

St Peter's Catholic Church

Abbey St. Eynsham Oxon UK OX29 4HR

www.stpeterseynsham.org.uk

The parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham Registered as a Charity (234216)

Archbishop Bernard Longley - Area Bishop William Kenney CP

Parish Priest: Fr Mark Lagorio 01865 881613

Email : stpeterschurcheynsham@gmail.com

Parish Webpage: <https://stpeterseynsham.org.uk/>

Parish Safeguarding Representative: Eric White ericj_white@yahoo.co.uk

20th June - 12th Sunday of the Year B

**Public Mass - Saturday (for Sunday) 5pm &
Sunday at 10am**

Face coverings & Social Distancing required

Weekday Mass Times this week

Monday 21st June 10am

Thursday 24th June 10am

Friday 25th June 10am

Followed by Friday Exposition for half an hour

Confessions on request

Next Sunday 27th June - 13th Sunday of Ordinary Time - Year B

**Saturday (For Sunday) 26th June - Mass at 5pm
& Sunday 27th June - Mass at 10am**

Please pray for those who have died recently especially Josephine Danvers:
Of your charity please also pray for all those whose anniversary occurs at this
time, especially Margaret Lusinska, & Elsie Matthews. May they rest in peace.

Prayers for the sick: Please keep in your prayers all our sick and housebound, especially, Beth Barton, Edel Phillips, Sara Ruane, Jacqui Van Cauwelaert, Frances Morill, Debbie Rooke, Valdis Culverwell, John & Kitty Jennings, Lucy Doherty, Dot Walker, Paul Morrill, Frances Flatman, Philomena Knox, Risi Mohr-Knox, Colin Flett, Muriel Dell, Margaret Edwards & Pam Pineo.

Mass Intentions this week:

Saturday - People of the Parish

Sunday: Rita Ahern R.I.P. (Recently deceased)

Monday - Private Intention

Thursday - Linda Dongworth R.I.P.

MASS INTENTIONS NEXT WEEKEND:

Saturday - Bill Rooke R.I.P.

Sunday - People of the Parish

JUNE PRAYER INTENTION: MARRIAGE

Pope Francis prayer intention for June: The Beauty of Marriage: Let us pray for young people who are preparing for marriage with the support of a Christian community: may they grow in love, with generosity, faithfulness and patience.

Parish Collections: Previous - £142.59 B & M - £114.65

Thank you for your generosity

THIS WEEK: Second Collection: Day for Life (annual)

NEXT WEEK: Peter's Pence (annual)

Today we celebrate **Day for Life:** Bishop John Sherrington the Lead Bishop for Life issues has written the following:

"This day, inaugurated by Saint John Paul II, presents an opportunity to pray for the gift of life from conception to natural death, to raise awareness of the precious gift of life, and to support the work of protecting life in its most vulnerable stages through the annual collection. This assists pro-life organisations who raise awareness, engage in parliamentary work and pastoral outreach.

The fragility of life and the reality of death has been brought into sharp focus during the Covid-19 pandemic. In the UK alone, more than 126,000 people have

died from Covid-19. Yet in the face of such suffering and death, we have also witnessed the extraordinary dedication of healthcare professionals and their loving care for the sick and dying. We too have each made sacrifices for the greater good during this pandemic. These acts of heroic love are a powerful testimony to the fundamental dignity of the human person and to the respect owed to each life, particularly through proper care and love in the last moments of life.

Against this backdrop of loving care, we are now faced with the very real threat of the legalisation of 'assisted suicide' in our country. It is not a question of 'if' this challenge will come, it is now a question of 'when?' There is now a Private Members Bill in the House of Lords on so-called 'Assisted Dying' and it is only a matter of time before the issue is back in the House of Commons.

Day for Life adds an authenticity to our witness to the dignity of life and this is enabled by the generosity of people in the pews supporting our work. There is a second collection today for this Charity.

First Holy Communion at St. Peter's



Please pray for the children of our parish who will shortly begin their Sacramental preparation for First Confession and First Holy Communion. Owing to Covid restrictions we have had to delay this preparation for over a year which has been difficult for all concerned. Please also keep in your prayers their parents, that the witness and example they give will bear fruit in the children's journey of faith.

READING REFLECTION FOR 12th SUNDAY, YEAR B

God the creator continues to have all power over the elements, as he tells Job in our first reading. But his power does not just stop with mastery over nature. In coming among us as his human Son, the Messiah, he transforms our human nature into his own body and therefore into his divinity. As Paul says, "There is a new creation".

Book of Job 3, v.1 & 8-11

Written around 450 B.C., Job belongs to the literature known as the Wisdom books. The Jews have a long tradition of arguing their case with God, unlike the more pusillanimous Christians. The Book of Job is an allegory about the problem of evil. Job is a rich man. He is suddenly tested by God with appalling catastrophes including the death of all his family and his herds. Job simply replies: "The Lord gives, the Lord takes away. Blessed be the name of the Lord." The prevailing wisdom was to say that Job must have sinned, as his friends tell him. This the righteous Job refuses to accept and pleads his case with God. This is part of God's reply quoted here in parallel with the gospel text of Jesus' mastery over the sea.

2 Corinthians 5, vv.14-17

Paul continues to express his amazement at the love of Christ in that we should all be dead on account of our sins but instead, thanks to his death, we have a new life in Him who was raised to life for us. The Christ we knew was of flesh but since we are now in Christ we have become a new creation.

Mark 4, vv.35-41

Mark's gospel is full of drama. Today Jesus calms a storm on the Sea of Galilee. However, this is not just another miracle: it is more highly significant since mastery of the sea, as we saw in the reading from Job, was regarded as divine and therefore messianic. It is a miracle which Mark and his community have specially chosen to demonstrate the messianic character of Jesus. It is therefore an early sign of Jesus' divinity.

PREPARING FOR THE RELAXATION OF COVID RESTRICTIONS

Already for the weekday Mass these past weeks we have been able to remain in the church after receiving Holy Communion – a time for quiet prayer of Thanksgiving for the gift of the Eucharist – The Body and Blood of Christ – we have received, and to have the post communion prayer and the final blessing whilst still in our places. I hope and pray that we shall be able to do this for the weekend Masses from the 21st June onwards (at the earliest) – if government and Diocesan guidelines permit this.

It would be good to have the church benches back in their proper place but even so, we might all have to observe some kind of social distancing and face coverings until advised to do otherwise. It is important that we heed government warnings to remain cautious whilst infection rates are currently on the increase despite the success of the vaccines. In light of this advice, please respect the need for social distancing and not to gather in close contact whilst in church, especially at the end of Mass whilst indoors. Some parishioners have only just started to return for Mass given the risks to themselves and/or those with whom they live, so it would be appreciated if we could all do our part to ensure that they remain comfortable whilst in prayer at Holy Mass.

If we can do away with the one-way system it will mean exiting bench by bench – starting from the rear of the church – so as to avoid crowding/congestion.

The sanitizer gels will remain in place – this will be maintained throughout the summer, Autumn and winter: Good hygiene practice can only be beneficial to us all.

Stewarding will no longer be required. On behalf of the whole parish, I thank the stewards for their generosity of time and service in enabling public worship to continue here at St. Peter's for all Masses – weekdays and weekends. The PPE required for these measures for Covid-safe worship over such a long period of time has brought with it additional significant costs for the parish. These costs will be reflected in the accounts at the end of the year. I would like to thank the people of the parish for their great generosity in the

financial support of the parish during the pandemic: This is in addition to the generous donations received in response to the appeal for the shortfall in parish income when collections and public worship were suspended.

AND FINALLY... We all long for the day when we shall be able to praise and worship God in our celebration of Holy Mass through the lifting up of our hearts and voices in song in our congregational singing:
qui cantat bis orat – Amen to that!

Volunteers: Church Grounds



If you would like to help with keeping the church grounds in good order, even if only for an hour or two, please contact Fr. Mark. Thank you to those who kindly volunteered to help with cemetery maintenance and grass cutting following our appeal for extra help.

MASS INTENTIONS

If you would like to have a Mass said on a particular date for a loved one, either an anniversary Mass, birthday, special intention, etc., please be sure to arrange this well in advance so as to avoid any disappointment. I do my best to say Mass on the date requested but this is not always possible so I ask for your understanding. The Mass is the most precious & effective way in which we can assist our departed loved ones, for it is the offering of Christ Himself. Our prayer, & the prayer of the Mass, is an expression of our continued love for those who have died. May they rest in peace, Amen. For Mass Intentions, it would help if

you would kindly use the 'Mass Intention Envelopes' which are provided on the table at the rear of the church. Simply complete the details, suggesting the date preferred, (if the date you prefer is not available I shall celebrate the Mass on the nearest date to it unless requested otherwise). Please indicate whether the intention is for someone living or deceased, and/or anniversary, or Special Intention and put the Mass Offering envelope through the presbytery letter box or hand it to the priest after Mass. Thank you.

Eynsham Churches Holiday Club - Would you like to volunteer?

St Leonard's, St Peters Cassington, Eynsham Baptist Church and St Peters Eynsham. **July 26 to August 1**, finishing with a Holiday Club service on the Sunday. Our theme this year is Surfers Bay. The programme is for Primary School Children. We look for team members as follows: Small group leaders - groups are called Parasols, Beach Balls and Surf Boards. If we have 12 groups we will need 2 leaders to a group, making 24 group leaders. Groups are divided by year groups, 1-2, 3-4 and 5-6. There are 4 rotation stations for Snacks, Crafts, Games and Teaching. These are sessions of about 25 minutes each. Each needs a leader and an assistant. That's another 8 people. We will be seeking adults to take the lead role in these rotations. This is also a very good opportunity for the teenagers to put what they are learning about Christian discipleship into practice with these primary school children. We have held the programme since 2016, including a virtual programme in 2020. We average about 60 children and 30 'helpers' We welcome children and helpers from St Peters. If you would like to be involved in any way, and/or as a volunteer group leader, please contact Canon Dr. Chris Sugden csugden@ocrpl.org Thank You

TRACK & TRACE NHS APP

If you download the NHS covid-19 you can check into the church with your smart phone rather than handing in a piece of paper with your contact details.

Please scan the code-sheet which is located at the entrance of the church.

For update information & support please visit the parish website

<http://stpeterseynsham.org.uk>

Parish Appeal - financial shortfall 2020 during lock-down:

Amount raised to date:- **£2,500 - Target £6,600 - Thank you.**

STANDING ORDERS

Thank you to those of you who have created a standing order (SO) through your bank in order to maintain some income for the parish at this time. You can do this directly with you bank: Just let them know how much you would like to give each month. If you need parish Bank Account details, please email me. If you need any forms so as to Gift-Aid your SO, please let me know. I can send you an e-copy of the Gift-Aid form. Thank you.

ONE-OFF Donations: Bank Transfer: For our bank details please email stpeterschurcheynsham@gmail.com

CHEQUES: If you are not able to set up a SO or make a bank transfer, it would help a great deal if you are in a position to post a Cheque, say monthly, as your contribution so that we can avoid too great a shortfall for the year.

Thank you very much for your donations received by post or bank transfer.

GATEHOUSE DONATIONS 2021: - at the Church.

Other Dates for 2021

18th July

29th August

10th October

21st November

Food donations should consist of any of the following: sandwich fillers/ingredients, shop bought cake, bottles of water/juice, packets of crisps, chocolate bars - so no homemade sandwiches or cakes for the time being.

NB if there is no public worship, please deliver your donations to Marie & Charles Bridge, 15 Newland St. OX29 4LB

Clothing Donations - Due to limited storage capacity and rapidly fluctuating availability, anyone who would like to donate clothing should first email clothes@oxfordgatehouse.org and check that any items they want to donate are needed at that specific time, and, if so, to make arrangements with Gatehouse for dropping them off. Priority items are blankets, sleeping bags,

men's gloves (fleece/waterproof), men's trousers and jogging bottoms, men's boots, shoes, trainers, and rucksacks.

Gatehouse Financial Donations

Gatehouse continues to value its support from St. Peter's and is currently operating 4 separate but interlinked services which include a food and drink delivery service to the vulnerably housed, a food, drink and clothing takeaway service 6 evenings a week, a bespoke one to one remote service on a wide range of emotional and practical needs, and a new counselling service.

If you would like to make a financial donation please visit:-

<http://www.justgiving.com/gatehouse>"

You can also access this link to GATEHOUSE from the parish web page at any time - <https://stpeterseynsham.org.uk> and click on link.

News Sheet.

If you need to receive a prompt, a reminder, to access the news sheet each week via the parish web page, please let Marie Bridge have your email address. Her email is - marie.bridge1@gmail.com Thank you.

Track and Trace - For the safety of all attending church the Government have advised that a contact phone number be taken and kept (for a period of 21 days)

for everyone who comes to the church. It will be made available to the NHS if they contact the parish and request this information. If you come as a 'bubble' only one number will be required. After 21 days all details will be destroyed. Thank you for your cooperation.

NO SUNDAY OBLIGATION

Please remember that there is still **no obligation to attend Sunday Mass** during the pandemic. This is especially important to know if you are in a vulnerable category or have been required to shield during the lockdown. Likewise, it is extremely important that you do not attend Mass if you have any sort of cold or flu like symptoms, no matter how innocuous you may think them to be.