



CATHOLIC PARISH OF ST BERNADETTE

(parish in communion for mission with St Dunstan's, Keynsham)
 St Bernadette's Presbytery, 731 Wells Road, Whitchurch, Bristol, BS14 9HU
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 www.stbernadettewhitchurch.org
 Parish Priest: Matt Anscombe
 Parish Outreach Worker: Caroline Sadd
 Parish Administrator: Alice Maimone

In the name of Jesus: WELCOMED, LOVED, SENT

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
22nd March 2020

FROM FR MATT:

"Dear friends in Christ, this is a challenging and unprecedented time that we are in but Christ is with us! As you will know, we can no longer gather for Mass or any form of collective worship at this time. However, the church will remain open for private prayer. Please come in and spend time before the Blessed Sacrament. We are looking at ways that we can support each other spiritually and emotionally at this time - check out the notices below. Please be assured of my prayers and don't hesitate to give me a call if you want a chat. I will endeavour to be available on 01275 833699 from 2pm to 4pm each day. Alternatively, leave a message and I will get back to you asap. May God bless you and your family and Happy Mother's Day to all mums."

CHURCH OPENING: The whole church will be kept open from approximately 9am until 6pm for private prayer. People entering the church to pray will need to strictly observe government guidelines with regard to social distancing. Hand sanitiser will be provided if available. Please come and pray. Your presence in the church will be a great witness and sign of hope.

MASS: Fr Matt will celebrate Mass privately every day (generally at midday) and you can **email or phone in your Mass intentions. Existing Mass intentions will be celebrated as agreed.** A prayer intention box will also be placed in the narthex of the church. Please consider making a spiritual communion each day (see below). Clifton Cathedral will be live streaming Masses, please follow the link on: www.cliftoncathedral.org. More details of where live stream Masses are taking place will be available soon. If you don't have a Missal, Daily Mass readings are available www.universalis.com

Prayer of Spiritual Communion:

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen. St Alphonsus Liguori

TEN MINUTE CHURCH (10MC): Fr Matt is suddenly getting into technology. He plans to upload regular reflections on the website from this Sunday. 'Ten Minute Church' will give us an opportunity to hear the Gospel of the day, with a reflection and prayer. 10MC is an exclusive St Bernadette and St Dunstan production!

STAYING CONNECTED: During these difficult times, it is more important than ever that our community of faith stays in communion with one another and remains connected.

- **Facebook** You can follow St Bernadette's Facebook page or request to join the Facebook group, just search: St Bernadette's Community Group.
- **Website** Keep updated also via our website www.stbernadettewhitchurch.org
- **Newsletter** we will continue to print our newsletter and this will be made available in the narthex or via the website/Facebook page.

PASTORAL CARE: During this challenging time; pastoral care is more important than ever and there are a number of ways that we are going to try and provide that.

Pastoral Support Team: will be available to offer telephone contact and pastoral support to those who require it. If you feel you would benefit from this service, or you know someone who would, please let Fr Matt know by phone or email and he will signpost you to this service.

Fr Matt, phone sessions: Fr Matt will be available between 2-4pm each day for anyone who wishes to phone him for prayer or pastoral support. Feel free to phone him any other time as well on 01275 833699

Praying together: details of how we might all join in prayer at different times will be made available soon. Sunday evening, for example, we all invited to pray at 7pm with others across Bristol for an end to this crisis. Please light a candle and put it in your window as a sign of hope.

STAYING AFLOAT: This is a difficult time economically for everyone. The parish too will be hit as it derives most of its income from its weekly collections and while the church will remain shut for collective worship (for the time being) the running costs will still remain largely the same. With this in mind, if you are still able to give at this time, please would you:

- Place Gift Aid collection envelopes or other offerings through presbytery letterbox
- Consider completing a standing order form (available from the Narthex, or shortly available on line) and returning this to the presbytery
- Make an online donation:
 Bank: Nat West; Sort Code: 521003; Account Number: 66286603;
 Payment ref: collection

Thanks in advance.

THE GOD WHO SPEAKS: Please don't forget that this is a special year for reverencing God's word in Scripture. This is an excellent opportunity for us all to spend more time listening to Christ speaking to us through the Scriptures. Some suggestions will follow from Fr Matt on 10MC (see left).

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY:

"Loving God, thank you for the gift of our mothers. Thank you for all the blessings they shower upon us. Please continue to watch over them and guide them. May they always know the depth of your love for them. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mary, Queen of Heaven and earth and Mother of our Saviour – please pray for all our mums

REDEDICATION OF ENGLAND AS THE DOWRY OF MARY: Next Sunday 29th. Check out, pray and join in the rededication by going to www.behold2020.com/the-rededication