

Parish of Saint Conval - Weekly Bulletin

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) 25th / 26th July 2020

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Parish Priest: Canon Michael McMahon



Please Pray For Those Who Are Sick: James Keenan, Frank Murray, Winnie Deighan, George Cowan and for those who are working so hard to care for the sick especially those who work in our hospitals.

Please Pray For Those Whose Anniversaries Occur About Now: Robert Ure, Joe McGunnigal and for the month's mind of Bobby McColgan, Ann and William McAdam, Maria Devlin and Annie Muggins.

Praying For You: For any parishioners interested in promoting and praying for those within the Diocese who have asked for prayers, please visit: <https://rcdop.org.uk/prayingforyou>

In The House Porch there are copies of the Bulletin, Mass Sheets, Census Forms, Standing Order Forms, Gift Aid Packs, Financial Statement, Paper and Pens.

Remember Fr. Michael has asked the young people of the Parish to contribute a drawing or sketch on a given topic. Paper and pens available in the house porch - help yourself! Theme for next weekend's illustration is 'The Feeding of the 5000'. Please put your name and class on the picture. Fr. Michael is offering a prize for the best one! Winners of the best illustrations from previous weeks are; 'Holy Spirit' - Mia Kidd, 'Last Supper' - James, 'Jeremiah' - Joseph, 'Peter and Paul' - Shannon, 'Jesus and the Children' - Anna McIntosh, 'Parable of the Sower' - Joseph, 'Wheat and Weeds Growing Together' and 'Treasure' - entries still being made... Nice big bar of White Chocolate in the Porch for each of you (one each!).

Fr. Michael is attempting to compile a database of the Parish to help us stay in touch with one another - there were no records kept by previous Parish Priests. Please take a Census Form and complete it, returning it to the House (outside door of House Porch accessible). All data held in accordance with GDPR.

Financial Support: You have continued to be generous in your financial support of the Parish, thank you. We are currently realising around 60% of our usual donations despite you not being able to attend Mass and the employment challenges of the moment. Fr. Michael is most grateful to you for your generosity and thoughtfulness - we are in some ways out of sight but for you not out of mind! Many thanks!

The Announcement made by the First Minister recently has made it possible to open our Churches for the Public Celebration of Mass. This phase proves to be a little tricky as will have to gather the details of those who come - so that we can track and trace should any infections ensue. SO please continue to be patient and attend Mass on-line if you prefer, all public Celebrations of Mass will be livestreamed. There is more information below and fuller details are on the back of the Bulletin.

Fr. Michael has ensured that the Church environment is suitable for the Public Health requirements - we have a one-way system for entering and leaving the Church, please enter by the main door sanitising hands on entering, maintaining physical distancing, etc. Stewards will direct you down the main aisle to a seat, please stay in it and leave by the side aisles and the side door. When the Church has been open, we will require cleaning after each open period. Thank you for volunteering to help with these tasks of stewarding and cleaning, we now require more volunteers for both tasks to allow more opening times. The Parish has provided volunteers all the necessary supplies but if visiting please wear your own face covering (and, if you wish, gloves). It will be important for us ALL, while we rejoice to be back in Church, to ensure that our Churches do not become a source of infection spread, so we will err on the side of caution always. Please be patient so that we do not undo the steps we have made in these long weeks of lockdown, which have been so testing for us all in so many ways, be patient with volunteers who steward and clean also - this is a steep learning curve for us all and a stressful time!

So the schedule for this week is:

Saturday, 25th July: Vigil Mass at 5.30pm celebrated with Congregation and Live Streamed
CHURCH OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER from 5.00pm until 7.00pm

Sunday, 26th July: Mass at 10.30am celebrated with Congregation and Live Streamed
CHURCH OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER from 10.00am until 1.00pm

Tuesday, 28th July: Mass at 10.00am celebrated with Congregation and Live Streamed
CHURCH OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER from 9.30am until 12noon

Thursday, 30th July: Mass at 6.00pm celebrated with Congregation and Live Streamed
CHURCH OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER from 5.30pm until 7.00pm

Saturday, 1st August: Vigil Mass at 5.30pm celebrated with Congregation and Live Streamed
CHURCH OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER from 5.00pm until 7.00pm

Sunday, 2nd August: Mass at 10.30am celebrated with Congregation and Live Streamed
CHURCH OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER from 9.30am until 12noon

Continued Overleaf

For the first two weeks of August, the Paisley Fair, Bishop John asked all the Diocesan Offices to close, to avoid scheduling meetings, sending emails and making calls, to give everyone a wee break from the challenges of the past 4 months. Unfortunately, Fr. Michael goes back to 'normal' working on 11th August when the schools go back! However, he will take a few days off from 3rd to 7th August.

We will vary our opening hours and public celebrations of Mass in the subsequent weeks when we have volunteers to steward and to clean afterwards, times in the Bulletin, Website, Facebook, etc. All helpful suggestions are welcome!

The Diocese Has Advised Fr. Michael And All The Parishes As Follows:

Mass with a Congregation MAY now be celebrated in line with restricted congregation and with the necessary stewarding and sanitising measures in place. Baptisms, Marriages and Funerals may be celebrated with restricted congregation, Churches continue to be open for private prayer with the necessary stewarding and sanitising measures in place.

At Sunday or weekday Mass the maximum number of participants is 50 (we can accommodate 40 in St. Conval's)

At a celebration of Baptism the maximum number of participants is 50

At a celebration of Marriage the maximum number of participants is 20

At a Funeral the maximum number of participants is 20

Always subject to the physical distance rule of 2 metres

Face coverings must be worn at all public Masses or Liturgies

N.B. No congregational singing, no leaflets or hymn books, no Votive candles and Church buildings to be well ventilated

For the Distribution of Holy Communion in St. Conval's Holy Communion will be distributed at the usual time.

The Priest will pray the Act of Spiritual Communion for those who cannot receive Holy Communion, he will sanitise his hands immediately before distributing Holy Communion and again afterwards, both Priest and the communicant will wear a face covering.

In place of the words "Body of Christ" for each communicant, before the Celebrant receives Holy Communion, he may say the words "May the Body and Blood of Christ keep us all safe to eternal life", to which the congregation responds, "Amen". Please remain in your place, standing if you wish to receive Holy Communion, or seated if you do not. In accordance with the national protocol on Infection Control, Holy Communion is to be received in the hand for the duration of the pandemic.

The communicant should extend his / her hands to receive the host the Priest will place the consecrated host in the communicant's hand.

The communicant should step 2 metres to the side, pull down their face covering and consume the host.

The offertory collection will be collected as the parishioners enter or exit the Church, placing the offerings in baskets or containers left for the purpose. (In St. Conval's, the offertory collections should be placed in the basket at the main door when entering and any second collections should be placed in the basket at the side door when leaving.)

So For Us In St. Conval's: We have set up an internet Booking Form to request a place at Mass in the coming week. Please use this link rather than emailing the Parish, we seem to have evolved a useful method and timings for booking, so on the link that follows, requests for a place at Mass are available from 7 days until 24 hours before the celebration of Mass on the Internet, from 24 hours until 2 hours before the celebration of Mass telephone bookings to the Parish can be requested. Fr. Michael will send you an email or call you back to confirm you have a place, you can come on spec if you wish and if there is space, we will be delighted to welcome you but cannot guarantee a place! Our link for Internet booking is

<https://forms.gle/ZU2pJCq3s2GyFHnA8>

this will centralise and manage booking for us in a way that will avoid errors and misunderstandings - we hope! If there is a place available, you will receive an email (normally 24 hours prior to the Mass) confirming your booking request. There is no Obligation to attend Sunday Mass at the moment. If you are assigned a place, please arrive in good time (as places still vacant at the time Mass is due to begin will be given to those not able to book in advance), please tell the Stewards who you are - to indicate your presence on the sheet that lists those attending. Please wear a face covering. Please follow the direction of the Stewards and occupy only the seat you are given. Please do not wander around the Church. At the end of Mass please leave by the side door following the direction of the Stewards, so that we can keep our distance as we leave. The Church will remain open after Mass for prayer. We will try to evolve our plans to accommodate the demand in the weeks ahead. The reason why there is not Mass daily at the moment is that we require to clean the Church between each Celebration and, as Fr. Michael has had two Funerals a week during lockdown, this will leave a couple of days in the week when Funerals can be celebrated with the family without having to call people who have booked to tell them they may not attend. If you have booked ahead and then discover you cannot attend, please call to inform us, and someone else can take your place. This has worked well through our first few celebrations - so thank you for your cooperation, for your patience and understanding.