



Parish of Saint Joseph

Malvern

Worcestershire

Archdiocese of Birmingham
Registered Charity 234216



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SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR A

16 May – 17 May 2020

THE GOD WHO SPEAKS



Even though we remain conscious of the real trauma that many continue to struggle with today, there is a sense of joy in this week's readings. We hear of it arising from the acts of the apostles (First Reading), and also in the Psalm, a hymn rejoicing in the great things the Lord has done for his people. In the same way, we have a taste of this joy in the Gospel promise: the Spirit will be given to us, and the Lord will be in us and we in the Lord. Even the sufferings meted out to the followers of Christ (Second Reading) could not diminish their gratitude for the Lord. This was bound up in the hope of the Resurrection which gave them, as it does today, a reason to respect one another and reverence the Lord. This week, let us pray that the trials we have faced over the past months, and the sufferings we continue to endure, will not hold back the life of the Spirit in us. In all things, may we speak with joy of the good things the Lord has done and continues to work in our lives.

Masses and Intentions for This Week

Saturday	16	Saturday <i>Easter feria</i>	10.00am	Holy Mass	People of The Parish
Sunday	17	SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER International Day of Prayer for Eastern Christians	10.00am	Holy Mass	Joseph Rooney† (The Rooney Family)
Monday	18	Monday <i>St John I, Pope, Martyr</i>	12.00pm	Holy Mass	Edna O'Malley† (U O'Malley)
Tuesday	19	Tuesday <i>Memorial of St Dustan, Bishop</i>	9:15am	Holy Mass	Ian Robertson† & Family (M Biggar)
Wednesday	20	Wednesday <i>Memorial of St Bernadine of Sienna</i>	9.15am	Holy Mass	Benhard Hillebrand† (M Biggar)
Thursday	21	Thursday SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD	7.00pm	Holy Mass	Sr Henriette† (Fr Naz)
Friday	22	Friday <i>Memorial of St Rita of Cascia, Religious</i>	9.15am	Holy Mass	Ezeckiel Kalipeni† (Fr Naz)
Saturday	23	Saturday <i>Easter feria</i>	10.00am	Holy Mass	Dorothy Brooks† (S Witteron)
Sunday	24	SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER World Communications Day	10.00am	Holy Mass	People of The Parish

International Day of Prayer for Eastern Christians will take place on Sunday 17 May 2020.

Around 20 million Eastern Christians will be praying for Western Christians this Sunday; and conversely a similar number of Catholics from Poland, Belgium, Monaco, France, Spain, Switzerland and Italy will be praying for Eastern Christians at the same time. Western Christians, please embrace the following prayer intention for Eastern Christians today:

"Heavenly Father, we pray today for peace in the world, especially in the Middle East. By your heavenly grace, strengthen the faith and hope of Eastern Christians. May they be blessed with peace and prosperity in their lands. And may we be inspired by their devotion and witness to the Gospel, by their love and compassion for all in their communities, and by their courage, their endurance and self-sacrifice against oppression. Through their charity, tolerance and friendship, bring peace and reconciliation to those troubled lands, where Christianity was born and first spread. Through Christ our Lord. Amen"

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.

The Pope Encourages the Faithful to Pray The Rosary at Home

Pope Francis has written a Letter for the Month of May encouraging us to pray the Rosary. In the letter, the Pope notes that it is a tradition to pray the Rosary at home with the family during May. "This year," he continues, "the restrictions of the pandemic have made us come to appreciate all the more this 'family' aspect, also from a spiritual point of view." That is why he is proposing everyone "rediscover the beauty of praying the Rosary at home in the month of May," whether individually or as a group, "making the most both opportunities." Pope Francis also proposes two new prayers to the Blessed Virgin Mary, which can be recited at the end of the Rosary. In his letter, he assures the faithful that he too will be reciting those prayers throughout the month of May, "in spiritual union with all of you." Pope Francis's letter and the two new prayers are posted on the parish website.

Daily Reflections Fr Naz has asked a few parishioners to prepare daily reflections during lockdown. You will find these reflections on the parish website: <https://www.stjosephsmalvern.org> .

One World Group/CAFOD Michael Townson has written a thought-provoking piece on the need for an international response to COVID-19 in order to help the poorest in the world. It may be found on the parish website.

Christian Aid Door-to-Door Collection Coronavirus has drastically *decreased* income for most charities (no charity shops, no collections, etc.), but has also dramatically *increased* the need for charitable assistance. No **Christian Aid** red envelope will appear through your door (or on your church pew!) this week, but please consider donating on line or by phone. It is remarkably easy. Just go to www.christianaid.org.uk or phone 020 7523 2493.

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 21st May by Bishop Mark Davies, Shrewsbury Cathedral and Thursday 28th May by Bishop Terence Draney, Middlesbrough Cathedral.**

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.birminghamdioces.org.uk/privacy-policy> . St Joseph's parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham, registered charity number 234216.)

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.

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:

Smash, tinned potatoes, tinned rice pudding, tinned fruit, tins of mince, tins of chicken in a white sauce, squash 1 litres, Non bio washing powder liquid, surface wipes, J cloths, toilet rolls, Surface cleaner, toothpaste, microwave rice / noodles, pkts of pasta 'n', treats (chocolate and crisps) Thank you all for your generous support.

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.

The ecumenical intention this week is for Upper Welland Methodist Church

The Revd Nigel Coke-Woods; Anne Rich, Lay Pastoral Support Worker. A community working together in mission. Regular coffee mornings and light-bite lunches in support of AgeUK Malvern and Action for Children. Use of the premises for peaceful rural retreats.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Barbara Innes,

long-time member of the parish whose funeral mass will take place at 3pm on Fri 29 May at Hereford Crematorium, & **Julie Lewis**, mother to Paul and mother-in-law to Anne Lewis.

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, Mary G (Pauline Kirton's stepmother). We include all those in hospitals, nursing homes & their own homes. Our Lady, Health of the sick, pray for them. Amen.