

# SAINT PATRICK'S CHURCH

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25<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2021

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

10.30am Parish Mass

*(The People of the Parish)*

Mon 26<sup>th</sup> April - Easter Weekday

Tue 27<sup>th</sup> April - Easter Weekday

Wed 28<sup>th</sup> April - Easter Weekday

12 Noon Mass

*(Vocations to the Priesthood,  
Diaconate and Religious Life)*

Thur 29<sup>th</sup> April - Easter Weekday

Fri 30<sup>th</sup> April - Feast of St Catherine  
of Sienna, Virgin, Doctor of the  
Church, Patron of Europe

Sat 1<sup>st</sup> May - St Joseph the Worker

2<sup>ND</sup> MAY 2021

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

10.30am Parish Mass

*(The People of the Parish)*

## LATEST NEWS

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS** This Fourth Sunday of Easter is known as Vocations Sunday or Good Shepherd Sunday and is marked as the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. The purpose of this day is to fulfil Jesus' instruction to "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send labourers into his harvest" (Matthew 9:38). While appreciating all vocations, the Church concentrates her attention on raising up shepherds for God's people - vocations to Holy Orders (the priesthood and diaconate) and to the religious life - while encouraging all who are discerning their vocation to pray more earnestly that they may hear and respond to God's call. Today the Holy Father has asked all Catholic to intercede for vocations. Will you make a special effort to ask the Lord for more vocations to the priesthood and religious life?

- Pray for the priests who have ministered to you throughout your life, both living and dead.
- Keep our parish priests and deacons in prayer throughout the week.
- Encourage your children or grandchildren to consider a vocation as a priest or religious brother or sister.
- Pray a rosary for more young men and women in our diocese to respond to God's call.
- Keep our Seminarians and all who are discerning a vocation in your prayers.
- Pray for Deacon Stephen Corrigan and Joseph Meigh who are in priestly formation for our diocese at St John's Wonerish.

**PLACE SUNDAY MASS AT THE HEART OF OUR PANDEMIC-LIVES** The Catholic Bishops of England and Wales have issued a reflection on post-pandemic recovery and the challenges faced by the Church in encouraging people back to the Church and her Sacraments. In a reflection titled *The Day of the Lord*, the Bishops also praise families, parish communities and those who have worked tirelessly in hospitals, care homes, schools and prisons during these challenging times of ill-health, grief and isolation. The Bishops salute the leadership of our priests and also express gratitude for the 'immense efforts' of those who have provided food for those most in need. The Bishops recognise that it is impossible to predict the pace at which we will emerge from the pandemic but state "what is clear is the challenge we face of bringing our communities and the practice of the faith to a still greater expression and strength." They identify the groups of people they are seeking to reach:

- Those who have lost the habit of coming to church and who may be anxious about doing so.
- Those who may not want to re-establish a pattern of Catholic worship – who may have seen a gap widen between the spiritual dimension of their lives and any communal expression of that spiritual quest.
- The 'Covid-curious' who have encountered the Catholic Church for the first time during the pandemic.



The Bishops highlight the strengths, the “veritable treasures” of the Catholic Church as being the tools at their disposal to rise to these challenges. The greatest treasure is, of course, the sacramental life of the Church and at its heart, the Eucharist. “It is the Eucharist, the celebration of the Mass, that makes the Church; and it is the Church, in the gift of the Holy Spirit, which makes the Eucharist. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the lifeblood of the Church. It requires our active participation and, to be fully celebrated, our physical presence. “We face the task of seeking to nurture the sense of Sunday as ‘a weekly gift from God to his people’, and something we cannot do without; to see

Sunday as the soul of the week, as giving light and meaning to all the responsibilities we live out each day; to see the Sunday Eucharist as food for the unique mission with which we have been endowed.” The text is available at [www.cbcew.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2021/04/Day-of-the-Lord-220421.pdf](http://www.cbcew.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2021/04/Day-of-the-Lord-220421.pdf)

**MAY PRAYERS FOR THE END OF THE PANDEMIC** Pope Francis is inviting Catholics across the globe to dedicate the Marian month of May to praying for an end to the COVID-19 pandemic. The initiative, behind which the Pope has thrown his support, involves 30 Marian Shrines from various parts of the world. It takes place under the theme “The whole Church was fervently praying to God,” which recalls a verse in the Acts of the Apostles. See [www.vaticannews.va](http://www.vaticannews.va) for more details. As part of this initiative will pray the rosary and other Marian devotions in St Patrick’s throughout the month of May before the Wednesday at 11.30am.

**MARY’S MEALS** Pray in May - Since our humble beginnings, Mary’s Meals, named after Mary the Mother of Jesus, has been built on a foundation of prayer and the many little acts of love from those who support us. This May, the month traditionally dedicated to Our Lady, we invite you to join us in prayer to celebrate the wonderful work of Mary’s Meals and give thanks that we are now reaching more than 1.8 million children with a nutritious meal in 19 countries every school day. We also pray for God’s continued blessing on our beautiful mission, that through His providence it will always flourish, enabling us to reach more hungry children. You could offer your prayerful support in a number of ways such as praying the Rosary for our work or offering a Holy Hour. You will find inspirational resources for our Pray in May campaign, including our prayer card, on our website. <https://www.marysmeals.org.uk/prayinmay> Thank you for remembering Mary’s Meals in your prayers. God bless you all.

**BOOKING FOR MASS** We are thankfully seeing a gradual return to Mass now that so many have been vaccinated. If you have not yet celebrated your Easter communion, we look forward to seeing you soon. Mass is celebrated on Wednesday at 12noon and Sunday at 10.30am. Please remember that booking is still required to attend Mass to ensure right numbers for social distancing. We will increase the number of masses as the number of people booking rises. The booking link is: [www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/st-patricks-catholic-church-corsham-30646123644](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/st-patricks-catholic-church-corsham-30646123644). If book and you later find that you do not require the place, please let us know or cancel it through Eventbrite to enable another person to come to Mass. Covid regulations mean that sadly we are still not permitted to sing as a congregation. Masks are required (unless medically exempt) Communion is given in one kind on the hand only. Please observe the one-way system in Church: the car park door is for ENTRANCE only and the Bath Road door for EXIT only. If we all observe these regulations, we help to keep everyone safe. Thank you.

**GOOD COUNSEL NETWORK** “Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> April, is the 53<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the abortion act coming in to effect. Since then, over 9 million babies have been aborted in the United Kingdom. Please join us that day in praying and fasting for the end of abortion in this Country. [As we are in the Easter Season, please limit your fasting to some small sacrifice] [www.GoodCounselNetwork.com](http://www.GoodCounselNetwork.com)”

**CAFOD** Thank you for your generous donations to CAFOD’s Family Fast Day during Lent. We featured Marian and her son Svondo in Zimbabwe in Lent 2018. The community vegetable garden that your donations helped provide is growing well and during the pandemic the family has survived on the vegetables. Your support has also helped to provide soap and handwashing stations in the garden and in family homes. This is just one of many long-term development projects that CAFOD has funded with the money from that Fast Day. Thank you for your steadfast support.



**THE REGINA CAELI** (Queen of Heaven) replaces the recitation of the Angelus for the duration of the Easter season before 12noon Masses. There are copies available at the back of the Church to take away. "Rejoice and be glad, O virgin Mary, Alleluia! For the Lord is risen indeed, Alleluia!"

**ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL IN BATH** is seeking a deputy head teacher for September 2021. Full information can be downloaded from the 'Our Community' section of our website [www.st-marys.bathnes.sch.uk](http://www.st-marys.bathnes.sch.uk) Closing

date is Sunday, 2nd May with interviews on 12th and 13th May.

**THURSDAY EVENING ZOOM PRAYERS** The prayer session organised by Pat Ruffell & Cath Elms is open to everyone and continues through Eastertide. It is approximately 15 minutes long and starts at 6.30pm each Thursday (excluding Holy Thursday). You can join from 6.20pm. Email [thurs.pray@gmail.com](mailto:thurs.pray@gmail.com) for joining details.

**CAFOD CLIMATE CHANGE PETITION** This year, the UK will host the largest gathering of world leaders ever to take place on British soil: the 'COP26' climate talks in Glasgow in November. As Prime Minister, Boris Johnson must push world leaders to show the ambition we need to keep temperature rises below the disastrous 1.5-degree threshold. This means that all countries must play their part. With the eyes of the world on the UK, we must urge the Prime Minister to make sure communities hardest hit by the climate emergency are listened to at COP26. Please sign our petition at [www.cafod.org.uk/reclaim](http://www.cafod.org.uk/reclaim)

**DARE TO DREAM** This inspiring and resource from Clifton Diocese continues throughout this Easter Season. See [www.cliftondiocese.com](http://www.cliftondiocese.com) for full details.

**MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER AND ENGAGED ENCOUNTER** New dates for marriage preparation (Engaged Encounter) and Marriage Encounter opportunities are now available. Information and dates regarding events organised by Marriage Encounter can be found by visiting their websites: <https://engaged-encounter.org.uk> & Home - World Wide Marriage Encounter England and Wales ([wwme.org.uk](http://wwme.org.uk)) The dates and venues: Marriage Encounter Experiences 15/16 May - online video conference experience. 10/11 July - non-residential weekend - Savio House, Macclesfield. (Covid permitting). Engaged Encounter (marriage preparation) 17 and 24 April - online video conference experience. 19 and 26 June - online video conference experience.

**SUMMARY OF POPE FRANCIS GENERAL AUDIENCE** Wednesday April 21<sup>st</sup>. Dear Brothers and Sisters, in our continuing catechesis on Christian prayer, we now consider the importance of vocal prayer. In our dialogue with God, he first spoke to us through his own Word made flesh. He invites us in turn to speak to him in words that embody our deepest thoughts, emotions and experiences. Words do not only express our ideas, they also shape us and often reveal us to ourselves. In the inspired words of the Book of Psalms, we find a model of vocal prayer. The Psalmist gives us the words to bring our joys, fears, hopes and needs to God and to share with him every aspect of our lives. The prayer of the heart and the prayer of our lips can never be separated. As the Catechism tells us, "vocal prayer is an essential element of the Christian life" (No. 2701). Through our spoken or chanted prayer, alone or in common, we find the words that enable us to grow daily in our relationship with God. Prayer thus quietly becomes an essential part of our lives, like the air we breathe. When the disciples asked Jesus to show them how to pray, he responded by teaching them, and us, the words of the Our Father.

**PLEASE HELP TO RENOVATE OUR STATUE OF SAINT JOSEPH** Please pop your donation in an envelope marked 'St Joseph' and post it in the presbytery letter box if you can help. The statue has now been stabilized and St Joseph is back in Church! We now need to restore the statue. Thank you to those who have kindly contributed so far!

**RUH** If you or a loved one is going into the Royal United Hospital, please let the RUH Chaplaincy know on 01225 428331 or email [ruh-tr.chaplaincy@nhs.net](mailto:ruh-tr.chaplaincy@nhs.net)

## Saint Patrick's Community at Prayer

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

**The Sick:** Coleen Milne, Tony Tredgett, Richard Keat, James Gallagher, Karen Lucas, Sheila Taylor, Christopher Brawl, Julia Wright, Pauline Feeney, John Hunt, Margaret Brown, Lindsay Price and Christopher. Pray for all suffering with Coronavirus, all in our hospitals, nursing homes and those who care for them.

#### **Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life**

**The Holy Father's May Prayer Intention:** The world of finance: That those in charge of finance will work with governments to regulate the financial sphere and protect citizens from its dangers.

**Diocesan Prayer Link:** Assumption of the BVM, Chippenham & St Patrick, Corsham

**Christians in Corsham Prayer Link:** Corsham Baptist Community

## May - Month of the Blessed Virgin Mary



*Devotion to Mary is an important part of the Catholic identity. As our mother she is an example of a committed "Yes" to the will of God. Because of the devotion to her many people ask her for help in the most difficult moments of their life as any child does with his mother. The month of May is one rich in tradition and a beautiful time of the year to honour our heavenly mother.*

O Mary, recall the solemn moment when Jesus, your divine son, dying on the cross, confided us to your maternal care. You are our mother, we desire ever to remain your devout children. let us therefore feel the effects of your powerful intercession with Jesus Christ. make your name again glorious in the shrine once renowned throughout England by your visits, favours, and many miracles.

Pray, O holy mother of God, for the conversion of England, restoration of the sick, consolation for the afflicted, repentance of sinners, peace to the departed.

O blessed Mary, mother of God, our Lady of Walsingham, intercede for us.  
Amen.



Almighty and merciful Father,  
you inspire and bring to fulfillment every good intention.  
Guide your people in the way of salvation  
and watch over those who shepherd your flock  
and those who have left all things to follow you.  
Raise up worthy ministers for your altars,  
ardent but gentle servants of the Gospel,  
and generous souls who renounce worldly power and profit  
to serve you and their brothers and sisters faithfully  
in the spirit of poverty and humility.  
Inspire our young men and women to respond to your call  
so that your Church might always rejoice  
in plentiful servants for your harvest.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
Amen.

## **A Prayer of Spiritual Communion**



“My Jesus, I believe that You are really present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love You above all things and I desire You in my soul. As I cannot receive you sacramentally now, come at least spiritually into my heart. And, as You have already come, I embrace You and unite myself wholly to You. Let me never be separated from You.”

## **An Act of Contrition**



O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended you: and I detest my sins most sincerely because they displease You, my God, who are so deserving of all my love for Your infinite goodness and most amiable perfections: and I firmly purpose by Your holy grace never more to offend You, to avoid all occasions of sin and amend my life. Amen.

I further resolve and promise to go to sacramental confession as soon as practicably possible.

## **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

Fourth Sunday of Easter



**First reading**

Acts 4:8-12

*A reading from the Acts of the Apostles*

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Peter said: 'Rulers of the people, and elders! If you are questioning us today about an act of kindness to a cripple, and asking us how he was healed, then I am glad to tell you all, and would indeed be glad to tell the whole people of Israel, that it was by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the one you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by this name and by no other that this man is able to stand up perfectly healthy, here in your presence, today. This is the stone rejected by you the builders, but which has proved to be the keystone. For of all the names in the world given to men, this is the only one by which we can be saved.'

The word of the Lord.

**Responsorial Psalm**

Psalm 117(118):1,8-9,21-23,26,28-29

*The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the corner stone.***Or Alleluia!**

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,  
for his love has no end.

It is better to take refuge in the Lord  
than to trust in men;  
it is better to take refuge in the Lord  
than to trust in princes.

I will thank you for you have answered  
and you are my saviour.  
The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the corner stone.  
This is the work of the Lord,  
a marvel in our eyes.

Blessed in the name of the Lord  
is he who comes.  
We bless you from the house of the Lord;  
You are my God, I thank you.  
My God, I praise you.  
Give thanks to the Lord for he is good;  
for his love has no end.

**Second reading**

1 John 3:1-2

*A reading from the first letter of St John*

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us,  
by letting us be called God's children;  
and that is what we are.  
Because the world refused to acknowledge him,  
therefore it does not acknowledge us.  
My dear people, we are already the children of God  
but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed;  
all we know is, that when it is revealed  
we shall be like him  
because we shall see him as he really is.

The word of the Lord.

## Gospel Acclamation

cf.Lk24:32

Alleluia, alleluia!  
I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;  
I know my own sheep and my own know me.  
Alleluia!

## Gospel

John 10:11-18

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to John*

Jesus said:

‘I am the good shepherd:  
the good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep.  
The hired man, since he is not the shepherd  
and the sheep do not belong to him,  
abandons the sheep and runs away  
as soon as he sees a wolf coming,  
and then the wolf attacks and scatters the sheep;  
this is because he is only a hired man  
and has no concern for the sheep.  
‘I am the good shepherd;  
I know my own  
and my own know me,  
just as the Father knows me  
and I know the Father;  
and I lay down my life for my sheep.  
And there are other sheep I have  
that are not of this fold,  
and these I have to lead as well.  
They too will listen to my voice,  
and there will be only one flock,  
and one shepherd.  
‘The Father loves me,  
because I lay down my life  
in order to take it up again.  
No one takes it from me;  
I lay it down of my own free will,  
and as it is in my power to lay it down,  
so it is in my power to take it up again;  
and this is the command I have been given by my Father.’

The Gospel of the Lord.