



St Winefride's RC Church

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www.stwinefridesneston.org.uk

Third Sunday of Easter

26th April 2020

Fr Paul is saying Mass behind closed doors and will continue to do so whilst the church is closed. Masses this coming week, are listed below.

Mass Intentions from this Saturday are as follows:

Saturday 25th	Joan Kay	Sunday 26th	Parish Family
Monday 27th	Ron & Maureen Jones	Tuesday 28th	Ted Henesy
Thursday 30th	NHS Staff and all key workers	Friday 1st May	Anne McGonigle
Saturday 2nd	Sheila & Thomas Topping	Sunday 3rd	Jack Henesy

Parishioners who need our Prayers

Please remember in your prayers all those who are sick at home or in hospital, including:

Sue Lawton	Patricia Davies
Frances Wright	Rosemary Southwell
Pat Cummins	Sarah Alouane
Pat Matthews	Dot Davies
John Barber	Emily Haines
Ted Henesy	Anthony Kane
Dorothy Robinson & son John Robinson	



Please get in touch via the parish office e-mail if you want anyone adding or removing.

Daily Rosary at 10.30am with St Winefride's parish

To join in please download **Zoom.us** either as an "app" on your phone or tablet or download from the **Zoom.us** website to your laptop. It is free and simple registration with your email and a password. When you have Zoom then type in or click the link below;

<https://zoom.us/j/252387114> password: AveMaria

If you would like to join in with reciting the **Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3pm** each Friday you are most welcome. Please use the same Zoom login details as for Rosary. Ron Jones had a strong devotion to the Divine Mercy and it would be a fitting tribute to him at this time.

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Fr Paul Writes: Another week locked down, but we have had some sunny days with the hope that all will be well for the summer.

As we keep the NHS in our continual prayers, we are called to pray for our retirement and nursing homes. Please remember Fr Chris in Hallwood Court and all the staff who are caring for him along with many other retirement homes like Hartford Hey, Weatherstones, Plessington Court and many more.

On Monday the grave side service will take place for Maureen and Ron Jones. Please keep their family in your prayers. When the church opens, I will arrange a public funeral Mass for all who have died during this sad time.

Once again I place before you one of Pope Francis 'homilies. You may find this homily an aid to your prayer.

I will remember you at Mass and in my prayer during this week **Fr Paul**

Pope Francis's intention for Wednesday's Mass was for the elderly, especially those who are isolated or in nursing homes.

Many of them, he said, are afraid of dying alone. But "they are our roots, our story, our history". He invited us to pray for them, "that the Lord might be close to them in this moment".

Our response to God's fidelity

Pope Francis recalled his reflection the day before on St Mary Magdalene as the "icon of fidelity" in the Gospel. Pope Francis on Wednesday asked what it means for us to be faithful to God. Our fidelity to God, he said, "is nothing more than a response to God's fidelity".

A more wonderful re-creation

In the first Reading, a man crippled from birth was healed in the name of Jesus. Pope Francis said this is an example of God's fidelity, "who is capable of redoing things, of re-creating... this is His faithfulness to us: a re-creation that is more wonderful than creation".

Like a good shepherd, God never tires of seeking the sheep that is lost, the Pope said. He does so "out of love, out of fidelity"; and not for pay, but freely, gratuitously. God is like a father who never grows tired of waiting for his son to return home – and who throws a party when he does. "God's faithfulness is a feast, a free feast, a feast for all of us".

.../continued from above.

God's fidelity comes before our own

It is that divine faithfulness that led our "generous God" to seek after Peter, who had denied Jesus during His Passion. Pope Francis explained that although we do not know what the Lord said to Peter when He appeared to him for the first time after the Resurrection, "We know that it was God's faithfulness that sought Peter out".



As with Peter, God's faithfulness always precedes our own, "and our faithfulness is always a response to that faithfulness that precedes us".

For us, Pope Francis said in conclusion, "to be faithful is to praise this fidelity, to be faithful to [God's] fidelity. It is a response to this fidelity". to be faithful to [God's] fidelity. It is a response to this fidelity".

You can access what the pope has to say each day be heading to
<https://www.vaticannews.va/en.html>

LIVE STREAMING OF SERVICES include:

- Walsingham: walsingham.org.uk
- St. Anthony's, Wythenshawe: churchservices.tv/stanthonyswythenshawe
- Fr Denis McBride: rpbooks.co.uk/holy-mass-online
- Bishop Robert Baron: wordonfire.org/daily-mass/
- Shrewsbury Cathedral: dioceseofshrewsbury.org
- CAFOD Children's Liturgy: cafod.org.uk/Education/Children-s-liturgy
(This is a fantastic resource for children.)

[A message from the office](#)

Ways to Stay in Touch with Parish News - Visit the parish website
www.stwinefridesneston.org.uk

Sign up for the weekly parish newsletter via email. To join send an email to Jayne at
parishoffice@stwinefridesneston.org.uk

Some useful local contacts which St Catherine's, Hoylake have been circulating to their arishioners are below:

* **NHS Volunteer Responders Portal.** This site will provide you with further information if you are self-isolating and need support. You can find out how you can access support and things to consider if you are going to receive support. <https://royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk/nhs-volunteer-responders-portal/isolating-volunteering>.

* **NHS Mental Health Crisis Line 0300 303 3972.** It covers Wirral, Chester West, Chester East and is staffed 24/7.

* **Kooth** is aimed at young people (aged 11-25) offering free, safe and anonymous support through booked, online counselling sessions. www.kooth.com

Also **Neston Town Council in conjunction with the Community Centre** are helping people who can't get out and **need food or prescriptions collecting**. Contact on 0151 336 7805 or www.nestoncyc.uk

HOPE – Reflection by Tony Topping *Be not afraid!*

This is a phrase which has been used numerous times in the New Testament. The angel said it to Mary when he appeared to her in her home in Nazareth. Joseph also received it in a dream. Jesus used the same words often when he spoke to Peter and the apostles. The words tell us not to despair but to have hope. To be hopeful we need to be able to trust. To be trusting we need faith. To have faith we must be humble.

I think I am not very good at praying. I recite the morning prayer of the church and try to attend mass daily. I pray for my family and myself, for this person and that person but so little of my time is spent listening. It is as if I am the instigator of prayer but I know that that is not so, God is the instigator of all prayer. It is he who draws me into it. In my need, whether it be for protection and deliverance or whether it be a yearning for spiritual knowledge of God, it is He, The Holy Spirit deep within me, who causes me to turn to him. Yet, still, I try to tell God what I need. He already knows. So, I need to just sit and listen but when I do, I become so distracted by other things that are going on in my life, I wonder if I'm doing right. I do not, nor do I want, to hear a booming voice in the clouds. I do not, nor expect, to see a blinding light for I am no saint. But I have come to think that, perhaps, God speaks in little ways. Since being in isolation, I have noticed little things that happen so frequently and in such an order that there seems to be a design behind it. Those who do not believe will say it is just coincidence or it's all in my head, my imagination. However, I think that God is speaking to us all the time in all things, sights and sounds, all around us. We just have to be more observant. We have to stop and listen and notice and ask, what is God telling me.

This morning, while preparing to receive the live streaming of mass from the cathedral, I had some time to spare, so I tuned into the news. I watched a video put out by a frightened, tearful young nurse pleading with us to follow the government guidelines and to stay at home. It broke my heart. I wanted to do something for her but as I am at an age which puts me in the vulnerable category, I can do very little but I can offer up my heartbreak, my frustration, my helplessness, my prayers for her and for all the front-line workers. What heroes they are! These are ordinary people showing extraordinary, unselfish courage. People we know. Members of our families and our friends. The sacrifices all these people are making, doctors, nurses, key workers and all those who have selflessly volunteered, humble me and give me faith and trust in God. Therefore, I am able to hope for an end to this crisis and a beginning of a new world of love and compassion.

*Why are you cast down my soul,
why groan within me?
Hope in God; I will praise him still,
my saviour and my God.*