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CAMBERLEY AND BAGSHOT CATHOLIC PARISH

22nd March 2020

**Mothering Sunday
Year A**

www.cbparish.com

Sunday Readings

1 Samuel 16:1b,6-7,10-13a David is
anointed king of Israel

Psalm: THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD
THERE IS NOTHING I SHALL WANT

Ephesians 5:8-14 Christ will shine on you.

Gospel Reading *John 9:1-41* Jesus heals
the man born blind.

Mothering Sunday is the fourth Sunday of Lent
Traditionally, it was a day when children, mainly
daughters, who had gone to work as domestic
servants were given a day off to visit their
mother and family. Today it is a day when
children give presents, flowers, and home-made
cards to their mothers. This Sunday is also
known as Laetare Sunday, Refreshment Sunday,
and Rose Sunday (either because the golden rose
(sent by Popes to Catholic sovereigns) used to be
blessed at this time, or because the use of rose-
colored (rather than violet) vestments was
permitted on this day).

A letter on behalf of the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, In response to the Coronavirus pandemic, so many aspects of our lives must change. This includes the ways in which we publicly express our faith. It is very clear that, following official advice and in order to keep each other safe, save lives and support the NHS, at this time we must not gather for public acts of worship in our churches. This will begin from Friday evening, 20th March 2020, until further notice.

Our churches will remain open. They are not closing. They will be a focal point of prayer, where you will find solace and strength. In visiting our churches at this time, please observe with great care the practices of hygiene and the guidance on social distancing. However, the celebration of Mass, Sunday by Sunday and day by day, will take place without a public congregation.

The following are the ways in which we will sanctify Sunday, and indeed every day. Knowing that the Mass is being celebrated; joining in spiritually in that celebration; watching the live-streaming of the Mass; following its prayers at home; making an act of spiritual communion: this is how we share in the Sacrifice of Christ in these days.

We want everyone to understand that in these emergency circumstances, and for as long as they last, the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days is removed. This is, without doubt, the teaching of the Church (Catechism of the Catholic Church 2181). This pandemic is the 'serious reason' why this obligation does not apply at this time.

Your own Bishop and Parish Priest will provide further support, encouragement and information about our way of prayer together in the coming weeks.

The second vital aspect of these challenging times is our care for each other. There are so many ways in which we are to do this: being attentive to the needs of our neighbour, especially the elderly and vulnerable; contributing to our local food banks; volunteering for charitable initiatives and organisations; simply keeping in touch by all the means open to us.

During these disturbing and threatening times, the rhythm of the prayer of the Church will continue. Please play your part in it. The effort of daily kindness and mutual support for all will continue and increase. Please play your part in this too. For your commitment to this, we thank you.

May God bless us all.

Cardinal Vincent Nichols
President of the Bishops' Conference

Archbishop Malcolm McMahon OP
Vice-President of the Bishops' Conference

Parish Vision Statement

**WE ENCOUNTER JESUS
WE GROW TOGETHER IN HIS LOVE**
Forming disciples who, through personal encounter with
Jesus Christ, serve His mission

Parish response to the Pandemic

Fr Paul writes; *We would like to encourage all our Catholic parishioners to respond to the challenges brought about by the Coronavirus pandemic by praying at home.*

We have produced a "Pray at Home Resource" that you can use on Sundays. I ask you to do this so that the Lord's mercy may be known in our world and our faith strengthened. The 'Pray at Home' sheet includes online links with the live masses at St Dunstan's Woking which will be broadcasted on their website

I will be celebrating mass privately in one of our churches each day for the intention of our parish

The following resources are available on-line

Live Mass at St Dunstan, Woking

<http://st-dunstans.org/streaming/Sunday>

First Mass Saturday evening 6pm,

Sunday 9am, 10.30am, 12pm (Italian), 5.30pm

Sunday Mass readings: Universallis

<https://universalis.com/mass.htm>

Fr Pauls homilies:

<http://bit.ly/ParishYouTube>

Rededication of England as the Dowry of Mary

Sunday 29th March

We can participate in the re-dedication by using the prayers on the following website.

<https://www.behold2020.com/>

The **National Shine of Our Lady of Walsingham** will continue its full liturgical programme via the internet www.walsingham.org.uk

Fr Paul will personally pray the prayers of the rededication in all three churches.

Please note that all our three churches will be open so that people can pray before the Tabernacle.

Baptisms should be deferred until the public health advise that congregations can gather safely.

Confession may be offered on request as long as hygiene and social distancing requirements are observed.

The **Confirmation Mass** on the 3rd May and the **First Communion masses** on the 5th/6th June: We will provide information of the re-arranged dates when possible

Matrimony If possible the celebration of the sacrament of Matrimony should be deferred until such times as people can gather in numbers safely. However if not possible the number attending will be restricted.

Anointing of the sick and communion at home. No pastoral visits should be made to people who are self-isolating until the isolation period ends.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be suspended for the foreseeable future.

Lenten Stations of the Cross and the Service of reconciliation are cancelled.

Rosary and other devotions will not take place in the churches. Please pray them at home.

Youth Club and Youth Alpha are postponed until further notice.

Alpha has been postponed until the Autumn.

Please contact Fr Paul via his mobile or email for pastoral and spiritual guidance.

Pastoral and Community Support

We encourage our parishioners who are self isolating to seek help for both spiritual care and material support by contacting the parish for help.

You can contact Fr Paul on his mobile 07497 347731 or via his email pp@cbparish.com

Sandie the parish administrator can be contacted via her email sec@cbparish.com

People who need help and don't have support from their parish or family members can contact a central number for Surrey Heath **01276 66798** based at High Cross Church.

Volunteers We would also encourage our parishioners who are in good health and under 70 to offer themselves to support those who are isolated in our own parish and the wider community.

Bagshot Parishioners who would like to be a volunteer in the Bagshot area should contact Sandie on sec@cbparish.com or Fr Paul on his mobile 07497 347731. We will either connect you directly with someone who needs help or we will liaise with a local co-ordinator.

One of the first tasks we need to do is to ensure everyone in Bagshot knows that help is available and how they can ask for it. The information has been posted on 'Bagshot Community Info' on Facebook and we are looking for volunteers to put leaflets through doors to provide information in Bagshot.

Camberley Anyone who wishes to volunteer their services in Camberley should register on the Surrey Heath Website www.surreyheath-prepared.uk Please also let Sandie know that you have volunteered in case we need your help to provide support to parishioners.

Windlesham and Lightwater parishioners who wish to volunteer their help should also register with www.surreyheath-prepared.uk and inform Sandie via her email.