



St Winefride's RC Church

5 Burton Road, Little Neston, CH64 9RF

Fr Paul O'Grady Tel: 0151 721 3035

parishpriest@stwinefridesneston.org.uk

Deacon Mike Topping Tel: 0151 353 0253

deaconmike@stwinefridesneston.org.uk

Deacon Jim Kay Tel: 07746743921

deaconjim@stwinefridesneston.org.uk

Jayne Shakespeare - parishoffice@stwinefridesneston.org.uk

Parish Sister: Sr Laurice McMullan

www.stwinefridesneston.org.uk

Second Sunday of Easter

19th April 2020

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

Masses Intentions from this Saturday are as follows:

Saturday 18th	Dr Marioth	Sunday 19th April	Michael Halley
Monday 20th	Parish family	Tuesday 21st	Paul James Shakespeare
Thursday 23rd	John Christopher Holden	Friday 24th	Marie Jones
Saturday 25th	Joan Kay	Sunday 26th	Parish Family

Parishioners who need our Prayers

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

Sue Lawton
Frances Wright
Pat Cummins
Pat Matthews
John Barber

Patricia Davies
Rosemary Southwell
Sarah Alouane
Dot Davies

Dorothy Robinson and son John Robinson



Please get in touch if there are any alterations. Information taken from the March Prayer List in church. Do e-mail or call the office, 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

Tony Topping and wife Betty are both keeping well and Tony has put together a new reflection which you will see on the last page of this weeks newsletter.

Fr Paul writes: We are continuing to celebrate the Passion, Death and Resurrection of the Lord Jesus at the festival of Easter. We also find ourselves enjoying the warmth of the Spring sun, yet each of us carries some fear of the 'Covid 19'. In a special way we offer our prayers for the happy repose of Marie Jones from Burton Road whose grave side funeral took place on Friday. May her close family be consoled by the One who brings Life Eternal.

We pray too for the family of Maureen Jones who died last Friday morning, 10th April and her husband Ron who died on Wednesday last week. What wonderful people of our parish community. They were blessed by the Lord through their Baptism and are now in the presence of the Risen Christ. We must pray for their family at this time of loss. Maureen's and Ron's grave side service will take place on Monday 27th at 12.30pm. As you know there is only a limited amount of people who can attend the grave side service. When we are free to come back to Church will have a funeral Mass in thanksgiving for their lives. Be assured of my remembrance at daily Mass and my prayers. Fr Paul

I thought you may like one of Pope Francis' reflections from his daily Mass. It may help us through these difficult days.

At the daily Mass in the chapel at Casa Santa Marta, 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".

God is "faithful to His word... faithful to His promise". He "walks with his people, carrying out His promise close to his people". We constantly experience God as Saviour, the Pope said, because "He is faithful to His promise".

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 and daughters 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".

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".

...../continued below

...../ *continued from above.*

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".

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

As you know Deacon Jim has his Rosary 'prayer time each day on Zoom at 10.30am you are most welcome to join. If you would like an intention to be prayed for just contact Deacon Jim, either via his e-mail address or his telephone number, details can be found at the top of the newsletter or contact Jayne on the parish office e-mail.

We are asked to remember all who are ill in our parish along with the doctors, nurses and all the members of the NHS. Remember too our residential nursing and retirement homes.

Please also remember to look at the website to see this Sunday Message. The *Sunday Message* is focused on giving a practical application to the Sunday Gospel. Each week, an original exposition of the Gospel is provided, along with a short reflection encouraging the reader to relate it to their life; learning points, suggestions for action and original prayer material are also included.

The full text of the readings at Mass are provided, along with the antiphons, the Gloria, Creed, Gospel Acclamation and Psalm. **Fr Paul**

[A message from the office.](#)

Apologies to those people who were unable to open the poster and Easter card I sent via e-mail last weekend. Please do look at the website where you should be able to open the documents.

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

When church is back open we want to carry out a parish census. In the meantime, if you have moved house or changed telephone number in the last couple of years, can I ask you to contact me so we have up to date information for you. Thanks Jayne.



GOOD AND EVIL

Good is greater than all that is evil in the world. (Pope St. John Paul 2)

This fight against Corvid-19 is the latest battle in a war between good and evil which has been raging since man was first tempted to eat the forbidden fruit. His sin allowed evil to enter into the world. Since then it has grown stronger and more powerful. In this pandemic, every one of us has a role to play. It is not enough to sit at home and observe how the few are sacrificing themselves for the many. It is not enough to stand at our doors and show our appreciation of them by clapping and cheering. We each have a duty to pray not only for an end to this crisis but also an end to all the injustice and cruelty, the greed and abuse, the wars and the misuse of power that is destroying our world. We must learn from those frontline heroes and put aside self-interest and look towards the needs of others.

Pope Francis said we must put an end to greed and self-centredness. The Archbishop of Canterbury encouraged us to make to make this crisis a turning point. Nationalism will not save the world from global warming. It will not stop the terrible fires or the droughts or the flooding which are destroying different areas of the Earth. When I was a boy, Australia seemed like another world and for us to travel to it seemed an impossibility. Today, I can switch on my laptop and, within minutes, can be seeing and talking to my grandson and his family who are living in Queensland. We are a global community and we are responsible for the poor and needy whether they be on our doorstep or in Africa, Asia or the Americas.

We must pray that, during this period of isolation and reflection, we may learn what is important. May we learn to take only what we need not have all we want. Let us pray that world leaders will humbly admit that being a rich and powerful nation will not prevent millions of their people being killed by a cruel virus nor will bombs and guns protect them against a silent and invisible disease which kills indiscriminately. Only peace and goodwill to all can save our world. Good must triumph over evil.

I have heard today a European official apologising for Europe not helping individual countries. She said the EU countries have not worked together for the common good in order to help those who are suffering most. Their leaders have all put their own national interests first. She apologised but said that apologies only count when there is a change in policy. This pandemic has shown how much we need international co-operation to solve the problems which are destroying our world. We must earnestly pray that the risen Christ will grant us the wisdom and the desire to change and that the Holy Spirit will enkindle within us the fire of his love and renew the face of the world.

Tony Topping
17 April 2020