

5th Sunday of Lent

PASSION SUNDAY

29th March 2020

Year A · Weekday II · Psalter Week 1

Provost David Paul · Cathedral Dean · 01603 728930

Father Leo Michael · 01603 728932

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The Cathedral of St John the Baptist

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Liturgies in the Cathedral

The Cathedral remains closed at this time

Mass Intention

Sunday 29 th March 2020 5 th Sunday of Lent PASSION SUNDAY	Mass	Connors & Christian Families
Monday 30 th March Lent Feria	Mass	Consortia Soriano
Tuesday 31 st March Lent Feria	Mass	Stephen Cossor +
Wednesday 1 st April Lent Feria	Mass	Hannah and Trevor Brown +
Thursday 2 nd April Lent Feria	Mass	Anthony Harris +
Friday 3 rd April Lent Feria	Mass	Jean Caldwell +
Saturday 4 th April Lent Feria	Mass	Donna and Nina Strivens +
Sunday 5 th April PALM SUNDAY	Mass	Michael and Mary Lynch +

CONFESSIONS: we are invited to remain at home as much as possible at this time. Always remember that we can make a perfect act of contrition at home, by begging God's pardon for our sins, saying that, while we desire to go to confession to confess our sins and receive His absolution, it is nearly impossible to do this easily.

Therefore, I ask your pardon now, Lord, and at the earliest opportunity, I shall go to confession.

Prayers for the sick: Canon Paul, Fr John Warrington, Peter Warrington, Paul Horan, Liam McKenna, Philippa Barnes, Anthony Preston, Nancy Horner, Joan Marshall, Wood Family, Eleanor Bray, Lily Reid, Joe Heaney, Nina Strivens, Mary Ward, Dianne Yeadon, Chris Gillham, Peter Willets, Justina Adamska, Reece Sales, Nicholle Sales, Amanda Caistor, Patrick Campion and Brian Whitlam.

*If you would like your name or that of a relative added to the list, please take a GDPR form from the back of the church; do be aware that if it is for a relative he/she must give consent themselves. **Going into hospital?** Please inform the ward clerk at the hospital itself that you or your relative needs to see the Catholic Chaplain.*

Thank you for your continued financial support for the Church at this difficult time.

If you are interested in setting up a standing order or gift aid donation, please contact Cathedral House.

www.sjbcathedral.org.uk



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@StJohnsCath_Nrw

It's the **Fifth Sunday of Lent**, and next week, we shall enter Holy Week – perhaps the strangest Holy Week any of us have ever experienced before.

We're all doing our bit, at home and at work, to try and keep everyone safe and to curb the spread of the virus at this time. **This means that, in accordance with government order, the Cathedral and its facilities will be closed to the public for the time being.** However, **Mass is still being celebrated every day at 10am**, which we can watch online (see details), or, at least, join in prayer in our own special way at home. Our Cathedral bells will still ring the call to Mass, and the Angelus. Even, now and then, you might hear the occasional hopeful hymn-tune if you keep your ears to the wind!

Whenever God closes a door, somewhere he opens a window: this may be an opportunity for us to connect to God in prayer and in contemplation in a way that we had not imagined before. We can learn how to pray in a new way, or read the scriptures. We can remind ourselves at this time about our hunger and thirst for Jesus Christ in the sacraments. When the time comes for us all to return to Mass, we will then have an ever greater appreciation of God's gift of himself to us in the sacraments.

Please continue to support one another at this difficult time. Even if we can't visit physically one another, we can still call. We will make sure that our sick and housebound that we know about are still called and supported where possible. If you know of any parishioners that may have been left out, please let Fr Simon know (fathersimondavies@gmail.com).

Please also remember all the good charities in our city that are helping the poor and needy, such as the **Foodbank** and **St Martin's Housing Trust**. When buying for ourselves, we can also think of others.

Priests will only be able to make physical home or hospital visits (other than phone visits) to those who are in **danger of death**. This is to help stop the spread of the virus.

It is still possible to help the work of the Church with our **Sunday offerings by standing order**, or by gift aid. Please contact the Cathedral if you are interest, and we can send you by post or email the necessary documents.

Confession – at this time, if we cannot get to a priest, we can turn to God and tell him what weighs on our conscience. We can ask his forgiveness and healing, and make a perfect act of contrition. We have the full intention to go to confession, but, for whatever reason, it may be impossible to actually go to confession. In an act of contrition, we say sorry to God for our sins, because of our love for God (rather than in fear), and we resolve not to sin again with the help of his grace. If we do find a priest for confession, he will require the penitent to respect the requirement for social distancing. St Damien of Molokai, a priest on a leper colony in Hawaii, was known to shout his confession to priests on ships passing by the island!

An act of contrition: "Oh my God, I am very sorry for having offended you, and I detest all my sins, because they offend you, my God, who are deserving of all my love. Firmly I resolve, by the help of your grace, to sin no more. Amen."

Daily Mass from the Cathedral will be broadcast online every single day at 10am. You can view it online on our parish website (sjbcathedral.org.uk) or directly on the Cathedral YouTube channel (youtube.com/channel/UC1L1vHKBeZgiaUf6hUxbT0A).

Recordings will be broadcast live at 10am every day (including Sunday), and will be kept online afterwards to watch again later. If you can, please help our less technical brothers and sisters find out how to use this service.

Daily Mass is also broadcast from other places of interest:

Walsingham Shrine
walsingham.org.uk/live-stream

St Laurence's, Cambridge
saintlaurence.org.uk/live

Our Lady and the English Martyrs, Cambridge
youtube.com/channel/UCFiftyWRJgbv2PUBSZHMhqq

Fraternity of St Peter (Old Rite Latin)
livemass.net

Bishop Robert Barron's Word on Fire (USA)
wordonfire.org/daily-mass

Fr Andrew's Podcast – the third episode of Fr Andrew's podcast, *Ego Sum Via*, will be available to download on Sunday at egosumvia.podbean.com, and will include the readings and homily for Sunday's Mass.

Canon Paul underwent surgery last week, which went very well. He is recovering now in isolation (with support) and so will be absent for a while. When the current situation is over, he will be able to continue his cancer treatment. Please continue to keep him, and all our many parishioners who are undergoing cancer treatment, in your prayers.

The **Young Adults Group** – open to those aged 18-35 – is still able to meet... online, through Zoom, for prayer and a talk. Please contact Cathedral House by email or phone if you are interest and would like further details.

The **Narthex, Café, and shop** will remain closed for the foreseeable future. We still use the Narthex entrance to gain access to the Cathedral as usual.

All public meetings at Cathedral House and in the Narthex will no longer be able to take place. This includes the **SVP** and **Journey in Faith**, as well as all commercial bookings.

We have decided to postpone our **Pilgrimage to the Holy Land** until next year. Much of the planning would need to take place over the next few weeks, and many people will be in financial difficulty at this time.

An act of spiritual communion: "Lord Jesus, though I may not at this moment receive you in Holy Communion, please come into my heart, your whole Soul and Divinity, and remain there, and keep me safe. I love you Jesus, always. Amen."