

Parish of Effingham and Fetcham
Our Lady of Sorrows and Church of the Holy Spirit

Parish Team:

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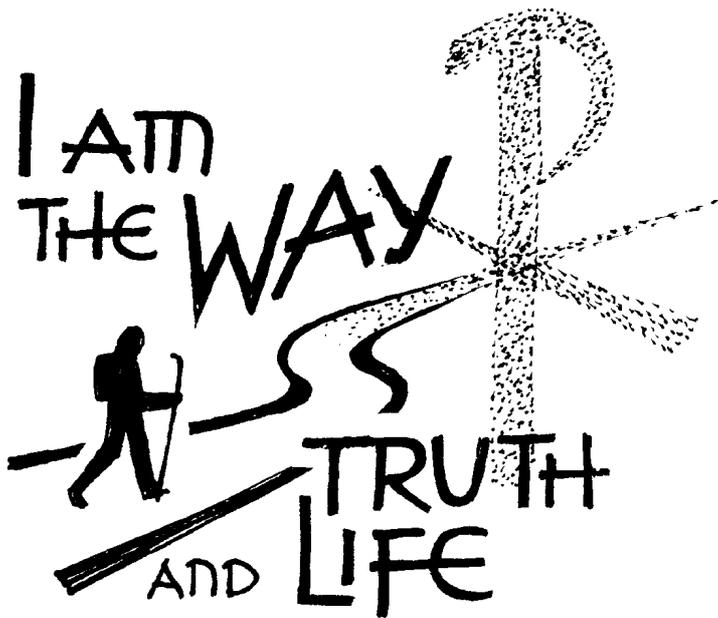
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A Very Warm Welcome to all Parishioners and Visitors

5th Sunday of Easter

Sundays: Cycle A Weekdays: Year II 10 May 2020



Jesus, The Way, The Truth and The Life. At a time of crisis it is not uncommon for people to feel that God has abandoned them. But Jesus assured the Apostles that, even though he was leaving them, he was not abandoning them. Rather, he was going to prepare a home for them, and would return to take them to that home. Hence, no matter what happened, no matter how difficult things might get, they must go on believing, go on trusting him and in the Father. That's all they would have to do. Go on believing, go on trusting. Easier said than done!

But at a time of crisis that is the only thing we can do—go on trusting in God. Trust is the greatest thing we can give to another person. At

that hour we must believe that somehow there is a purpose to it all, and that good will come out of it. What real faith does is assure us that God is with us in the midst of the crisis. It is that feeling, that conviction, that we are not alone, that we are not abandoned, which enables us to get through the crisis. Those who have faith have a source of comfort and inspiration, especially when trouble strikes. They know that God will be good to them in the end, both in this world and in the next. It is not we who keep the faith; it is the faith that keeps us.

So, when things are bad, may we hear the gentle words of Jesus: *'Believe in God, and believe also in me.'*

May God bless you all

Deacon Ian

Prayers Please

Please pray for **Alessia Pizzitola, Maureen Murphy** and **Ros Kennedy**, who are sick at this time.

Please also pray for those who have died recently: **Fr Tony Pearson, Richard Wildenberg, Fr Chris Sexton, Fr Douglas Perkins** and **Maureen McAkeon**.

Prayer Requests: If you would like to request prayers for anyone to be included in the bidding prayers at our live-streamed Masses and in the parish newsletter, please let us know via phone or the parish email address. Praying for one another and for the whole world is such a precious and important thing for us all to be doing just now.

Special Masses at this Time

1. A **Mass in Time of Pandemic** has been composed by the Holy See. Bishop Richard is going to celebrate this every Friday while the pandemic lasts (except when major feasts intervene), and at his suggestion we are doing the same in this parish.

2. The bishops of England and Wales will be celebrating Masses for the **Sick and their Families, NHS Front-Line workers and those working in Social Care** every Thursday evening on a rotation basis. You can find more details at <https://www.dabnet.org/News/View/327>.

National Marriage Week

The coming week, from 11 to 17 May, is National Marriage Week. We celebrate God's wonderful gift of marriage, which reflects His own everlasting love for His people. We pray for all married couples, thanking God for their love, and asking Him to support any experiencing difficulties at this time. For more information and ideas, see:

<https://dabnet.org/news/view/330>.

Devotion to Mary in May

The month of May, along with October, is traditionally a focus of devotion to Mary. Why not think about how you could mark this month at home and in your families? Perhaps you could pray the Rosary, or pray a Hail Mary as part of your grace before meals. You might like to place some flowers before a picture or statue of Mary.

Mary stood beneath the Cross of her Son and shared deeply and compassionately in His sufferings. From the Cross Jesus gave her to all of us as our spiritual Mother. Let's trustingly ask for her prayers at this time of suffering in our world.

During the Coronavirus Situation

While the pandemic lasts, **what should we be doing as a parish?** What would you find helpful personally, and how can we reach out to others? A few possibilities have been suggested, e.g.

- Resources to support children's/ family prayer and activities.
- Opportunities to face and discuss the challenging issues for our faith raised by the current crisis. E.g. some video clips to watch from Bishop Robert Barron, followed by Zoom discussions.
- Some form of Bible Study (again, maybe using Zoom).

Maybe the Spirit has given you some other good ideas. Do let us know what you think, and we can see what we can do. I am convinced that in every situation God's Spirit will give us opportunities for building up the Kingdom.

Do please **encourage** anyone you may be talking with, to join our live-streamed Masses on Sundays (and weekdays). It's a simple and important way we can support each other, and also reach out to those who may be thinking of coming back to their faith at this time.

Masses and Other Services

Live-streaming of Mass from our parish is available at our YouTube channel, <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFLGeHumF6yae4QGCSVg0UA>. Alternatively, search for “YouTube Effingham Fetcham” and you should find it easily.

Mass (without a congregation) will be offered daily, generally at these times:

10.30 am – Sundays

9.15 am – Mondays to Thursdays

6.00 pm – Fridays

10.00 am – Saturdays

Mass Intentions. You can continue to request intentions via the parish office.

Sacrament of Reconciliation is possible on request in cases of need.

Other Sacraments will not be celebrated except in emergency. Do please contact Fr Stephen in the normal way in emergency situations.

Participating in Mass. Probably the best way to participate in Mass in the present situation is via live-streaming (see above for our parish, or many other options on the internet). Alternatively, you can also simply pray the prayers and readings of Mass at home, and make a spiritual communion e.g.

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in this Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love you above all things and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever. Amen.

Need Support? Do you need help or support at this time? If you need any sort of practical help, or would just like a chat with someone, please do call 01372 458263 or email eandfparish@btinternet.com.

Parish Circulation Email: In this very trying time for everybody the internet is becoming more vital as a means of communication. If you would like to receive emails from the Parish keeping you in touch, including receiving the weekly parish newsletter that is handed out at Mass, then please contact Michael Bray michaelpbray@btinternet.com or the Parish office. The list is only used for Parish and Diocese information and is sent bcc so individual email addresses are not visible.

Please pray for all those in our Parish who are sick:

Marie Bliss	Janet Morgan
Michael Boulvard	Jim Morgan
Pauline Boulvard	Ann Peck
Christopher Brown	Alessia Pizzitola
Jeff Care	Maureen Rennison
Amy Chapman	Patrick Rennison
Maggi Cooke	Piers Ripley-Duggan
Marian Cross	Jean Rowlandson
Maureen Donoghue	Yolande Sharpe
John Donovan	Karen Silver
Mary Doran	Mary Skilton
Mary Hefford	Jenny Smith
Ros Kennedy	Pat Turton
Derek Knott	Simon Turton
Tessa Knott	Andrea Vaughan
Noreen Landers	Rose Wedlake
Joanna Mills	Alf Wiggins

Mass Intentions for the Coming Week

Saturday	9 May	10.00 am	Teresa and Robert Calburn RIP
Sunday	10 May	10.30 am	People of the Parish
Monday	11 May	9.15 am	Filomena Lionetti RIP
Tuesday	12 May	9.15 am	Mary Patricia Taylor RIP
Wednesday	13 May	9.15 am	Family of Founders RIP
Thursday	14 May	9.15 am	Connors Family Intention
Friday	15 May	6.00 pm	Bob and Anne Bowley RIP
Saturday	16 May	10.00 am	Deceased Members of the Raes Family
Sunday	17 May	10.30 am	People of the Parish

Owing to the coronavirus, all Masses have to be celebrated without a congregation.

Confessions are available on request. Please contact Fr Stephen if you would like this.

Next Sunday: 6th Sunday of Easter

Acts 8:5-8,14-17 — Psalm 65:1-7,16,20,R.v1 — 1 Peter 3:15-18 — John 14:15-21



Please get Newsletter items to the Parish office by 10.00am Wednesday