



Catholic Parish of St Edmund, King and Martyr, Godalming

with St Joseph's, Milford

*Through the love of the Father, Son and Spirit,
our Parish will grow as the Body of Christ in Godalming.*

Saint Peter & Saint Paul 28th June 2020

...and on this rock I will build my church

As we prayed through this Sunday's Gospel earlier in the week I was struck by how much of the Scriptures for today's feast are about God rather than Peter or Paul. Peter and Paul are the occasion of our joy, but it's not really about them. It is about the angel sent by God who frees Peter from his chains. It is about the Lord who gave Paul power to proclaim God's message for all the pagans to hear. It is about the Father who reveals the true identity of his Son to Peter.

It is about Jesus who will build his Church on Peter. Jesus doesn't say to Peter, "You're great and you're going to build a great church for me." (In the sort of way Lord Alan Sugar speaks to candidates in *The Apprentice*.) No, he says, "I will build my church". There is a play on words in the Greek text – Peter and Rock are basically the same word (*petros* and *petra*) – that is masked by our familiar translation. It's curious how in English "rock" conveys a sense of solidity and "rocky" a sense of unreliability. I don't know whether the same play works out in Greek, but it certainly fits the character of Peter – utterly reliable but prone to mess things up, often through over-enthusiasm. (I'll leave it to you to match him to A.A. Milne's characters.)

I think it is part of being human to doubt ourselves, and the added stresses of a pandemic and lack of social contact don't really help. There is great consolation to be had in the Word of God – that it is ultimately God's work. It is something that he is doing and asks us to be part of. But he does not then crush us with the burden of responsibility; it is always his and he will make sure that it works out OK.

Mass from next weekend We still don't know the full details of arrangements. There are some indications on the second page of this newsletter and full details and how to book for Mass will go out by mailchimp and on the website on Tuesday. Please note some changes to times of opening for private prayer.

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www.stedsgod.com

Public Masses from next weekend At the time of writing we still don't know the full details but the following seem likely:

- We will observe **2m distancing** of seating rather than 1m+, at least to begin with. This will give us capacity for between 20 and 50 people at each church, depending on the size of the households attending. I hope this caution might help us regain confidence in coming back to church.
- We will use a **booking system** so that everyone who would like to come to Mass has an opportunity to do so, even if not every week.
- Sunday Masses will feel more like weekday ones (without singing etc)
- **Mass won't be at the usual times.** We don't yet know what arrangements at Farncombe might be so Sunday Masses there will resume a little later.
- We will **clean the church** after each use.
- We will continue with a Sunday Liturgy of the Word **online**.

Sacrament of Penance (Confession) or anointing of the sick is available by arrangement with Fr Jonathan.

Lectio Divina is a very special and fruitful way of praying with the scriptures. St John Paul II said "It is especially necessary that listening to the word of God should become a life-giving encounter, in the ancient and ever valid tradition of *lectio divina*, which draws from the biblical text the living Word which questions, directs and shapes our lives."

Wednesday 7.30pm – 8.45pm on GoToMeeting.

Livesimply Group next meets on **Tuesday 7th July at 8pm** on the parish GoToMeeting, usual login, everyone welcome!

CAFOD also has an **online petition** to the Prime Minister to ask him to remember that we are one global family, to ensure that any vaccine made is available to all countries and to help developing countries by cancelling their debt so that they can spend more money on health care. We'd usually be at the back of church with copies of the petition to sign but as we can't do this visit the CAFOD website or use this link: <https://e-activist.com/page/59334/petition/1>.

Face coverings Sr Mary FMDM from Ladywell has emailed to say "Greetings of Peace. I hope the blessing of the Lord is still a reality for you all in spite of the many sorrows and restrictions of this time. I am currently 'shielding' and will be for a while. I would like to ask if you might appreciate some face-coverings for those who find it hard to source them and may need them. They are three layered, light cotton with gentle elastic which goes around the ears... I got the material free and it is passing the time for me. I also pray for the health and safety of the wearer as I sew them. So there is no charge except if the recipient wishes or can do a kind deed for someone else." If you would appreciate one or know someone who would please let Sarah know in the parish office.

Virtual Pilgrimage – something to do together! The LiveSimply group are organising a "virtual pilgrimage" this month to Bury St Edmund's and encourage you to take part by:

- **Donating to CAFOD's Coronavirus Appeal** on the pilgrimage Just Giving: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Jo-Lewry1> or by phoning 0303 303 3030. We've raised £1391 and 3 more weeks to go to reach our new target of £2000. Thank you to everyone who has contributed.
- **Walking 109 miles**, covering a section over each of 5 weeks, as part of the pilgrimage group; or
- Joining the walkers for part of the journey or a social. If you would like to join in just drop Ian an email (Honeysett@btinternet.com).

Of course, we are not *actually* walking to Bury St Edmund's – but we will be walking the miles and thinking about the places that we would have gone through. There are updates on the parish website and Facebook Page (www.facebook.com/stedsgod).

Next week we will gather (virtually) for **Friday night drinks** at the White Hart at Fyfield. (ID: 882 0689 9219 – a fresh code this week.) Do pop in and stay for as long or as little as you like. Apologies for the confusion last week – there were a couple of different codes in use and Fr Jonathan (who was hosting) started off "in the wrong pub".

Some Recommended Streaming

St Edmund's, Godalming. Services by video conference on **GoToMeeting**. ID 450-922-301. Or **by telephone** on 020 3713 5028 using access code: 450-922-301. Please ask if you need help setting it up.

Guildford <https://www.cpg.church> They also have a lot of resources for adults and families.

Arundel Cathedral with Bishop Richard or Fr David. From www.dabnet.org or <https://tinyurl.com/y75fpbeg>

Walsingham

<http://www.walsingham.org.uk/live-stream>

Dominican Sisters at Swaye

<https://dominicansistersofstjoseph.org> Mass and Liturgy of the Hours with the community in the New Forest.

CAFOD Children's Liturgy continues at <https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Children-s-liturgy>.

Thank you for your regular giving. Eileen Hudson (t: 01483 208238) can help set up standing orders or make bank transfers, for those who wish. Donations for the parish can also be made through a new Just Giving facility – mention the parish against your donation and it will get to us:

<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/parishoffertory>

Do visit the parish **Facebook Page** (www.facebook.com/stedsgod) and give it a "Like". You don't need to open a Facebook account to view to page. We've hidden the Facebook group for the moment as a few people were finding it confusing.

Prayer Intentions

Fr Jonathan is keeping a candle burning in the Lady Chapel at St Edmund's, which will remain there during the current pandemic. Please email requests for prayer direct to Fr Jonathan: they aren't for publication.

Of your charity pray for the repose of the soul of Margaret Stevens who died recently. Her funeral will take place on 10th July (close family only).

Sources of Practical Support

Love One Another Fellowship

If you would like help from our team of parish volunteers do not hesitate to call the help line number (07593 121430) or send a message via the parish email or Fr Jonathan.

Godalming Food Bank is still providing vital support to many. For latest update and details, including new collection points see: <http://www.parishofgodalming.org.uk/our-church-of-st-marks/food-bank/>

Some **Food Vouchers** are available from the Diocese for those in need. Please speak to Fr Jonathan or Sarah in the parish office.

Parish Welfare Fund aims to support those who are struggling at this time to afford basic necessities. If you need a bit of help or know someone who does please don't hesitate to contact Fr Jonathan, in confidence. The **SVP** are also able to help.

Please remember in your prayers

All those affected by the **Coronavirus**: parishioners or their families who are sick, the sick and dying, those who work in our essential services, who are anxious or struggling with living well together at home, our families, schools and their staff, and for those who find juggling learning, work and family life difficult. Those who are worried about their jobs or livelihood.

The Holy Father's Intentions for June: We pray that all those who suffer may find their way in life, allowing themselves to be touched by the Heart of Jesus.

The sick and those who care for them

including - Cliff Hutchinson, Alan Berry, Nicolle Ernould, Gerry Newell, Ruth de Stefani, Josie Whittle, Barbara Brightman, Nuala Gallagher, Maria Chacaltana, Ann Lloyd, Anita van Rheen, Jean Humphrey, Maura Goodfellow, George Gelder, Jean Tyrell, Pat Wilson and Rudolf Dorrepaal, and those in our hospitals and care homes.

The faithful departed Margaret Stevens & Alec Mc Alister who died recently, and Duncan Cosgrove, Victor Birbeck, Mary Williamson, Denise Cockburn, Edmund Szalajda, Joan Matthews, Peter Barnard, Richard Doyle-Davidson, Kathleen Lewis, Matthew Brown, Bill Davey, Jan Bilewicz, Margaret Ellul and Bill Brister whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Schedule of Services for Ss Peter & Paul and Thirteenth Week of Ordinary Time

Fr Jonathan celebrates Mass in the parish each day and the times and intentions are given below for those who wish to join spiritually with this celebration by praying at home. These Masses are not available online.

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| Sunday 28th June Ss Peter & Paul | 9.00am Mass – <i>People of the Parish</i> 10.00am Liturgy of the Word online 4:00pm – 5:00pm St Edmund’s open for prayer |
| Monday 29th June | 9.30am Mass – Robert Gilmour RIP 10:30am – 11.30am St Edmund’s open for prayer 2.30pm – 4.00pm St Edmund’s open for prayer 7.00pm-8.00pm St Edmund’s open for prayer |
| Tuesday 30th June | 9.30am Mass – Albert & Jean Fisher RIP 10.00am – 11.00am St Joseph’s open for prayer |
| Wednesday 1st July St Oliver Plunkett | 9.30am Mass – Thomas Wilson RIP 10.00am – 11.00am St Joseph’s open for prayer 7.30pm – 8.30pm St Joseph’s open for prayer 7.30pm – <i>Lectio Divina</i> online |
| Thursday 2nd July | 9.15am Mass – Frank & Matthew Brown RIP 10.00am – noon St Edmund’s open for prayer |
| Friday 3rd July | 9.30am Mass – |
| Saturday 4th July | <i>To be confirmed – please watch Mailchimp, Website & Newsletter</i> |
| Sunday 5th July 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time | <i>To be confirmed – please watch Mailchimp, Website & Newsletter</i> |

Divine Office Psalter Week 1: Weekday Readings Year II.

Online items are on

GoToMeeting Virtual Parish 450-922-301

(t: 020 3713 5028 – access code 450-922-301)

Please contact Fr Jonathan if you are unsure and need help joining.