



Parish of Saint Joseph

Malvern

Worcestershire

Archdiocese of Birmingham
Registered Charity 234216



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FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR A DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

2 May – 3 May 2020

THE SHEPHERD WHO SPEAKS ABOUT HIMSELF

Today Jesus speaks of himself as the 'Good Shepherd'. The sheep know his voice, trust him, and will follow only him. In consequence today is Vocations Sunday, when the Church prays for new 'good shepherds' to lead our Christian communities, especially at this difficult time. Let us to reflect on how our church will fare for priests in the future. Right now priests are an ageing and diminishing group which raises a number of questions. Who will shepherd the church in the coming years? Shall we need to re-think the conditions for ordination or re-imagine the mode of having Eucharistic celebrants for the future? Shall we need to examine how the priesthood of the baptised can be exercised in the coming decades? Do we need a new model of ministerial priesthood? On this Vocations Sunday, perhaps I can also consider how I am responding to the way Jesus is calling me, and pray, that others also hear his invitation.

Masses and Intentions for This Week

Saturday	2	Saturday	10.00 am	Holy Mass	Catherine Craig (S & D Craig)
Sunday	3	FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER <i>Day of Prayer for Vocations</i>	10.00 am	Holy Mass	People of The Parish
Monday	4	Monday <i>Feast of the English Martyrs</i>	12.00 pm	Holy Mass	Douglas Craig (S Craig)
Tuesday	5	Tuesday <i>Easter feria</i>	9:15 am	Holy Mass	Pat Breeze† (C Wilkinson)
Wednesday	6	Wednesday <i>Easter feria</i>	9.15 am	Holy Mass	Intention of Peter Bol (S & P van Ling)
Thursday	7	Thursday <i>Easter feria</i>	7.00 pm	Holy Mass	Veronica Ferguson† (C A Harnett)
Friday	8	Friday <i>Easter feria</i>	9.15am	Holy Mass	Kay Slater† (C & A Phelps)
Saturday	9	Saturday <i>Easter feria</i>	10.00 am	Holy Mass	Ann Phiri (DOB) (M Blair)
Sunday	10	FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	10.00 am	Holy Mass	Intention of Keith Whitcombe (M. Blair)

WEEKLY LIVE-STREAMED MASS TO CELEBRATE FRONTLINE WORKERS

Every Thursday households across the UK clap from their front doors and windows at 8pm to recognise the sacrifices and efforts made by NHS and social care staff, as well as key workers. Masses to celebrate frontline workers have been live streamed for the people for the past two weeks. The next Masses will be at 7pm on the following dates:

Thursday, 7th May by Bishop Marcus Stock, Leeds Cathedral
Thursday 14th May by Bishop Robert Byrne, Newcastle Cathedral
Thursday 21st May by Bishop Mark Davies, Shrewsbury Cathedral
Thursday 28th May by Bishop Terence Drainey, Middlesbrough Cathedral

Links for each live streaming of these Masses can be found by visiting the respective cathedral's webpages.

MAKE AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Fr Naz to celebrate Mass on behalf of the people of the parish. Please find time to make an act of Spiritual Communion by saying the following prayer:

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You. AMEN.

Masses Online Many parishes live-stream Masses & there are many resources online. See the Birmingham Archdiocese website or follow this link: [Parishes and resources online - prayers and resources for Catholics](#)

Support for Quarantined or Isolating Parishioners

If you would like help or support during lockdown, please contact the parish office or call Chris & Liz Burger on 01886 832729. (Your details will be used by parishioners to contact you only for so long as you wish us to do so. Your information will be held securely on the basis of your consent by the parish and those parishioners who contact you in accordance with the diocesan privacy policy at <http://www.birminghamdioceses.org.uk/privacy-policy>. St Joseph's parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham, registered charity number 234216.)

Online Donations. We pray and hope that any people of the parish who are struggling financially during the shutdown will get the support they need. Anyone needing assistance of any kind may contact the Parish Office. Many parish churches share in these financial struggles with reduced weekly incomes. Some parishioners who are not on standing orders around the diocese have said they would like to continue supporting their church during this time. To this end the diocese has developed a system for the people of the parish to continue to donate. Visit the diocesan website link below. There is a donate button (top right) on the home page: www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk From there donations may also be gift aided and made to any parish via credit or debit card. Funds will initially be passed to the diocese but the diocese will have reports available to allow them to pass the funds on to each parish. Otherwise please note that standing orders remain the most efficient way for our parishioners to donate directly to the parish.

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) by appointment. Please phone Fr Naz on 01684 574250.

Anointing of the Sick To arrange an anointing please phone Fr Naz on 01684 574250.

MISSIO Please visit the Parish website to read a letter from the director of MISSIO re:COVID-19 in countries without the means to respond effectively to the crisis. You can support the church overseas by visiting <https://missio.org.uk/donate/>.

JITHIN'S run for CAFOD's Coronavirus Appeal with fellow Seminarians from the Royal English College, Spain has raised £3,050. Thank you to all supporters!

Parish Census & Database Thank you to all who completed a census. They have been entered on to a secure database provided by the Birmingham Archdiocese. There are still a few parishioners who have not completed a census form. If you have not yet completed a form & wish for the parish to hold your contact details, please contact the parish office? A form will be emailed to you. Forms require a signature giving the parish permission to hold your personal details.

Current shortages at Malvern Hills Foodbank: Toilet rolls, tinned potatoes 400g, UHT Milk 1 litre, tinned fruit, bio and nonbio laundry liquid or powder (small and medium sizes) adult and children's toothpaste and toothbrushes, ladies and men's deodorants. While the church is closed, please make your contributions at Morrisons, Waitrose, or anywhere else where there is a Foodbank basket. The need for food is greater than ever. Thank you for your continued support.

Auxiliary Bishops for Birmingham Archdiocese Canon Stephen Wright and Canon David Evans have been appointed Auxiliary Bishops and will be consecrated during an Episcopal Ordination at 12noon on 10 June at St Chad's Cathedral.

The ecumenical intention this week is for The District, Town and Parish Councils of the Malverns; Worcestershire County Council; The Malvern Hills Trust: Councillors, employees; those involved in provision of refuse and other environmental services.

The Pope's Prayer Intention for May: For Deacons We pray that deacons, faithful in their service to the Word and the poor, may be an invigorating symbol for the entire Church.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Barbara Innes. Barbara was a much-loved member of the St Joseph's community. She was a member of the Thursday Group for 20 years and The Catholic Women's League before that. Barbara was central to the life of the parish and will be very much missed.
Let us keep her and her family in our prayers.

PRAYER DURING THE COVID-19 CRISIS

Merciful God, come to the help of your people.
Be our shelter in this time of peril
and strengthen the bonds of our community.
Bring healing to all who suffer the ravages of disease
and assist those whose skill and art
can put an end to this affliction.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PLEASE PRAY FOR all key workers who care for the most vulnerable in our community and especially teachers, parents & pupils at St Joseph's Primary School. Lord, be with them & sustain them in their daily service. Amen.

PLEASE PRAY FOR the sick & housebound of St Joseph's parish: Anne Wiseman, Martin Burger, Raymond Bree, Nicholas Ratcliff, Ellen Verdult, Jonah Willis, Anne-Marie Elder, Jessica. We include all those in hospitals, nursing homes & their own homes. Our Lady, Health of the sick, pray for them. Amen.