

SAINT PATRICK'S CHURCH

30 Park Lane, Corsham, SN13 9LG

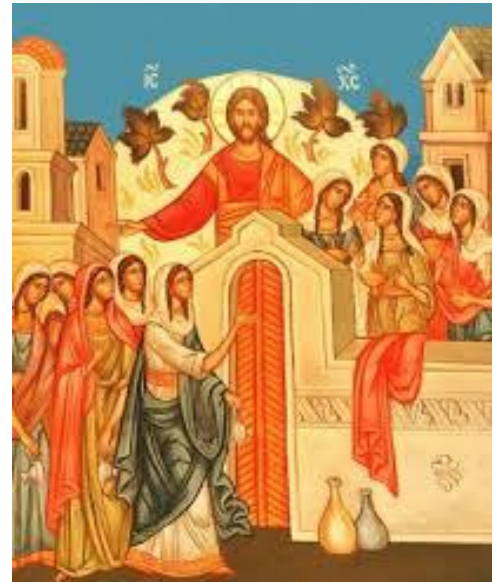
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LATEST NEWS

8TH NOVEMBER

32ND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (A)

Sadly, all public masses are cancelled until the end of lockdown.

Mon 9th Nov - Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

Tue 10th Nov - St Leo the Great, Pope, Doctor of the Church

Wed 11th Nov - St Martin of Tours, Bishop

Thur 12th Nov - St Josaphat, Bishop, Martyr

Fri 13th Nov - Weekday in OT

Sat 14th Nov - Beatified Martyrs of the Diocese

15TH NOVEMBER

33RD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (A)

A SECOND LOCKDOWN It is a sadness that our churches are once again closed for the public celebration of Mass during this lockdown period until 2nd December. A statement from the President and Vice-President of the Bishops Conference of England and Wales confirms that the law prohibits the gathering of people for communal worship in churches and other religious buildings. "Churches may remain open and in use for activities other than communal worship, including personal prayer and support for those in need." Funeral Masses and funeral services may be held with up to 30 people present. The Bishops say that "despite profound misgivings it is important that we, as responsible citizens, observe these Regulations, which have the force of law: 'Remind them to be obedient to the officials in authority; to be ready to do good at every opportunity' (Titus 3:1). We do this in solidarity with so many others on whom are being imposed restrictions which impact severely on their lives and livelihoods. It is also important to recognise that these Regulations are not an attack on religious belief." However, the Bishops point out that they do demonstrate a fundamental lack of understanding of the essential contribution made by faith communities to the well-being, resilience and health of our

society. The Bishops ask that we sustain each other in our patterns of prayer, joining a national shared moment of prayer each day at 6pm, and observing the Vigil of Christ the King (21st November) as a day of prayer for the ending of this pandemic. And they encourage us all in practical service and support of each other and those around in need. "This pathway of prayer and service is the royal road we are to take as a gracious witness in our society today."



REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY Sadly, we are unable to hold our annual public Mass of Requiem and Act of Remembrance for the Fallen this year due to lockdown. However, we can still mark Remembrance Sunday by taking part in remote and a socially distanced Remembrance activity, whether that be watching the service on television or pausing for the Two Minute Silence in our homes or on their doorsteps. There are Remembrance Sunday prayers at the end of this bulletin you may wish to use at home with friends and family.

PLANNING FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES In view of the uncertainty regarding the Covid19 crisis and the celebration of Christmas, we are looking ahead to scheduling masses for Christmas. We are planning to celebrate Mass at 6pm on Christmas Eve and at 10.30am on Christmas Day. If you are planning to come to Mass at Christmas, we ask you to book a place now, so that we can ascertain numbers early and plan accordingly. Please book at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/st-patricks-catholic-church-corsham-30646123644> Thank you.

SUMMARY OF POPE FRANCIS GENERAL AUDIENCE last Wednesday, November 4th. Dear Brothers and Sisters, in our continuing catechesis on prayer, we now consider how Jesus himself prayed, for this reveals key aspects of how we also are to pray. Even when immersed in caring for the people, Christ never neglected his dialogue with the Father, which guided all that he did and taught. In solitary prayer he nurtured a loving intimacy with his Father, an intimacy for which we too yearn. From our Lord's example, we see that prayer first means listening, and encountering God: the primary desire of each day. Second, we need to pray with perseverance, so that it can become a rule of life, gradually transforming us and, by God's grace, strengthening and sustaining us in times of tribulation. Third, solitude and silence are essential for prayer, not in order to escape from the world but, on the contrary, to help us open ourselves more effectively to the needs of others. Finally, prayer reminds us that everything depends on God. This leads us to recover the proper sense of our relationship with him and with the whole of creation. Let us, then, learn from Jesus, the master of prayer – who alone can grant us true joy and peace. Full text can be found on the Vatican website www.vatican.va

YEAR OF COMMUNION 'Stay Awake' – for those who suffer from any form of sleeping disorder these words are cold comfort. Being awake all night or indeed the fear of not being able to sleep can torment and cause great anxiety. Of course, Jesus is not expecting us to literally refrain from sleeping. What he is referring to is the lack of alertness we can have to what might be happening around us, the way we drift from one thing to another, and worse, the way we can drift into negative behaviour, or simply into apathy and disregard for the things that matter. It is easy to drift. It can happen almost unconsciously, without us being aware of what is happening. This is what happens to people who find themselves addicted to drink, drugs, gambling – one day the one or two pints of beer that they had enjoyed to relax become several pints, followed by several whiskies and before they know it the evening drink has extended into a thirst which can only be satiated by one first thing in the morning. Life becomes a painful escape from reality and truth. Jesus does not want this for us. Instead he wants us to live life to the full, to experience everything in all its glory for we never know when the opportunity to do so will come to an end. When it does, we will want to be fully conscious that we have lived our lives in readiness for meeting God.

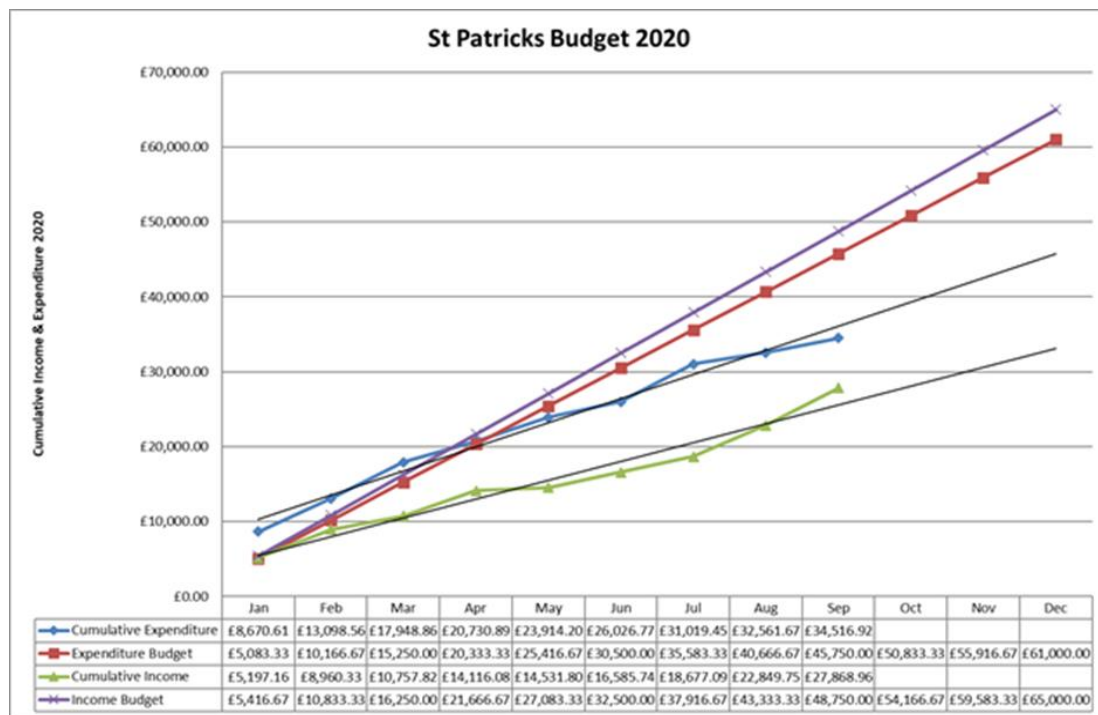
MARY'S MEALS From today up until the 31st January 2021, public donations made to the 'Double the Love' appeal will be doubled by the UK government, up to £2 million. You can donate at: marysmeals.org.uk. Thank you.



A LETTER FROM VIC STEADMAN, CHAIR OF THE PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE I am writing to all parishioners of St Patricks to report on the state of our finances in these difficult times and to make an appeal for help. In common with many businesses, families, and individuals across the country, your Parish has been badly hit financially by the effects of the Corona virus. At the start of the year, we anticipated an income of around £65,000 which would have covered our costs for the year with a small surplus. Lockdown wiped out a significant portion of our income overnight as we were forced to close the hall and lost the usual weekly Mass donations in cash. While Mass has restarted, the numbers attending are, understandably, much lower than usual and the income has not recovered to normal levels. Despite relaxations in Covid restrictions we are not able to restart hall rentals because the costs of additional cleaning and sanitising would make it uneconomic.

We thank those who have continued standing order donations or who have made donations in other ways, but the weekly Mass collections have always been a significant proportion of our income. We anticipate (see the attached graph below which compares our budget to the actual income and expenditure) that our annual income will be down to around £35,000, just over half what we had hoped for. We have reduced our expenditure as much as we can but have little control over utility costs, maintenance bills which still have to be paid to maintain our listed church building, and additional sanitising/cleaning costs for the church.

We have been forced to eat into our reserves to fund what we estimate will be a £12-15,000 overspend for the year and have a worrying backlog of repairs that will have to be funded next year. It is therefore, with regret, that we must make an appeal to parishioners who can afford it to increase their regular giving or to make one off donations.



Donations can be made by: • Credit/debit card or PayPal from the Parish website by following the Donate by PayPal” link, you do not need to have a PayPal account • Standing order, • Online/telephone bank transfer (BACS) • Cheque/cash after Mass or cheques in the post (though cash and cheques are more difficult to handle during the Pandemic). Where possible we ask that all donations be Gift Aided as that will increase the value of your gift by 25%. This can be done via the “Donate with PayPal” link or using a separate Gift Aid Declaration form that we will supply. Please email (FinanceChair.corsham.stpatrick@Cliftondiocese.com) for further advice on how to make donations or to arrange Gift Aid.

THE SUNDAY MASS READINGS During lockdown, the Sunday readings are available at: www.cliftondiocese.com/departments/adult-education/liturgy-office/ and click on the **Universalis** tab. It will open in a page for the day. On the left-hand side, you may select Readings at Mass, About Today, Morning Prayer etc., and on the right-hand side you may choose a date up to and including the following Sunday.

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

Saint Patrick's Community at Prayer



***'The earnest prayer of a righteous person
has great power and produces wonderful results.'** James 5:16.*

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

The Sick: Maeve Heffernan, James Gallagher, Terri Yates, Karen Lucas, Rob Jones, 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.

Recently Departed: John Roberts

Pope Francis November Prayer Intention: Artificial Intelligence. That the progress of robotics and artificial intelligence may always serve humankind.

Diocesan Prayer Link: All Religious Communities in the Diocese.

Christians in Corsham Prayer Link: The Anglican Communities.

Remembrance Sunday Prayers



A Short Act of Remembrance for use at home.

Let us offer to almighty God our thanksgiving for the many blessings with which he has enriched our lives.

For the Pope and the Holy Catholic Church: **Thanks be to God.**

For the Queen and her family, and all who under her bear the responsibility of government: **Thanks be to God.**

For those who serve in the Armed Forces of the Crown on sea and land and in the air: **Thanks be to God.**

For doctors, nurses, chaplains, and all who minister to those in need or distress: **Thanks be to God.**

For the unity of our people within the Commonwealth: **Thanks be to God.**

For the sacrifices made, especially in two world wars, whereby our peace has been preserved: **Thanks be to God.**

For the Royal British Legion: **Thanks be to God.**

We commend to God's sure keeping the souls of those who have died for their country in war; those whom we knew, and those whose memory we treasure; and all those who have lived and died in the service of humankind.

They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old:

Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.

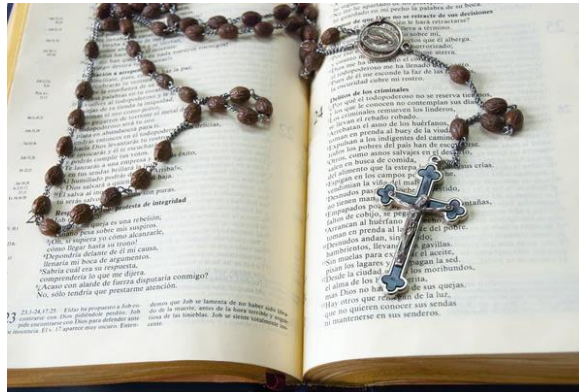
At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them. **We will remember them.**

The Two Minute Silence is observed

Almighty everlasting God, who sent your Son to die that we might live, grant, we pray, eternal rest to those who gave themselves in service and sacrifice for their country. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

During Lockdown



One of St Teresa of Avila's most famous teachings is a poem known as "Teresa's Bookmark" that was found in her own prayer book after her death:

Let nothing disturb you.

Let nothing upset you.

Everything changes.

God alone is unchanging.

With patience all things are possible.

Whoever has God lacks nothing.

God alone is enough.

May Teresa's words will bring us some comfort in this challenging time.

Psalm 91

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."

Surely, he will save you from the fowler's snare and from the deadly pestilence.

He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.

You will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that flies by day,
nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness, nor the plague that destroys at midday.
A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you.

You will only observe with your eyes and see the punishment of the wicked.
If you make the Most High your dwelling-- even the LORD, who is my refuge--
then no harm will befall you, no disaster will come near your tent.

For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways;
they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.

You will tread upon the lion and the cobra; you will trample the great lion and the serpent.

"Because he loves me," says the LORD, "I will rescue him; I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name.

He will call upon me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honour him.

With long life will I satisfy him and show him my salvation."

Praying for the Faithful Departed



Immortal God, holy Lord,
Father and Protector of all You have created,
we raise our hearts to You today for those
who have passed out of this mortal life.

In Your loving mercy, Father of all,
be pleased to receive them in Your heavenly company,
and forgive the failings and faults
they may have done from human frailty.

Your only Son, Christ, our Saviour,
suffered so cruelly that
He might deliver them from the second death.
By his merits may they share in the glory
of His victory over sin and death.

For all the faithful who have died we pray,
but in particular for those dear to us,
parents, relatives and friends.
nor do we forget all who did good to us while on earth,
who helped us by their prayers, sacrifice and example.
We pray also for any who may have done us harm,
and stand in special need of Your forgiveness.

May the merits and prayers of our Virgin Mother,
Mary, and those of all the Angels and Saints,
speak for us and assist them now.
This we ask in Christ's name.

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.

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