

**Catholic Church of Our Lady and St Hugh**  
**Parish Priest: Fr Patrick Broun, 01993 702661**  
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**SUNDAY 5<sup>th</sup> APRIL – SUNDAY 12<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2020**  
**PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD, YEAR B**

**PLEASE NOTE ALL THE SERVICES ARE HELD BEHIND CLOSED DOORS**

**Sat 04** Mass *People of the Parish*

**Sun 05** Mass *Vera Davies RIP*

**Mon 06** Mass *For all who have died from Covid-19*

**Tues 07** Mass *For all who are sick from Covid-19*

**Wed 08** Mass *For all medical staff and those who serve our needs.*

**HOLY THURSDAY**

**Thurs 09** *For the Tridium please see live streaming services below*

**GOOD FRIDAY**

**Fri 10** *For the Tridium please see live streaming services below*  
*Stations of the Cross 7.00pm*

**HOLY SATURDAY**

**Sat 11** *For the Tridium please see live streaming services below*

**SOLEMNITY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD**

**Sun 12** Mass *Bridie Meyne RIP*

**CONFESSIONS:** Please call Fr Pat on 01993 702661

**UNFORTUNATELY, OUR CHURCH HAS HAD TO CLOSE LIKE MANY OTHERS**

Due to the coronavirus and following the advice of the Bishops' Conference, there will be no public services of worship, including Stations of the Cross, until further notice.

**THE OBLIGATION TO ATTEND SUNDAY MASS HAS BEEN TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED**

There are two Churches in the Deanery that have live streaming of Masses and other services.

Their websites also contain recordings of previous services.

Corpus Christi, Headington, Oxford <https://www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/oxford>

SS. Gregory & Augustine, Woodstock Road, Oxford <https://www.churchservices.tv/oxford>

**Please pray for me as I am praying for you. May God bless and protect us all. Fr Pat Broun**

## **GOSPEL REFLECTION**

Up until Jesus enters the Garden of Gethsemane He has, generally, been in control of His life. He has carried out miracles and taught what He wanted to teach, often against strong opposition. Nothing could defeat Him from His mission. Now, however everything changes. He is arrested, scourged, tortured and finally killed. All this is done to Him. He seems no longer to be in control of His life. Yet, we know that is not true. He allowed it to happen to Him. He willingly accepted it. Ironically, He was still in control. In our lives we might go through times, even over a long period, when we seem to be no longer in control of what is happening to us. We feel powerless. Yet, we can accept it and offer it to God willingly, we can with God's help actually regain control. His Father had never abandoned Him, no matter how He might have felt at times. As a result, He was made anew. Let us follow His example, knowing He is with us.

*God Bless. Fr Pat.*

## **REFLECTION**

We don't know why this pandemic is happening, but we must believe that the Lord is with us even though He may seem to delay. Let us have the faith to believe that the Lord will draw a greater good out of this than the evil that threatens us. Only He knows when this time will be. Until then let us say: "My soul clings to Him, his right hand holds me fast."

*God Bless. Fr Pat.*

## **BISHOPS' WEBSITE IS UPDATED REGULARLY WITH LATEST ADVICE**

The website of the Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales ([www.cbcew.org.uk](http://www.cbcew.org.uk)) is regularly updated with latest advice for Catholics and includes links on coronavirus guidelines with prayers in time of illness and latest Government information; a Vatican decree on Easter celebrations; an appeal from the Bishop to support charities during the pandemic and a series of guides available to download for clinicians, carers and patients.

Services are also being streamed live from St Chad's Cathedral at <https://www.stchadscathedral.org.uk>

## **MAGAZINE FEATURES PRINCIPAL OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES SCHOOL**



The latest edition of the Diocesan magazine, *The Sower*, has an article on the principal of Our Lady of Lourdes School, Daniel O'Connor, where you can discover some of his lesser-known talents. Did you know he plays piano, performs in an Irish Ceilidh band and has recently started to play the ukulele? The Lent edition also features four seminarians who are due to be ordained as priests at St Chad's Cathedral in July. One of them is Clive Dytor, who is looking forward to becoming a country priest serving West Oxfordshire after a life that includes service in the Royal Marines, the Anglican Church and the teaching profession. Aged 63 and married with two children, Welsh-born Clive has a degree in Arabic from Trinity College, Cambridge. He was an officer in the Royal Marines until the age of 30, serving in Belfast during the Troubles, in the South Atlantic in the Falklands War and in the Persian Gulf with Special Forces. His roles in education included working as a housemaster at St Edward's School, Oxford.

Click on the link below to read the magazine.

<https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/Handlers/Download.ashx?IDMF=0030773b-c0ee-4884-90c0-88df770d695b>

## PRAYER FOR CHALLENGING TIMES

In these challenging times, follow these beautiful words of the Prayer of St Patrick's Breastplate



**I ARISE  
TODAY**

*Words from the  
Breastplate of  
St. Patrick*

I arise today  
through the strength of heaven,  
light of sun, radiance of moon,  
splendour of fire, speed of lightning,  
swiftness of wind, depth of the sea,  
stability of earth, firmness of rock.

I arise today, through God's strength to pilot me,  
God's eye to look before me  
God's wisdom to guide me  
God's way to lie before me  
God's shield to protect me,  
From all who shall wish me ill, afar and a-near,  
Alone and in a multitude  
Against every cruel, merciless power  
that may oppose by body and soul.

Christ with me, Christ before me,  
Christ behind me, Christ in me,  
Christ beneath me, Christ above me,  
Christ on my right, Christ on my left,  
Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down,  
Christ when I arrive, Christ to shield me.  
Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of me,  
Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me,  
I arise today.

A sung version of the Prayer of St Patrick's Breastplate can be heard on YouTube at  
<https://youtu.be/07n2sFMf6DM>

## **FOODBANK APPEALS FOR HELP DUE TO 'SHORTAGES ACROSS THE BOARD'**



The Witney and West Oxfordshire Foodbank is appealing for extra donations following a 'significant' increase in referrals. The biggest shortages are for tinned meat and fish, long-life milk and fruit juice, tinned fruit, rice pudding and custard.

A foodbank spokesman said: "We have seen a significant increase in referrals to the foodbank for parcels and our shortages are across the board, apart from baked beans and pasta sauce."

She said the foodbank did, on the odd occasion, donate food to the Witney Community Fridge but this was usually fresh produce just out of its best before, or use by, date which, under its guidelines, would otherwise have to be disposed of.

The foodbank operates from the back of the Cottsway building, in Heynes Place, off Avenue 2, Station Lane, through the double brown gates and is open from 10am to noon each weekday for collection of parcels and for donations. The foodbank also accepts monetary donations and these can be made online via <https://witney.foodbank.org.uk/> or via the foodbank Facebook page

## **HELP THE PARISH BY SWITCHING WEEKLY OFFERING TO STANDING ORDER**

I wonder if you, like me, give offerings at Mass through cash or envelopes and were thinking about how the Parish would survive without that weekly income? I realised that it was actually very easy to change my method of giving to standing order. I didn't need to leave the house and it took just a few minutes through online banking – I simply needed to put the bank account details on the online form. If you would like to switch to this method, please either phone the church office 01993 702661 or email [ourladysthugh@sky.com](mailto:ourladysthugh@sky.com) where you will be given the parish details.

I am sure it would be very helpful if those of us who are able to continue giving at this difficult time are able to switch over to this method – I am sure our parish has lots of ongoing costs that still need to be covered. With my heartfelt good wishes to all during this challenging period. *Nick Kavanagh*

## **PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND**

Please keep the sick and housebound in your prayers, those with Covid-19 and those who are self-isolating. We pray also for all those whose work is serving our needs during this time.

## **LATELY DECEASED**

Sheela Cousins, Kate Gargan and Vera Davies. May they Rest in Peace.

The burial of Sheela Cousins will be an intimate family service. There will be a proper Requiem Mass as soon as it is possible to do so. Please keep the families in your prayers.