

Sunday 2020

32nd Sunday of Ordinary Time

Remembrance Sunday

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Well, here we are again, back in lockdown and with Holy Mass behind closed doors and available only from the live-streaming camera, except for funeral services. All other sacraments and liturgical services are prohibited by law except in danger of death.

I am delighted to be able to announce that Father Gerard will be sharing the Masses with me although not necessarily on alternate days.

In addition to the Masses, we will have the church open for periods of private prayer thanks to the stewards who have kindly volunteered once again to facilitate this.

In Sacred Heart church this week

Monday	10.00am	Mass		
Tuesday	10.00am	Mass	Private Prayer	6.00pm – 7.00pm
Tuesday's Mass will be a Remembrance Mass for the deceased Catenians of the Province.				
Wednesday	9.30am	Requiem Mass	Private Prayer	2.00pm – 3.00pm
Requiem for Anne Bottomley, RIP, by invitation only because of restriction on number.				
Thursday	10.00am	Mass	Exposition and Private Prayer	6.00pm -7.00pm
Friday	10.00am	Mass	Private prayer	2.00pm – 3.00pm
Saturday	11.45am	Mass		
Sunday	9.30am	Mass	Private Prayer	6.00pm – 7.00pm

Prayer Resource - Lord's Day at Home

For those who wish to participate in the Church's Liturgy by linking to the Mass at home, the Liturgy Office has prepared a service called "The Lord's Day at Home", based on the Sunday Scriptures, that you can pray on your own or with your family. It is particularly aimed at those not able to follow a Mass on the internet.

This week's Lord's Day at Home prayer sheet [can be found by clicking here](#)

Sacramental Programme, RCIA etc.

Sadly, we have been instructed that the Sacramental Programme and all Catechetical activity should be suspended until the end of this period of lockdown. More information will be available when we have it.

United in Daily Prayer

In their statement about the current lockdown, Cardinal Nichols and Archbishop MacMahon have referred to an invitation for us to unite in prayer at 6pm each evening. The text of their message is available via the link below.

[Bishops' Statement on the November Lockdown](#)

This made me think about the very ancient and commendable tradition in the Catholic Church of praying The Angelus. Where there is a Catholic Church with bells, it was the custom to ring a pattern of bells at noon and 6.00pm (often 6.00am as well) to call the Faithful to prayer. It was the custom on hearing the bell to stop whatever you were doing and pray the Angelus. The Angelus is a celebration of the Incarnation. The fact that God became human in Jesus Christ. He “became flesh” and “dwelt among us”. God being amongst us in Jesus is a permanent reality. It is true every moment of every day. God is with us in Jesus. The Angelus was an invitation to stop and remember that a couple of times each day. Many of you will remember hearing the bell ring. Many of you will remember the picture which used to be popular in our homes of “The Angelus” which showed a couple of workers in a field, stopped, standing still, heads bowed in prayer, as the sound of the bell rolled over the countryside. Perhaps we would do well during this time when we can so easily feel alone to pray the Angelus each day and remind ourselves that the Lord is always with us. The Incarnation, God in humanity, is real for us.

God bless you all and pray for each other,
Fr. Peter

The Angelus

Ringng the Angelus is an ancient tradition throughout the church. Sadly, in England, where few Catholic churches have bells we don't hear it rung very often. It is traditionally sounded as a call to prayer at 6.00am (sometimes moved to 7.00am), noon and 6.00pm to interrupt the day with a reminder of the Lord being with us. The number of rings varies in different countries, but in England, the tradition is 3,3,9

The sections correspond with the sections of the prayer. The prayer itself is often considered to be a Marian prayer, but it is largely scriptural and is a meditation on the Incarnation. It is an invitation to remember that the Lord took on human nature and lived among us, and we 'bring him into our daily life' by saying this prayer in honour of the Incarnation each day.

Traditionally it was said at 6am, noon and 6pm, to consecrate the whole day to God. I guess that was when people lived life following daylight rather than clocks. Most churches that ring it now keep it to noon and 6pm.

The Angelus (from the first word of the prayer in Latin) is made up of three quotations from the Gospels, each followed by the Hail Mary, the first half of which is of course also scriptural, being how the angel addressed Mary at the Annunciation.

(the bell rings three times for each of these three scriptural quotations)

The angel of the Lord declared to Mary,
and she conceived by the Holy Spirit.

“Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.

Blessed art thou amongst women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.”

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now, and at the hour of our death. Amen.

“Behold the handmaid of the Lord,
Be it done unto me according to thy word.”

Hail, Mary, etc.

And the Word was made flesh
And dwelt amongst us.

Hail, Mary, etc.

Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God,
That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

(the bell rings nine times during this concluding prayer)

Let us pray,
Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts.
That we to whom the Incarnation of Christ Thy Son
was made known by the message of an angel,
may, by His passion and cross,
be brought to the glory of His resurrection.
Through Christ, our Lord.