

Our Lady of Lourdes Wanstead

Thrid Sunday of Easter

Parish Telephone Number - 020 8989 2074

E-mail address wanstead@dioceseofbrentwood.org

Website www.ourladyoflourdeswanstead.com

Parish Facebook Page is at <https://www.facebook.com/OLOLE11>

26th April 2020

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

It is now over 4 weeks since the dreaded Covid-19 virus spread throughout the world. It has caused immense pain, buckets full of tears and struck fear in many hearts. As Pope Francis reminds us we must use the time to come closer to God and thank him for all we have received.....much of which we take for granted.

The virus has hit our parish. Some have died others are in hospital and some have tested positive. Pray for them all.

A month ago if someone sneezed in our presence we would automatically have said "Bless You" today we recoil in horror and almost fear and alarm. This is a good time for us all to start or restart the practice of invoking Gods blessing on each other. It can be very simple as we ask God to bless us our family our homes our food our friends. Pope Francis has asked us to be calm in a crisis to be prayerful and trusting.

It is a great Catholic custom to have Holy Water in our homes and use it to sprinkle the family before going to school or on a journey, asking that the members may be blessed and protected by God and recalling our baptism.

Government regulations prevent us from using water in Church as it can carry a virus.

So I'm suggesting that you get a glass or bowl of water and Bless it in your home.

As a baptised Christian you can do this by saying this prayer over it.

LORD BLESS ME AND THOSE I LOVE.

BLESS THIS WATER WHICH REMINDS US OF OUR BAPTISM IN CHRIST.

WE ASK YOU AS WE BLESS OURSELVES WITH THIS WATER TO KEEP US SAFE AND WELL AND FREE FROM SICKNESS AND SORROW .MAY IT REMIND US OF THE SAVING PASSION OF JESUS YOUR SON AND OF HIS DEATH AND RESURRECTION.

MARY MOTHER OF JESUS AND OUR LADY OF LOURDES PRAY FOR US.

God Bless you all this week.

I am available if needed in Pastoral situations.

Fr. Pat

Daily Mass

Fr. Pat celebrates daily mass at 9am each day preceded by Adoration of Blessed Sacrament and Morning Prayer. All parishioners the sick etc are remembered.

The following will be remembered at mass this week

Mary Burns
Edward Godden
Marie Francis
Dick Warren
People of the Parish
Holy Souls.
Private Intention.

Sunday Mass

Sunday Mass will be live streamed at our YouTube Channel which can be found at <http://tiny.cc/OLOLE11> each Sunday morning at 11am for the foreseeable future,

Funerals

Monday 27th April Mario Biagoni
Thursday 30th April Cecil Williams
Monday 4th May Josie Butler

Also James Keane father of Father Paul Keane priest of our diocese. Funeral arrangements later.

May the all rest in peace.

Parish Finances

I have received a number of queries concerning Parish Finances. May I firstly acknowledge the many parishioners who are going through a difficult time financially and some have lost their jobs.

This parish of Our Lady of Lourdes is rather lucky in that parishioners down the years have been generous in giving and sustained it financially. We are now in the fortunate position of not having a debt and all works undertaken in the past 20 years have been paid for. Through I hope prudent and careful fiscal management we have built up some savings.....always keeping in mind the rainy day.

The rainy day has come suddenly but we have contingency funds and will be able to manage for the foreseeable future to pay our bills. Hopefully it will not be for too long.

You can help the parish by the following methods;

By taking out a direct debit mandate

By joining gift aid ([Gift-Aid-Form.pdf](#))

By one off contributions

By posting your offertory envelopes through the church letter box.

By donating online via <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations/?parish=wanstead> (this can also be gift aided).

Or some may wish to allow contributions to accumulate until we reopen.

Once we reopen CAFOD and other charities must be catered for. Sincere thanks to all who have given generously down the years. Thank you to our finance committee. I will continue to ensure that our funds are managed prudently and spent wisely and well. Thank you to everyone.

Parish Office

The office is not attended on a daily basis at the moment. Emails are checked every evening. The parish email address is wanstead@dioceseofbrentwood.org you may also leave a message for Fr. Pat via the parish telephone number 0208 989 2074.

Thank You

I wish to express thanks and appreciation to Catherine Burns for her unfailing help kindness and cooperation on keeping the Website updated and for putting up with my limited technology knowledge. Thanks and appreciation to Dan Parker for live streaming the Sunday Mass. The parish records its gratitude to both of them.

Have a Laugh

