

PARISH OF ST JAMES & ST BONIFACE
with St John's RC Primary School
The Catholic Community in the Heart of Mid Devon

NEWSLETTER

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
Sunday 8 November 2020
Remembrance Sunday



YEAR OF THE WORD
2020
THE GOD WHO
SPEAKS

Parish Clergy:

Canon Kristian Paver - Parish Priest
Rev Michael Tosh – Deacon
Rev Peter Found - Deacon

Parish Office:

Parish Secretary: Rosie Croker
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Parish Office Hours:

Mon-Fri 10.00-11.00am
by phone or email **ONLY**
due to Covid lockdown

www.stjameschurchtiverton.org.uk

Twitter: @StJamesRCTiv

Facebook: Parish of St James and
St Boniface, Mid-Devon

St James' Church

Old Road, Tiverton EX16 4HJ

St Boniface's Church

Crow Green
Cullompton EX15 1EW
Old Road, Tiverton

St John's RC School

Melbourne Street
Tiverton EX16 5LA
www.stjohnstiverton.co.uk
Tel: (01884) 253630

**Parish Safeguarding
Representatives**

Siobhan Gilroy (07809 341603)
Marion Coombs
Iwona Pacosz

Second Covid Lockdown & Opening our Churches for Private Prayer

Following the confirmation by Parliament on Wednesday of the Government's proposals for a national lockdown to combat the spread of the Covid-19 virus, all acts of communal worship are forbidden by law until the situation is reviewed on December 2. Although there is a possibility that the Government may ease this requirement on places of worship before then, until such times it will no longer be possible to celebrate Mass open to the public.

However, our Bishops are encouraging us to keep our churches open to allow people to come for private prayer. Therefore, apart from the transfer back to St James of the time for Mass on Wednesdays, our churches will be **open for private prayer** at the times that were established for Mass in order to maintain a rhythm of prayer in our parish community. On **weekdays** the church will be open for **half an hour** at the established time and at the **weekend** times for **one hour**. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed on the altar as a focus for prayer.

There is no need to pre-book to come along for private prayer and you can come and stay for whatever time you wish within the time that the church is open. However, stewards will be on hand to take your details for the "Track and Trace" procedures and to sanitise the building thoroughly after use.

Hopefully those who can do safely will take this opportunity to come to pray before the Blessed Sacrament. However, the uptake will be reviewed next weekend and any changes notified to you in next weekend's Newsletter.

"Track and Trace" and the NHS Test and Trace App

Both St James and St Boniface have their own QR code for use with the NHS App and these are posted at the entrance and exit of each church. We have been asked to continue to take people's details manually as well.

Daily Joint Act of Prayer for an End to the Pandemic

We are invited, together with people of all faiths throughout the country, to participate in a joint act of prayer at **6pm** each day, wherever we happen to be, for an end to the Covid pandemic.

For Catholics, this time of day is one of the traditional times to pray the **Angelus** and Bishop Mark strongly recommends that we adopt this practice. He notes that, throughout the history of the Church, Our Lady has often come to the aid of her people during times of great hardship or upheaval, and so it is very appropriate that we use this hallowed form of prayer which leads us to focus on the coming of Christ in the mystery of the Incarnation into the often harsh reality of our world. For the benefit of those who are not familiar with it, copy of the Angelus prayer is attached to the Newsletter

November – Month of the Holy Souls

November is the month when we pray in a particular way for the Holy Souls, those who have gone before us on the path of faith into eternal life and who we can help on their journey of purification with our prayers

We pray, too, for all who have died, regardless of their faith. So this month provides a real opportunity to reach out to our neighbours and friends to ask whether there is someone who has died for whom they would like us to pray. This often gives us a chance to share with them the good news of the resurrection and eternal life, and of our enduring relationship with those who have died.

Due to the lockdown, it will not be possible for everyone to get to church during this month, so a sheet is attached to the Newsletter for you to write down the names of those you would like to be remembered at the Masses for the Holy Souls which Canon Kristian will continue to say in private during this month. These can be returned by email, posted through the presbytery door or left in the pots placed in front of the altars in both churches when they are open for private prayer.

Zoom “Coffee Morning” on Thursdays

Throughout the time it is not possible to celebrate public Masses, the weekly Coffee Morning on Zoom will be reinstated. This provides an opportunity for members of our parish family to meet together and talk on line and it is open to all. The access details are included in the email which accompanies the Newsletter.

First Holy Communion Preparation

Parents who would like their children, aged 7 and over, to make their First Holy Communion in 2021, are asked to fill out the [Application Form](#) and to return it to the Parish Office as soon as possible.

Unfortunately, due to the lockdown restrictions, changes will again have to be made to the sessions planned for those children already preparing for the Sacraments. Their catechists will be in contact with parents shortly.

Preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation

If you are 12 or older – or have a young person of this age – and would like to be confirmed, please complete the [Application Form](#) and return it to the Parish Office as soon as possible. The Bishop has been scheduled to come to the parish to celebrate the Sacrament on Saturday 10 July 2021, so we need to start the preparation as soon as restrictions permit.

Canon Kristian's Christmas Cake Raffle

For a chance to win this year's Christmas cake, raffle tickets are on sale when the church is open for private prayer, £1 each, by cash or contactless payment.

Parish Giving – Move from Gift Aid Envelopes to Standing Orders

We continue to appeal to anyone who uses gift aid envelopes to move to a **standing order** instead. Because of Coronavirus, handling and counting cash has become much more onerous for our volunteers due to social distancing and having to quarantine cash. Guidance on how to do this is attached to the Newsletter. Thank you for your continued generosity to our parish.

CHAT Christmas Foodbank Appeal

A poster is attached to the Newsletter with information about the donations that the Foodbank would love to receive for its Christmas Appeal. These can be left at church, in the boxes in the supermarkets or taken directly to CHAT. Thank you, too, for a further £98.50 that has been donated via the "CHAT bucket".

Times of Opening for Private Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday 7 November – St Willibrord

- 6.00pm-7.00pm

Sunday 8 November – 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

- 10.00am-11.00am
- 11.30am-12.30pm (St Boniface)

Tuesday 10 November – St Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor

- 10.00am-10.30am

Wednesday 11 November – St Martin of Tours, Bishop

- 12noon-12.30pm

Thursday 12 November – St Josaphat, Bishop and Martyr

- 6.30pm-7.00pm

Friday 13 November – Weekday

- 12noon-12.30pm

Attachments to the Newsletter

- ❖ Holy Souls List
- ❖ The Angelus Prayer
- ❖ Setting up a Standing Order
- ❖ CHAT Christmas Foodbank Appeal
- ❖ Imaginative Contemplation on Sunday's Gospel
- ❖ Tearfund Big Quiz – 14 November 2020
- ❖ Newsletter from St Elisabeth's Covent, Minsk, Belarus