

ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER

31 May 2020



PENTECOST SUNDAY

Hello and welcome to everyone. I hope you are all well. I am now in my ninth week of lockdown but I am well.

At present our churches remain closed and, sadly, this has to be the case to comply with legal requirements. The Government's Places of Worship task force is expected to produce guidelines soon that will support places of worship to open safely. As some of you may know Saturday 4 July has been given as a possible date when the opening might begin. The Bishop's conference intends to prepare guidelines for safe opening. These will include a risk assessment and check for each church and protocols for supervision for example, entrances and exits. For this we will need parishioners to take responsibility for safe opening and the following of guidelines. Social distancing will be paramount.

On this Pentecost Sunday there will be a rosary rally relay. This is at the request of Pope Francis to pray the rosary at home within the family. In response to this there has been an 8.00 p.m. May Rosary Mission co-hosted by the London Rosary Shrine, The Basilica of Our Lady of Walsingham, Carfin Grotto in Scotland, and the Rosary on the Coast. As it culminates on Pentecost Sunday, this weekend each Diocese has been invited by Mgr. John Armitage, the Rector of our Lady of Walsingham shrine, to pray the rosary at a designated hour either individually or as a family. Our Bishop Alan would like us to join with him after the live streaming 10.00 a.m. mass at Wickford this Sunday at approx. 11.00 a.m. to pray the rosary with him. I hope you can all join him.

Today Pentecost Sunday sees the crowning of the Pascal Mystery of Christ who fulfilled his promise of sending the Holy Spirit upon the apostles. This gift of the Holy Spirit fills us with courage to go out fearlessly and live our Catholic faith and to bring the message of God's peace and reconciliation to our world. Remember the Holy Spirit's gifts received on Pentecost and given to us at our Baptism, free us from fear and timidity. Therefore rather than being afraid of what might happen to us, we must allow ourselves to be transformed by the Holy Spirit into powerful instruments of peace, unity and reconciliation in the world. **Every blessing on you and your families.**

Fr. Leslie

Dominic Howarth Mass at Abbotswick

If you want to follow Dominic's Mass at Abbotswick, it is on at 10.30 a.m. every Sunday and can be readily and easily viewed on Instagram or YouTube using the BCYS website.

LIVE STREAM Masses – daily Mass via Instagram and YouTube 10.30 a.m. each day (8.00 p.m. on Wednesdays) or directly using the link below.

<https://bcys.net/events>

In times when we cannot gather together for prayer, we can nonetheless be Christ's hands, reaching out across our towns and communities, and this daily Mass can be a wonderful oasis in your morning.

For students, it might be what gets you out of bed each day; for everyone in solitude, it will be a little moment of structure, hope and connection, every day.

Online Rosary Group

The St. Joseph The Worker Online Rosary Group is now a fixture at 4.30 p.m. every Sunday afternoon. After the Rosary is said we make time for prayers for special dedications and some social discussion to see how everyone is keeping. If you have not had a chance to participate and would like to, please e-mail Tyrone: tyroneseq@yahoo.co.uk

Virtual celebrations

Online Mass every Saturday at 6.00 p.m. and Sunday at 10.00 a.m.

www.wickfordcatholic.com