



The Roman Catholic Parish of
St James and St William of York
Reading



22nd March 2020
4th Sunday in Lent

A MESSAGE FROM FR JOHN

We are entering a time of uncertainty and many people are worried and anxious. Our world has been turned upside down and our daily lives have been disrupted. We are beginning to feel we are losing control. What is God saying to us at this time? Oddly enough we are more aware of being part of the global world than ever before and we are experiencing a global solidarity in suffering together. We are very now aware of our fragility, our vulnerability and how precious life is.

We are re-evaluating the priorities and are beginning to realise how significant health, family, compassion and above all our trust in God. We now need to go deep and to acknowledge that God loves us, cares for us and will see us through this very difficult time. I would like to suggest that everyone—families, couples, all of us, light a candle and bring your needs and prayers before our God our Father, to read a scripture passage (note the Sunday Gospel over page), to pray and to have a little quiet reflection. In the midst of this uncertainty I am sure God is saying something to us now: What is God trying to say?

What we are the new arrangements in the parish:

- **All weekday and Sunday Masses are to be suspended** until further notice.
- **Churches are open:** St James church open every day
St Williams open from 9.30am-12.30pm every day.
- **Sunday Eucharistic Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:**
St James Sunday 9.00am—12.00pm and St Williams 8.30am-10.30am.
(Please keep a social distance of 2 meters when in church)
- **Sacrament of Reconciliation:** available on request.
- **Live Streamed Mass:** this will be available from a link on the website to YouTube. I will continue to celebrate a private Mass each day and this will be available on line for you to access in your own time. We will announce when this is live.
- **Keep connected** via our Facebook group and website:
All updates & notifications will be posted on both (details over page).

Let us pray for one another. Let us try and support the elderly, those in isolation, and keep in touch with family and friends. Let us continue to trust in God who is very present to us in these difficult time. Please be assured that you are all in my thoughts and prayers during the current crisis.

Fr John

trust in
the LORD
with all
YOUR

Proverbs 3:5



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SCRIPTURE READINGS

SUN 29th March: 5th Lent

1st R. Ezekiel 37:12-14
 2nd R. Romans 8:8-11
 Gospel: John 11:6-7,20-27,33-35

Please read these readings at home.

There should have been a Second Collection this weekend for the **CLERGY ASSISTANCE FUND**. This collection forms a significant part of their income. If you are able to donate please use our bank details below:
 Ref: CAF/Your name
 To: Lloyds Bank, 30 93 04, 00885887

FEELING ISOLATED: Launchpad Reading have a new 'here for you' telephone service which offers a friendly voice when someone is feeling isolated, needs some reassurance at a worrying time and contact details of other services that can offer practical support. They urge anyone struggling to pick up the phone or send an email." 0118 929 1111 or email support@launchpadreading.org.uk

READIFOOD: Are urgently appealing for donations and for volunteers to help. Please drop any donations (tins, pasta, soup etc) in the church porch and go to their website to download their volunteer application form: readifood.org.uk

ReadiFood
 Reading's Food Bank
 Food Parcels for those in Need

Royal Berkshire Hospital
Chaplain:

RBH: 0118 322 7105

Sunday Mass 4.00pm
 For patients, staff & visitors

On admission all Catholics should inform the hospital staff that they are Roman Catholic & if they wish to see a priest.

Private Mass intentions

Saturday	of 3rd week of Lent
SJ	Holy Souls (BDFS)
Sunday	4th Sunday in Lent (Laetare Sunday)
SJ	Ricardo Dos Santos Mendes RIP
Monday	of 4th week of Lent
SJ	Jude Vaz RIP
Tuesday	of 4th week of Lent
SJ	Dermot Francis Murphy RIP
Wednesday	THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD
SJ	Jan Sabol RIP
Thursday	of 4th week of Lent
SJ	For the sick
Friday	of 4th week of Lent
SJ	People of the parish
Saturday	of 4th week in Lent
SJ	Holy Souls
Sunday	5th Sunday in Lent
SJ	Ann Towey RIP

PARISH PRIEST:

Parish Secretary:
 Parish Safeguarding
 Ministers:

Canon John O'Shea

Catherine Ledgard
 Ginika Okoye (StJ)
 Françoise Le Saux (StW)

 stjames@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

St James Presbytery,
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St James & St William of York Reading

Website: www.jameswilliam-reading.org.uk

This parish is a part of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Registered Charity No: 246871