

## THE GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH WORSHIPPING AT

## SACRED HEART CHURCH.

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Saturday 20th Sunday 21st

6.00pm.

Vigil Mass 4th Sunday in Easter Time

Key:

Ap.

Ab Bp

D

M

R

Apostle Abbott

Bishop

Doctor

Martyr Priest

Religious Virgin

9.30am. Sunday Mass

Tuesday 23rd

10.00am Mass

St. George M Patron of England

Wednesday 24th

10.00am Mass

Thursday 25th

5.45pm Exposition and Benediction

6.30pm Mass St. Mark Evangelist

Friday 26th

10.00am Mass

Saturday 27th

11.00-11.30 Confessions during Exposition

Saturday 27th

6.00pm.

Vigil Mass 5th Sunday in Easter Time

Sunday 28th

9.30am.

**Sunday Mass** 

The Mission Possible Team are visiting us on Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th April to make an appeal to aid their forthcoming trip to Kenya.

Mission Possible are a team of educators from local primary and secondary schools in East Lancashire that travel out to Kenya annually to work alongside the Salesian Sisters based there.

The team take out resources to help enhance the teaching and learning given to the children and improve the educational experience for those children who would not otherwise have access to formal education.

We will, of course, make them welcome and give our customary support to their generous work.

## Pastoral Care of the Sick and the Housebound.

The pastoral care of parishioners who are not able to come to church is a serious obligation for us as a parish.

There are at least three areas of activity which we need to undertake.

We need to concern ourselves with their material welfare.

We need to be concerned with their possible loneliness and isolation.

We need to be concerned with their spiritual and sacramental wellbeing.

Our SVP are very much concerned with the first two of these, and we are immensely indebted to them for what they do in our name and on our behalf, but that does not exhaust all that we should be doing.

All of us have neighbours. It is for each of us to be aware of the needs of our neighbours whilst respecting their privacy and their own wishes.

If you know of anyone who is in need of a visit, and they wish to be visited, then please let the office know.

Similarly, if you know of anyone who cannot come to Mass, but who wishes to receive Our Blessed Lord in Holy Communion then please let me or the parish office know.

Pre-Covid we had a large number of people who received Holy Communion either at home or in a care home or nursing home. We also had a large number of Extra-Ordinary Eucharistic Ministers who took Holy Communion to them on a regular basis. Covid took its toll in so many ways. We lost parishioners and Eucharistic Ministers. Death, sickness and moving out of the parish accounted for many. Others simply did not resume once the restrictions were lifted. Some sick or house-bound parishioners are possibly still wary of people coming into their



homes. Sadly, some possibly came to feel that observing Mass on-line from whichever church they took a fancy to was 'good enough' during the restrictions and are happy to continue praying along with a community 'on-line' without actually receiving Our Blessed Lord in the Sacrament.

We need to ensure that we are not failing in our responsibility of care for our brothers and sisters in any of the above mentioned areas. If you know of anyone who wishes to re-connect with our parish community but who is shy or reluctant to ask, please give them some encouragement and let us build up this side of the parish once again.

Perhaps you are reading this and you cannot get to Mass but would like to receive Holy Communion at home or where you now live (within the Good Shepherd Parish). If so, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us. We want to hear from you.

God bless and thank you for your help in this.

Fr. Peter

## **SVP**

There is to be an important meeting for the SVP on Monday 22nd April at 7.00p.m. in the Presbytery. SVP members please try to attend.