoming, 'ridiculously-pardoning' church.

### Special Indulgence for the COVID-19 Pandemic

During these extraordinary days, we know that the ways in which we normally experience the working of grace through the Church have largely been suspended.

We cannot be physically present at Mass; the Sacrament of Reconciliation is almost impossible because of closed churches and social distancing and even the anointing of the sick and dying may be severely curtailed. However, through all of this Christ never abandons his people and all the baptised continue to make up the Body of Christ. To assure people of the certainty of grace and mercy, even without the normal recourse to the Sacraments the Holy Father has granted the gift of a *Plenary Indulgence* to all those affected by the Corona Virus in various ways. This extends to those suffering from the virus, their families, Healthcare workers and the general Faithful who are concerned at this time.

This moment of grace is an opportunity for us to be more completely free from the effects of sin. It can encourage us on our pilgrim path through these difficult times as we are assured of the Lord's healing, forgiveness and the promise of Eternal Life. The requirements for the Indulgence, which are set out in the Decree are gentle and achievable and form a wonderful opportunity for us simply to pray for each other at this time. Now across the world, when people are *staying apart to draw together*, we can all draw together across the Universal Church in this powerful act of Faith and Hope.

*Pope Francis on the importance of 'COMMUNITY – TOGETHERNESS' 'They (early Christians) went as a body to the temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.' AA 2:46-47*

Extract from his Homily (17<sup>th</sup> April), in which the Holy Father reflected on how the Apostles and disciples were **with** Jesus, **in** community, **not** isolated, and how in this way, the Apostles' familiarity with the Lord had grown. "We Christians too, in our life's journey are in this state of walking, of progressing in familiarity with the Lord," Francis said, noting being Christian requires a daily familiarity with the Lord. The Pope reminded how they ate **together**, spoke **together**, and spent quality time **together**. This familiarity of Christians with the Lord, Francis said, is **always of community**. "Yes, it's intimate, it's personal but it's **in** community. A familiarity **without** community, **without** Bread, **without** the Church, **without** the people, **without** the Sacraments," Francis stressed, "is dangerous."

"It could become — let's say — agnostic familiarity, a familiarity only for myself, detached from the people of God. The Apostles' familiarity with the Lord was always that of community, it was always at table, sign of community; it was always with the Sacrament, with the Bread." Pope Francis went on to analyse how we are 'together' spiritually, but not really together, and that the people connected with their priests and bishops only have Spiritual Communion. "And this," he underscored, "isn't the Church: **this is the Church of a difficult situation, which the Lord permits, but the ideal of the Church is always with the people and with the Sacraments – always.**" **They knew it was the Lord, they shared everything: the community, the Sacraments, the Lord, peace and celebration.**"

Knowing that the Mass is being celebrated; joining in spiritually in that celebration; watching the live-streaming of the Mass; following its prayers at home; making an act of spiritual communion: this is how we share in the Sacrifice of Christ in these days. These are the ways in which we will sanctify Sunday, and indeed every day.

An Act of Spiritual Communion is the best way for union with Christ.

***My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament***

***I love you above all things and I desire to receive you into my soul***

***Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally***

***Come at least spiritually into my heart***

***I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you.***

***Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen. St. Alphonsus Liguori***