St. William of York R.C. Church



Registered Charity No 233699

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<u>Manna in the desert — hope in the wilderness—</u> <u>REMEMBER!!</u>

13/14 June 2020

This weekend we celebrate the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ often referred to as 'Corpus Christi' – a Latin term which means the 'Body of Christ'. On Maundy Thursday evening we recall the Last Supper - when Our Lord washed the feet of his disciples. He instructed them (and us) to follow His example. At that Supper on the eve of Good Friday - Jesus sitting at the Passover meal with his disciples took bread and wine. In sharing - he said - 'This is my Body - This is my Blood'. This Sunday, in a particular way we reflect on the unique GIFT in Holy Communion. It is therefore- all the more painful that currently we are not able to receive the Body and Blood of Christ because of the COVID circumstances we are living through. Of course, we have all noticed that the Lord is giving us many signs and blessings though this time of Eucharistic famine; for example the many opportunities to share in the Mass on-line - together with deeper times for prayer at home, shared intense moments of humanity between neighbours and others, clear heads to notice nature and the small things, which in the Pre- Virus world might have passed us by. There is one very important word in the celebration of the Eucharist - springing from the Passover supper of Jesus and his followers. 'Do this in MEMORY of me.' Spoken by the priest at every Mass - as disciples of Christ - we are called to constantly **REMEMBER** all that God has done for us and continues to do. Take a look at the first reading today. Read and re-read the gospel from Saint John for this Sunday. Until we can return to the full, 'live' celebration of Mass with the joy of receiving the Body and Blood of Christ - FEAST on the many gifts of spiritual nourishment which Jesus is providing daily. (Father Michael)

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

Saturday 13th June St Anthony of Padua Priest & Doctor

Saint Anthony (Thanksgiving) Vena & Roque

Sunday 14th June The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

Sullivan Intention

Monday 15th June

Bridie Healy RIP

Tuesday 16th June

Liam Mann & Maurice Fitzgerald RIP (Anniv)

Wednesday 17th June

Yvonne Plourde RIP

Thursday 18th June

Private Intention

Friday 19th June
The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

Victims and families (virus)

Saturday 20th June The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary

People of the parish

Sunday 21st June 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

For suffering families

Reopening of the Church - Saturday 20th June / Sunday 21st June

Following Government agreement for Churches to reopen for **Private Prayer only**, the reopening of St. William of York Church has been set for <u>Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st June</u> between11am to 1pm on each day, and will open each Saturday and Sunday thereafter at the same times.

It should be pointed out that those who wish to visit for a short private prayer will be expected to follow strict safety measures, in line with Diocesan guidance. These measures include:

- Only 9 people allowed in the Church at any one time and observing safe distancing,
- Controlled one-way traffic flow, with most of the Church cordoned off,
- Designated pews and positions at the back of the Church for individual prayer,

- Side Altars closed, with the statues of The Blessed Heart and Our Lady moved to the Main Sanctuary, at either side of the main Altar,
- Toilet facility closed,
- Clear signage and directions in place,
- Hand sanitizers in place for use on entry and exit from the Church.

It is recommended that those attending wear their own face masks whilst in the Church.

It is hoped that the above arrangements are short term in length, and that it will not be too long before the Church reopens for Mass and other Services. In the interim, we trust that the necessary measures applied will enable Parishioners to safely spend a short time in solitary prayer at St. William of York Church.

Assistance Please

It is intended to have Marshals in attendance at each opening of the Church, to help and direct those visiting the Church and to ensure the safety measures are adhered to. Volunteer Marshals are sought to cover the two-hour period; their duties entail the management & control of attendees, and each will be provided with PPE - for those interested in volunteering to be a Marshal, please leave a message with contact details by email to stanmore@rcdow.org.uk

Tony Murphy

Finance Committee / Property & Safety Matters

Father Michael writes about OPENING the church

'I am very grateful to Tony Murphy and 'the team' who are assisting with what is quite a demanding process. Help is needed please because visiting the church for prayer will require a cleaning routine both before and after each opening. We need STEWARDS to be around. Volunteers- please email the parish or leave a message on the parish phone - 8954 1299. Obviously the preferred option would be for our church to be open as before and above else, to be able to return to the daily celebration of Mass. For the moment- it is not possible. I know that Tony and helpers are working hard to observe the required protocols. Let our prayerful visits drive forward a better day and a virus-free world.'

Pilgrimage to Oberammergau: June 2020: now postponed

More than 30 Stanmore people had signed up to attend the world famous Passion play in Bavaria. It was due to run from May until September; thousands of people from all over the world had booked and over the coming days, the Stanmore group would have been setting off! Due to the virus - the play has been postponed until 2022!!! Initially - it was suggested that those who had signed up should remain committed for the 2022 performance. "However I have now asked Pax Travel to return all monies to the pilgrims. We can START AGAIN for 2022 - for those who wish. Please make direct contact with Pax Travel - if you were a signed up/paid up pilgrim." Father Michael

The feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

This will be observed on this coming Friday 19 June. At this time of the pandemic we turn to the tender heart and mercy of Jesus. We place all our trust in Him.

