



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

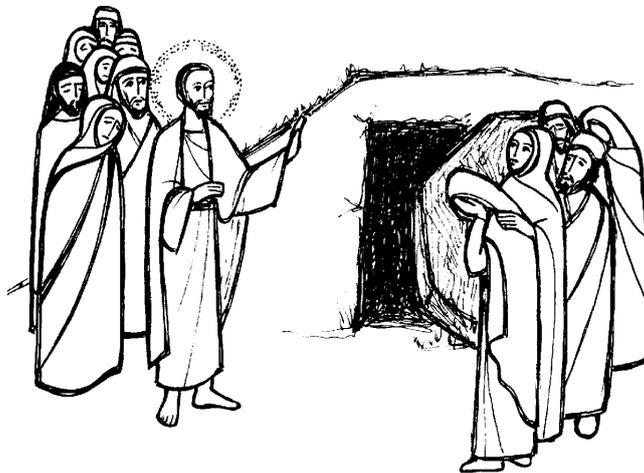
Parish Team
Fr Stephen Dingley and Deacon Ian Wells

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A Warm Welcome to all Parishioners and Visitors

5th Sunday of Lent

Sundays: Cycle A Weekdays: Year II 29 March 2020



Life is an important theme in John's Gospel. He uses the word almost forty times. It's there at the beginning: "In [the Word] was life, and the life was the light of men." (1:4) It's there as the main conclusion of the Gospel: "These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in his name." (20:31) It's there in some of Jesus' loveliest sayings: I am the bread of life (6:35); I am the way, the truth and the life (14:6); I have come that they may have life, and have it abundantly (10:10). It's there at the heart of today's Gospel: "I am the Resurrection and the Life; he who believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die." (11:25-26)

As Catholics we know the value of every human life from conception to natural death. We stand for the culture of life amidst a society which often gives in to a culture of death: abortion and euthanasia. So one of the good things which God is bringing out of the evil of the coronavirus crisis is that we are all making great efforts and sacrifices to preserve the life of some of the weakest and most vulnerable in our society. It is one way we live out Jesus' commandment: love one another as I have loved you.

May God bless you all

Fr Stephen

THIS WEEK

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Pauline Farino RIP who died last Sunday and keep her husband, Tony, and their family in your prayers too.

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

Coronavirus Update

Following the decisions of the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales, all gatherings for public worship were suspended from Fri 20 March, and from 24 March all churches, halls and associated facilities must be closed until further notice.

Mass without a congregation will be offered daily, generally at 9.15 am. I will be praying for all of you, and I know we will be spiritually united with our Lord and with one another. I will continue to offer the Mass for the intentions you have requested, and you can continue to request intentions via the parish office. In this emergency circumstance the obligation to attend Sunday Mass is removed (see *Catechism of the Catholic Church* 2181).

The Lord continues to be among us in the **Blessed Sacrament** in the tabernacles of our churches. He is still consecrating our parish and our villages by His living presence amongst us. He has not abandoned us, and He never will. He knows your love for Him and your desire to be with Him, and He will reward you.

- **Sacrament of Reconciliation** is possible on request, using the confessional box with the grille and additional screening.

- **Other Sacraments** will not be celebrated except in emergency. Do please contact Fr Stephen in the normal way in emergency situations.
- **Funerals** can now be celebrated only with close family members at the graveside or at the crematorium. However, we will be able to celebrate memorial Requiem Masses for those who have died once the present crisis passes.

Participating in Mass. Although Mass can only be celebrated without a congregation at present, we are all encouraged to join in spiritually. You can make use of live-streaming of Mass from many places. One possible website offering many options, including some from our diocese, is www.churchservices.tv. Another option is daily Mass celebrated by Bishop Robert Barron - www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass/ You can also simply pray the prayers and readings of Mass at home, and make a *spiritual communion* e.g. "I wish, my Lord, to receive you with the purity, humility, and devotion with which your most holy Mother received you, with the spirit and fervour of the saints."

Further resources are available from our diocesan website www.dabnet.org and from the website of the Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales www.cbcew.org.uk. You could also try www.ctsbooks.org and www.cafod.org.uk

OTHER NOTICES

Rededication of England to Our Lady: On 29 March 2020 our bishops will solemnly rededicate England to Our Lady. Devotion to Mary has been particularly strong in this country since medieval times. This rededication is a great opportunity for us to recommit ourselves to following the example of Mary,

who dedicated herself to God as “the handmaid of the Lord.” (Luke 1:38) We also ask her to pray for all those who live in this land, and especially for the re-evangelisation of our country. And, of course, at this time we ask her special intercession for all who are suffering in body or mind with the coronavirus, and for our medical staff.

I will pray the “Act of Entrustment of England to Our Lady” on behalf of you all after Mass on Sunday. Further information and prayer resources can be found at www.cbcew.org.uk/home/events/ behold-2020.

O Holy Mother of God, pray for us, and assist us as we dedicate ourselves this day. Your Yes at the Annunciation brought our Saviour Jesus into the world, and you invite us to contemplate the great mystery of the Incarnation, sharing your joy in announcing that “the Word was made flesh and lived among us.” May our yes, this day, open our hearts to serve our sisters and brothers in this your Dowry, that they too may share our joy in the Good News that God walks among us. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

GENERAL

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.

PRAYER

The Day of Prayer for Victims and Survivors of Abuse will be marked this year on Friday, 3 April 2020 throughout England and Wales.

A Prayer for Healing and Reconciliation

Praise to you Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the source of all consolation and hope. Be the refuge and guardian of all who suffer from abuse and violence. Comfort them and send healing for their wounds of the body, soul and spirit. Help us all and make us one with you in your love for justice as we deepen our respect for the dignity of every human life. Giver of peace, make us one in celebrating your praise, both now and forever. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Further resources can be found at www.cbcew.org.uk/home/events/day-of-prayer-abuse-survivors-2020

BIDDING PRAYERS

Since we can't have bidding prayers together in church at Mass, this week, let's all pray for:

1. All those suffering from the Coronavirus – the sick, the anxious, the bereaved, those experiencing financial and practical difficulties, and medical staff and researchers.
2. Those who have been hurt by clerical abuse in the church and by abuse in any other context.
3. John Psota-Jenkins and Neal Stone, who have been preparing to receive the sacraments at Easter, but will now have to wait for a while.
4. For all those who have died recently, especially Pauline Farino RIP. For all those whose anniversaries occur about now, especially Richard (Bob) Bowley and Mabel Delia Endicott.



Mass Intentions for the Coming Week

Saturday	28 Mar	9.15am	Mimi Rizzo - RIP
Sunday	29 Mar	9.15am	People of the Parish
Monday	30 Mar	9.15am	Teresa Aboud - RIP
Tuesday	31 Mar	9.15am	Eileen Warren - RIP
Wednesday	01 Apr	9.15am	Alan Bryant - RIP
Thursday	02 Apr	9.15am	David Farrow - RIP
Friday	03 Apr	9.15am	Fr David Rea - RIP
Saturday	04 Apr	9.15am	Bob & Anne Bowley - RIP
Sunday	05 Apr	9.15am	People of the Parish

Owing to the coronavirus, all Masses have to be celebrated without a congregation. I will say Mass at 9.15 every day, and will continue to offer them for your intentions. A few that have been provisionally scheduled will need to be moved to another day: please accept my apologies for this – but I promise that no intention will be forgotten.

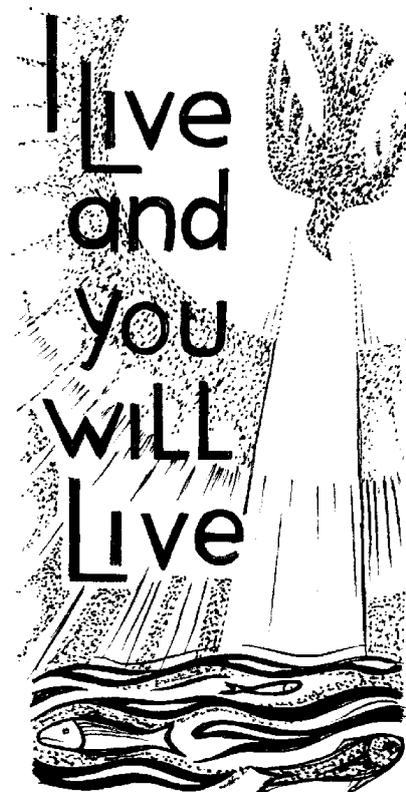
Confessions are available on request. Please contact Fr Stephen if you would like this.

Next Sunday: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Isaiah 50:4-7 Psalm 21:8-9. 17-20. 23-24. R.v2 Philipians 2:6-11 Matthew 26:14-27:66

Please pray for those in our Parish who are sick:

Marie Bliss	Janet Morgan
Michael Boulvard	Jim Morgan
Pauline Boulvard	Jane Neville
Christopher Brown	Ann Peck
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
Filomena Lionetti	Alf Wiggins
Joanna Mills	



Newsletter items to the Parish office by 10.00am Wednesday