

St Peter's Bulletin for 4th Sunday of Easter – Sunday 3rd May 2020 – Year A
TODAY - 3rd May : World Day of Prayer for Vocations.

Until further notice, Mass continues to be celebrated by Fr David in private.

Sunday (Sat Vigil)	St Joseph's Parish
Sunday Morning 3rd	The Parish (Mass celebrated in St Peter's)
Sunday Afternoon 3 rd	St Joseph's Intention
Monday 4 th	Private Intention
Tuesday 5 th	St Joseph's Intention
Wednesday 6 th	Patrick Sumner RIP
Thursday 7 th	Mamie Heyworth RIP
Friday 8 th	St Joseph's Intention
Saturday 9 th	Holy Souls
Sunday (Vigil)	The Parish
Sunday Morning 10 th	St Joseph's Parish
Sunday Afternoon 10 th	St Joseph's Intention

Confessions are not currently available except for those who are seriously ill.

A thought for Easter: There are three figures in the Gospel for this Sunday: the shepherd, the gatekeeper and the gate of the sheepfold. St Augustine, at least, sees that all three could refer to the Lord Himself. We could relate this idea to Jesus' words elsewhere in John's Gospel: "I am the way, the truth and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me." Jesus is the very way into the Church, the gate – we can only enter through Him. Our faith is not just a set of beliefs, it is a person, *the* person: Jesus Christ Himself. We have to have a relationship with Him. In Him we live and move and have our being. In him we are not constricted, but set free. He is the truth – the gatekeeper. He it is who finally reveals the fullness of God to us. Did He not open the minds of the two disciples on the road to Emmaus to understand the scriptures? And "...no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal Him". He is the Life – the Good Shepherd, who lays down his life for His sheep, and gives them life and in abundance.

Mass for the Crisis: One of the bishops of England & Wales offers Mass each Thursday for all those involved in the corona virus crisis, whether victims, carers, or families. Next Thursday, 7th May, Mass will be celebrated at 7pm by bishop Marcus Stock of Leeds in his cathedral:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-xVdN6rMCG0sSgk8Rulow/featured>

How to make an Act of Perfect Contrition

Through an act of Perfect Contrition, you receive pardon for your sins outside of confession, even mortal sins, on condition that you determine to amend your life and make a firm resolution to go to sacramental confession as soon as this becomes possible for you.

Perfect Contrition is a grace from God, so sincerely ask for this gift throughout the day prior to making your act of contrition: "My God, grant me perfect contrition for all my sins".

1. In reality or imagination kneel at the foot of a crucifix and say to yourself: "Jesus, my God and my Saviour, in the midst of your agony, you remembered me, you suffered for me, you wished to wipe away my sins".
2. Contrition is 'perfect' if you repent of your sins because you love God and are sorry for offending Him and causing the sufferings of Christ on the cross. Before the Crucified Christ remember your sins, repent of them because they have brought our Lord to His sufferings on the Cross. Promise him, that with His help, you will not sin again.
3. Recite, slowly and sincerely, an act of contrition focused on the goodness of God and your love of Jesus: "O my God, because you are so good, I am very sorry that I have sinned against you and by the help of your grace I will not sin again. Amen".
4. Make a firm resolution to go to sacramental confession as soon as practically possible.

There are no regular Holy Communion visits until further notice. Visits to the sick will be made only on request when someone is seriously ill.

How to make a Spiritual Communion

Desire, with earnest longing, to receive our Lord present — Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity — in the Blessed Sacrament. Say this prayer of St. Alphonsus de' Ligouri:

"My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire You in my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, I embrace You and unite myself wholly to You; do not let me ever be separated from You. Amen".

Mass online: Visit <https://www.stpeterslytham.co.uk/> or <https://st-josephsandsell.net/videos/>

CONTRIBUTING AT THE PRESENT TIME

The parish still needs your financial support during these difficult times. If you would like to donate by **Standing Order, Online Banking or by Cheque** please contact the parish website and we will be pleased to give you details as to how you can do this.
Thank you, and thanks to those who are already contributing in these ways.

THE MONTH OF MAY is dedicated to the *Blessed Virgin Mary* - the entire month falls within the liturgical season of Easter, which is represented by the liturgical colour white - the colour of light, a symbol of joy, purity and innocence.

You are all beautiful, O Mary!

You are the glory, you are the joy, you are the honour of our people!

CATHOLIC VOICE OF LANCASTER

For the first time in nearly 29 years a Paper version has not been produced but a smaller edition of 12 pages. There will be no hardcopy this month. The link to read the 12 page edition is:
http://www.diocese.cc/FileSystem/11/Private/Advertising/Proofs/LancasterMay2020_Final.pdf

OUR OVERSEAS MISSION*VES*PERU*LATEST*24 APRIL 2020

During Lent on 19th March, I emailed Sister Maeve to find out what effect COVID-19 was having on Our Overseas Mission in Villa El Salvador (VES) and would £2000 come in handy? She replied that they were in quarantine, the Taytaco's had been suspended for 15 days and "Yes please, send the cheque". Maeve emailed me again last week:

"Dear Jim. We are still in lonely confinement but I got your cheque and from the 1st April we are starting to give lunch, a good hot meal to the Taytaco's and we are so grateful because the queues at the banks are unheard of but the people are hungry, at least they will have three good meals a week. In solitary confinement but its better than nothing! Love Maeve".

So there you go, straight from The Front. Its good news that our donations allow Maeve to keep "Our Mission" up and running, helping those in need in a shanty town on the other side of the world. **GREAT BIG THANKS** go to all involved for your generosity. See you soon - I hope!

FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK: Please continue to pray for:

Frank Loftus, Jennie Antoine, Anne Jones, Margaret Baldwin, Jean Bolton, Graham Bentley, Mgr Jim Hook, Fred & Mary Wylie, Bobby Kelly, Ruth Whiteside, Anne Smith, Kath Hywel-Buckley, Joe Ainsworth, Rose Moss, John Lavelle, Mattie Simpson, Margaret Fearn, Joan Woodcock, Iain Fair, and all those in the Hospice, Hospital, Rest Homes & the Convents. *May God give them His healing grace.*

ANNIVERSARIES:

Please remember in your prayers those whose anniversaries occur about this time: Gordon Dickinson, Mary Thompson, Robert McMahon, Rita Goggins, Winifred Hardman, Frances Shore, Eileen Hibbert, Robert Harrington, Sister Hyacinth CP, Margaret Byrne, Margaret Walton, Joe Gallagher, Sr Brid McCaughen CP, Nora McDonnell, Philomena Taylor, Elizabeth Sherman. *May they rest in peace. Amen.*

This week's Feast: Monday: The English Martyrs, National Calendar.

Priest in Charge: Rev David Burns - 01253 737037
Deacons: Rev Michael Harrison - 01253 730508 & Rev William Riley (Retired)
Parish Website www.stpeterslythamco.uk