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*Texts cost £5 plus one standard rate message. If you do not wish to opt-in to hear more about our work and fundraising via text, but would still like to donate £5, text METROCATHEDRALNOINFO instead.



Cathedral Record

www.liverpoolmetrocathedral.org.uk

Position of Churches

On Friday 8 January, following some questions about why our churches remain open, Bishop John Sherrington, Auxiliary Bishop of Westminster, issued the following letter explaining the position and role of our churches during the current lockdown:

We are aware that questions are being asked as to why churches remain open during this National Lockdown. We are also aware that many local authorities are calling for places of worship to close. We wish to respond to these concerns.

Churches are allowed to open for prayer and communal worship at this time according to the provision of the most recent national legislation and Government guidance.

This decision is based on two factors: the recognition that our churches are safe, and that the service they offer is essential.

The safety of our churches has been affirmed by Public Health England (PHE) in its current advice to the Government. This is publicly recognised to be the result of the great efforts made by many people in the implementation of procedures mandated by PHE and thereby establishing the necessary conditions within churches for their safe use.

Our churches are making a significant contribution to the personal resilience and inner strength of people which is much needed at this time. Many are hubs from which essential support is offered especially to those most in need, extending well beyond the faith communities which use them. This includes the regular provision of food; the care of the homeless; and being a place of peace and reflection (which is safe) for many whose living conditions are very limited. This will become more appreciated as the programme of vaccination increases. The vital link between prayer and action is important to maintain this service.

At this phase of the pandemic, which is causing alarm and fear, our churches will exercise their role with increased diligence to ensure continuing safety and service.

Our clergy will ensure that all are aware that there is no duty or responsibility to come to church and communicate to all there is no obligation to attend Mass on Sunday. They will review, in each local area, the provision offered by the church in order to ensure that the highest standards of safety are maintained. This will include a review of the role of stewards, the provision of additional social distancing within the church, a review of cleansing routines, and consideration of the personal circumstances of the priest(s) and people. On this basis there will be a local evaluation and decision about the possible reduction in the times of opening and the frequency of communal worship.

In conclusion we recognise the higher levels of fear and anxiety which the new strain of the virus has prompted and we have a very proper awareness of the care which must be exercised by everyone, under the guidance of PHE health professionals.

We recognise, too, that isolation is having a profound detrimental effect on people and that the role of churches in easing that isolation in ways which are safe and supportive has been recognised as a positive and beneficial contribution to the common good.

We pray for the dedicated work of the NHS and continue to provide spiritual support to staff and patients through the network of chaplains working both in the hospitals and the community.

Mass & Service Times

All services take place in the cathedral unless marked otherwise

WEEK COMMENCING: 17 January 2021

Sunday 17 January 2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time

9.00am Mass
11.00am Mass
This Mass will be streamed live on Facebook and Youtube

Monday 18 January 12noon Mass

Tuesday 19 January 12noon Mass

Wednesday 20 January 12noon Mass

Thursday 21 January St Agnes

12noon Mass

Friday 22 January 12noon Mass

Saturday 23 January

10.00am Mass
4.00pm Mass

RECONCILIATION (Confession)

Monday - Friday:
Following the 12noon Mass.
Please note that there are no Confessions on Holy Days.

Saturday: 3.00pm – 3.45pm

There are no confessions taking place at the Cathedral at the moment.

Crypt
Crypt Chapel

SS -
55 Seel St,
Missionaries of
Charity

RLUH -
Royal Liverpool
University Hospital

CLERGY:

PRIESTS:
Canon Anthony O'Brien *Dean*
Fr Stephen Lee
Fr Chris McCoy
Fr Peter Murphy

DEACONS:
Rev Noel Abbott
Rev Paul Mannings

Tel: 0151 709 9222

Email: enquiries@metcathedral.org.uk

Cathedral Notice Board

MASS INTENTIONS

Gerard Webb (RIP), Holy Souls, Bernard Potter (RIP), Tony Wagner (RIP), Sean (Special Intentions and Healing), Teresa O'Neill (Birthday Remembrance), Racheal Cain (Birthday Remembrance), Ann Fitzpatrick, Joseph Fitzpatrick, Rose Mella, Fr Michael Williams (Remembrance), Kellie Roberts, Rina Gradwell (RIP), Michael Westhead.

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE UPDATE

Helen Jones Pastoral Associate writes, 'I am noticing signs of spring as I go on my walks now and vaccinations are moving apace – my 89-year-old mother had hers in the big Epsom centre this week and said it was so well organised and is full of gratitude and admiration to the NHS, as we all are! Hope is in the air... We begin our "Echoes of God" series on Monday – it's not "heavy" and will see us through this lockdown (we hope) and beyond: register on the website. As a Pastoral Area we are combining our Justice & Peace resources in organising a Modern-Day Slavery Zoom with input from Sr Imelda Poole (see the Tablet article 5/9/2020) on Tuesday 9 February – St Josephine Bakhita's feast day. This touches us all in some way and would be great to have the support of the Liverpool South parishioners in becoming more aware or what we can do to help combat this. Any ideas for a Pastoral Area Lent/Easter project appreciated. "Once you choose hope, anything is possible" from Christopher Reeve (former superman actor). God Bless - stay safe, stay well

– Helen.'

POLITE NOTICE

While we will attempt to take appropriate precautions consistent with the advice of public health authorities, parishioners should understand that they assume the risk of contracting COVID-19 any time they enter a public space since such precautions do not eliminate the risk of infection.

PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

We join Pope Francis in his prayer intention for January: May the Lord give us grace to live fully in fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.

We pray for all who are struggling to adapt once again to the restrictions of a third COVID Lockdown ... may we find strength and courage in the knowledge of your presence in the midst of this global pandemic and be supported by family, friends and neighbours.

We pray for all who provide health care in these challenging days and weeks ... may they be given abundant resources to enable all who need them to be cared for with skilled compassion and appropriate medication.

ECHOES OF GOD

A 7 week look at Old and New Testament Scripture on Mondays at 7-8pm on Zoom starting on 18 January 2021. Using David McLoughlin's scripture sessions that start with Exodus and end with St Paul's Letters, an opportunity to read, reflect and share facilitated by Pastoral Associates. Registration and materials (free) at www.godwhospeaks2020.org.uk The sessions should take us beyond this lockdown...!

FISH WITH MARK

God Speaks in our Time – reflections on our journey through Mark's Gospel are available to view at www.godwhospeaks2020.org.uk Voices from the Archdiocese share what has struck them in the Gospel of Mark as we follow the Lectionary for Year B, and prompt us to delve deeper.

NEWS FROM MICAH

Donations over December have us in good stead for at least the next few weeks. The things we will be in need of first, though, are cooking oil, UHT milk, and toiletries (toothbrushes, toothpaste, and soap). For those of you who donate, there's your shopping list. Many thanks to everyone who has contributed over the last few weeks. We have fed over 300 people a week in December.

Open churches vital for resilience during lockdown, says Cardinal

With the announcement of a new lockdown for England to curb the rapid spread of COVID-19, Cardinal Vincent Nichols, President of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, said: "The regular practice of our faith in God is a well-established source of both personal resilience and dedicated service to those in need. Such resilience and enduring service are vital in these difficult circumstances. "I am glad that no measures have been introduced that would obstruct or curtail this essential source of energy for the common good. Catholic parishes will continue to serve

the needs of their local community.

GIVE BLOOD

On 7th January Liverpool Donor Centre will be temporarily relocating from its current venue to: Suite A, The Capital Building Old Hall Street, Liverpool, L3 9PP. If you have an appointment booked it will remain on the same date and time, but please check your donation venue before you attend. During these unprecedented times, we need you to keep donating as normal to maintain blood stocks. If you haven't booked an appointment, please do so now... Use the GiveBlood app visit blood.co.uk or call 0300 123 23

LIVING LAUDATO SI' YOUR PARISH AND YOUR PLANET

Zoom retreat, 22-25 January 2021. (led from Boarbank Hall, Cumbria). WHY? Faith is the place to start. WHAT? Understanding is the place to start. HOW? Sharing experience is the place to start. WHERE? Your parish the place to start. WHO? Are YOU the place to start? What will happen? A long weekend of talks and discussion on Zoom, and practical activities, on living the message of Laudato Si' in and through your parish. Any interested parishioner is most welcome to join in. Times: sessions will be on Friday night, Saturday morning and night and Sunday afternoon and night
ail Sr Margaret Atkins at margaret@boarbankhall.org.uk

Last week's collection: £214.32



— THE MYSTERY OF THE —
LUTYENS CRYPT
— LIVERPOOL'S BEST KEPT —
ARCHITECTURAL SECRET

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Golden Book of Remembrance

The Golden Book is open and accepting your entries but on a limited basis for the time being.
Please email enquiries@metcathedral.org.uk or telephone 0151 709 9222 where a member of the team will assist you.