

Extraordinary Newsletter for the Catholic Parishes of St John Vianney & St Monica and St Cuthbert, Blackpool

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Rev Tom Bland (Retired Deacon)

20th September 2020

25th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (A)

TODAY'S GOSPEL

Today's Gospel might seem strange *vis-a-vis* employment fairness!! But to read it in that way is to miss the whole meaning of what Our Lord is saying. His context is the Father's already-boundless generosity to each one of us and that it is never too late to turn to embrace God's mercy - even at the eleventh hour. The reward is the same for each person who turns to God, no matter when; the reward is... the Joy of heaven!

WELCOME BACK...OUR SAFETY MEASURES

Thankfully, we have large churches and so can easily accommodate well-spaced out congregations at Mass. However, we need to be especially vigilant (given the serious situation across the country) and follow the appropriate guidance carefully when coming to church:

1. To wear your own (mandatory) face covering in church - remembering, however, that some people have medical exemptions.
2. Once you have sanitised your hands, to leave your name **and number** on the (Track & Trace) list coming into church and spread out in church!
3. To always keep physical distance from others, including at entrances, exits, the porches and car parks (no gathering on church premises!)
4. Not to wander round church or go into the sacristy.
5. For Holy Communion, to unloop one's face covering and consume the Sacred Host and then replace the face covering before moving back to your place.
6. Not to come to church if you feel unwell with Covid-19 or live with a Covid-19 sufferer.
7. If the organ plays, **please do not start/join in singing.**

STEWARDS/CLEANING REQUIRED

Stewarding at Mass and cleaning after Mass will be with us for some time, **so new volunteers are needed and are asked to contact Fr Etienne with their details.**

PARISH CENSUS FORMS

Thank you to those who have already completed and returned your 2020 Census form (for each household). Thanks also to those currently volunteering in areas of parish life and to those now offering their practical help using their completed census form.

CHURCH OPENING TIMES

ON SUNDAYS:

St John Vianney's church opens from 8.30am and closes at 12noon & opens again at 3.00pm and closes again immediately after Benediction.

St Cuthbert's opens at 9.30am and closes immediately after Mass.

MONDAY TO FRIDAY (only on days when there is a morning Mass in that particular church):

St John Vianney's church opens at 9.00am and closes at 10.30am.

St Cuthbert's church opens at 9.30am and closes at 11.00am. On Thursday the church opens at 6.30pm and closes immediately after Mass.

ON SATURDAYS

St John Vianney's church opens at 9.00am and closes at 10.30am and opens again at 4.45pm, to close again immediately after the 5.30pm Mass.

N.B: However, on a day when there is a funeral the opening times above will not apply. Instead, the church in question will open 30 minutes before the time of the funeral and will close immediately after the funeral.

TIMES FOR CONFESSION

AT ST JOHN VIANNEY'S:

Wednesday 9.45am – 10.15am

Saturdays 9.45am-10.30am

Sundays 3.00pm-3.20pm

AT ST CUTHBERT'S:

Tuesdays 10.30am-11.00am

Thursdays 6.30pm-6.50pm

ANNUAL MASS COUNT

This begins this weekend and lasts for four weekends.

OUR NEW WEBSITE

Don't forget to check out our recently-launched and up-to-the-minute website for both our parishes:

<https://catholicsinsouthblackpool.com>

Keep up-to-date by liking and following 'Catholics in South Blackpool' on Facebook and Twitter.

SUPPORTING YOUR PARISH FINANCIALLY

At this time, the weekly offertory collection is taken at the end of Mass as you leave church and not during Mass. Your offerings can also be pushed through the presbytery letterbox or arranged by standing order and bank transfer. Details for doing this are found on our new parish website.

Most of all, thank you for your generous and steadfast financial support for our parishes!

GIFT AID

If you usually use envelopes to Gift Aid your offering and have not yet collected your envelopes, please do collect them from the church porches.

Gift Aid envelopes are the following numbers at each church: St John Vianney: 1-50 and St Cuthbert: 1-30.

Please check your own details: If you no longer pay enough tax to cover your offering please be in contact with Fr Etienne to adjust our records and your number. **If anyone would like to start to Gift Aid your offerings please speak personally to Fr Etienne.**

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

This weekend there is a special collection for Home Mission Sunday.

Next weekend there is a special collection on behalf of the Bishop's Administration Fund. Thank you.

MASS INTENTIONS

Masses are still being requested (well ahead of time) in writing, posted through the presbytery door, with the associated customary offering, or by email at: catholicsinsoutblackpool@gmail.com with the offering given by bank transfer.

PRAYERS

Please join us as we pray especially for the sick: Bishop Patrick O'Donoghue, Andree Etienne, Trudi Denham, Joan Edge, Phyllis Hatton, Matthew Barlow, Jean Baugh & Patricia Martin.

We continue to pray too for all victims of Covid-19. Please pray for our recently-deceased: Sarah Owen.

PILGRIMAGE OF REPARATION AND PRAYER FOR THE SANCTITY OF LIFE, WALSINGHAM

A national 'virtual' pilgrimage to Walsingham is available on 27th September 2020.

For those interested, this can be accessed via YouTube on Walsingham Catholic TV:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0aJG5juz0>

or at the Basilica live stream:

<https://www.walsingham.org.uk/live-stream/>

Full details and times are available on the website, including the programme for the day:

<https://www.prolifepilgrimage.org>

OUR MASS TIMES THIS WEEK ARE:

Saturday 19th September

5.30pm (SJV) for the people of our parishes

Sunday 20th TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

9.00am (SJV) for Stan Weston RIP

10.00am (SC) for Christopher & Eileen Robertson

11.00am (SJV) for Edward Alban Lee RIP

3.30pm *Sunday Benediction* (SJV)

Monday 21st St Matthew

9.15am (SJV) for +Vincent Malone RIP (Latin Mass)

Tuesday 22nd

9.15am (SJV) for the Holy Souls

10.00am (SC) for Theresa Horner RIP (Anniv)

Followed by Adoration & Confessions

Wednesday 23rd St Pius of Pietrelcina

9.15am (SJV) for Phyllis Hatton

Followed by Adoration & Confessions

10.00am (SC) for Mary Tingle RIP

Thursday 24th Our Lady of Walsingham

9.15am (SJV) for Winny & George Simmonds RIP

7.00pm (SC) for Canon Lupton RIP

Friday 25th

9.15am (SJV) for Patricia Martin

10.00am (SC) for Trever Mall

Saturday 26th Sts Cosmas & Damian

9.15am (SJV) for Annie Lee RIP

5.30pm (SJV) for Alban Lee RIP

Sunday 27th TWENTY SIXTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

9.00am (SJV) for the people of our parishes

10.00am (SC) for Doreen Taylor

11.00am (SJV) for Edward Alban Lee RIP

3.30pm *Sunday Benediction* (SJV)

SAINTS, SCHOLARS AND SPIRITUAL MASTERS

Free online talks organised by the Christian Heritage Centre at Stonyhurst, take place on Thursdays at 7:30pm over the coming months. To register go directly to:

<https://christianheritagecentre.com/event/saintsscholars-spiritual-masters/>

or by emailing: events@christianheritagecentre.com

POPE JOHN PAUL II CENTRE

St John Vianney & St Monica's Parish Centre and Field has been closed to all users since 23rd March due to the ongoing pandemic.

All regular Centre users have now been informed that this situation continues to be the case going forward, at least until after the October half-term, when a further review and decision will be made in the light of the pandemic at that time and with a care for the capacity of the parish.

Thank you for your understanding and support!