**ST. LAWRENCE 0208 890 2367**



**CATHOLIC CHURCH email: feltham@rcdow.org.uk**

**FELTHAM web:**[**www.saintlawrences.org.uk**](http://www.saintlawrences.org.uk)

**The Green, Feltham TW13 4AF**

 **Facebook Group: St Lawrences RC Church, Feltham**

 **Second Sunday of Easter 18th/19th April 2020**

**Readings: Parish Mass Book Year A, Volume 1:** Page 255: Acts 2:42-47; Psalm 117; 1 Peter 1:3-9, John 20:19-31

**Next Week: 3rd Sunday of Easter:** Page 258: Acts 2:14, 22-33; Psalm 15; 1 Peter 1:17-21; Luke 24:13-35

‘The whole community remained faithful….’



This phrase begins the readings this Sunday. What a wonderful encouragement – and challenge – to us! This year we have not been able to gather for any of our Easter celebrations; Eucharist is now a ‘spiritual’ experience, rather than a physical gathering and sharing, and this looks likely to continue for some time to come. So, we may well ask ourselves what it means in this situation to, ‘remain faithful’. I imagine most of us are living in very changed circumstances. However, even now, we can, I suggest, enter more deeply into our Christian experience by embracing what is given us. The first of which, I suggest, is this time of year: Spring.

**Parish Team**

*Parish Priest:*

**Fr. John Byrne**

Mobile: 0787 905 8732

Email: johnbyrne@rcdow.org.uk

*Assistant Priest:*

**Fr John Louis Tabor**

Email: johntabor@rcdow.org.uk

*Deacon:*

**Rev. Colin Macken**

Email: colinmacken@rcdow.org.uk

*Parish Pastoral Assistant:*

**Dr. Jordan Pullicino**

Email: jordanpullicino@rcdow.org.uk

*Parish Secretary:*

**Florie Fernandes**

*The Parish Office is closed until further notice*

*Parish Sisters:*

**Sr. Mary O’Malley, Sr. Nora Gorman, Sr. Katherine O’Reilly**

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**Protecting your Privacy**:

In compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) which became effective in May 2018, the Parish requires your permission to hold your data for Parish/Diocesan use. You can read our full privacy policy on [www.rcdow.org.uk/diocese/privacy-policy](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/diocese/privacy-policy)

**MASS**

There will be no public Mass for the foreseeable future. Mass will, however, be said every day in private. If you wish to offer a Mass intention, please email Feltham.rcdow.org.uk or call

 Fr. John on 0787 905 8732

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One thing the lockdown cannot halt is the growth and development of Spring. I can see blossoms on trees, leaves unfurling, and birds flying with twigs in their beaks as they build nests in readiness for egg-laying. Beyond things we can see, the air is getting warmer, and days longer: light is now opening up earlier mornings, and lengthened evenings. Even if strict isolation is preventing any access for us to the out-of-doors, the sun is pushing in through windows, lighting and warming our homes.

I am so grateful to have a small garden and allotment. One challenge, however, has been that some of my seeds are old. Some packets are dated 2016! Of course, some seeds age better than others. Apparently, wild poppy seeds, for example, can lie dormant in the soil, for maybe a hundred years, only springing to glorious, crimson life, when the soil is dug. With my seeds, I have met this challenge by planting old seeds alongside newer ones. If both germinate, I have a double crop. If not, at least I have a single sowing. And what I always rely on, to a smaller extent, is what grows without planting – the stray squash, spinach, rocket, lettuce or tomato that always appear somewhere on my plot.

The light of the Resurrection brings the seeds of our faith to life: perhaps this Easter season we may be pleasantly surprised which of our possibly dormant seeds of faith will start to grow. We may discover things we never even knew were there: simply bask in the warmth and light of God’s radiant love, and let the Divine gardener gently dig and `

 water your soul with the grace of the Holy Spirit.

Easter blessings everyone! Dr Jordan

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*Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless and*

*the treasury of compassion inexhaustible,*

*look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us,*

*hat in difficult moments we might not despair nor*

*become despondent, but with great confidence*

*submit ourselves to your Holy will,*

*which is Love and Mercy itself. Amen*

Are you living alone? Are you over 70? And taking time out during this difficult time. Would you like a call, someone to chat to and someone who may be able to help with things that you would normally do out and about yourself. Please give Fr. John a call on his mobile: 0787 905 8732

**Can you help?** Do you have time to support our parish with some volunteering during the challenging weeks ahead? No matter how little time you can offer we would really appreciate your support. It could be from just making a call to helping with someone’s shopping Please call Annie (Baker) for more details on: 0208 707 2911 Do leave a message with your name and number if I am not in and I will get back to you as soon as possible. (Enjoy my voicemail

***Divine Mercy***

Let ourselves be embraced by the mercy of God;

Let us trust in his patience which always gives us more time.

Let us find the courage to return to his house, to dwell in his loving wounds, letting ourselves to be loved by him.

We will feel his tenderness and we too will become more capable of mercy, patience, and forgiveness. ***Pope Francis***

***Spiritual Communion***

My Jesus,

I believe that you are present in this Holy Sacrament of the altar.

I love you above all things and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever. Amen

(based on a prayer of St Alphonsus Ligouri)

***A Prayer for Protection in time of the Pandemic***

O Mary, you always brighten our path as a sign of salvation and of hope. We entrust ourselves to you, health of the sick, who, at the Cross, took part in Jesus’ pain while remaining steadfast in faith.

O loving Mother, you know what we need, and we are confident you will provide for us as at Cana in Galilee, intercede for us with your Son Jesus, the Divine Physician, for those who have fallen ill, for those who are vulnerable, and for those who have died.

Intercede also for those charged with protecting the health and safety of others and for those who are tending to the sick and seeking a cure.

Help us, O Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told byJesus, who took upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows, so as to lead us, through the Cross, to the glory of the Resurrection**. Amen**

**REST IN PEACE**

We pray for the repose of the souls of RIP, and those whohave died recently**:**

**Patricia Jean Dokoury, Derek Fearon, Elizabeth Kandial, Fr. John Seabrook. We pray too for all who have died from the virus.**

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

Please keep all their families who mourn them in your prayers.

**MASS INTENTIONS**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Sat 18 |  | Elizabeth Kandial RIPKita D’Souza – 18th Birthday Thanksgiving |
| Sun 19 |  | Eileen Galligan (Special IntentionMichael & Christine Bigley RIP |
| Mon 20 |  | People of the Parish |
| Tues 21 |  | People of the Parish |
| Wed 22 |  | Oscar Coutinho – Birthday Thanksgiving |
| Thurs 23 |  | Harry Haldane RIP |
| Fri 24 |  | Jill & Tony Smith RIP |
| Sat 25 |  | People of the Parish |
| Sun 26 |  | Jose D’Souza – Birthday ThanksgivingMeryvn Roga RIP (Anniversary) |
| Sanctuary Lamp: Linda & Kerry Wilson (intention) |

**Mass and other liturgies live streamed from Westminster Cathedral are now available to watch at (**[**www.churchservices.tv/westminster**](http://www.churchservices.tv/westminster)

**REFLECTION**

***Lord, I believe, strengthen my belief***

Thanks to St. Thomas for bringing honesty into our faith. He didn’t pretend that he was better than he was. He began by wanting proof and ended by being glad of faith. He is the patron saint of transitions and steps in faith. Faith is a journey. He is the saint of faith in our times. The community was the place he found faith, having lost it when he tried to go it alone. Then he came back to the community of faith and went on a journey of life that took him to martyrdom in India.

It can be easy to feel discouraged and to give up on prayer, at the very time when there is deepest need to know and feel the love and mercy of God and to entrust our worries and concerns to him.

 **NO ONE IS ALONE**