

**The Sacred Heart & Our Lady**  
**Main Street, Aston-le-Walls, NN11 6UF**  
**Parish Priest: Fr James Evans                      Tel: 01295 660592**  
**Email: [sacredheart\\_alw@btinternet.com](mailto:sacredheart_alw@btinternet.com)**  
**Website: [www.sacredheart.btck.co.uk](http://www.sacredheart.btck.co.uk)**  
**21st June 2020**  
**TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**Welcome to our Parish Newsletter**

**Hello!** *The past two Sundays have been celebrations of Mass from that of “The Solemnities of the Lord during Ordinary Time”, and next Sunday we celebrate the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul. This Sunday is “simply” the 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time. However, the Gospel for this Sunday is anything but ordinary or mundane! Not once, but twice, we hear the words of Jesus, “Do not be afraid” and Jesus also states that, “What I say to you in the dark, tell in the daylight; what you hear in whispers, proclaim from the housetops.” These past few months of lockdown have indeed been “dark times” not just for the church, but for our world. Fear! Worry! Uncertainty! Doubt! Confusion! Turmoil! These have pervaded every pore of human life. In a way, everyone has been affected by the global pandemic. Yet just as we journeyed through the darker days of Lent to the bright light of Easter, we also experience something similar as we emerge from lockdown, even if, perhaps, rather cautiously and slowly. Do not be afraid!*

*Over these past few months, we have discovered new ways to communicate with people. Despite the frustrations and doubts we may have experienced; it is also an opportunity for us to find new methods to proclaim the Gospel message. On his entry into Jerusalem, Jesus said of his own disciples “if these keep silence the stones will cry out.” The Good News can never be silenced. It is for us all to find effective ways to proclaim it with tolerance and compassion. As the church emerges once again into the public domain, let us take heart, let us trust in the Lord: Be Confident! Connect and Communicate with those around us – we all have something wonderful to offer people: The Love of God!*

*With every blessing for this coming week!*

*Fr James*

**For the younger members** The Parish website has “child-friendly” bulletins and worksheets for you to either download (visit <https://sacredheart.btck.co.uk/> and scroll down “Main News Page”), or contact Fr James for an electronic copy to be sent to you, by email.

**Thanks be to God!** It was a great joy to open the church doors for private prayer yesterday (Saturday) morning. Our church, here in Aston le Walls, is open on Saturdays (10.30am-12 noon) and on Sundays (2.30pm-4.30pm) for private prayer. This is the first step towards the opening of our churches fully and let us hope and pray that we will soon be able to come and celebrate Mass together soon. We hope that when you visit either church, you will be able to light a candle and sit quietly for prayer for a while. There will also be an opportunity to collect a blessed palm (from Palm Sunday 2020) and if you can do so, to contribute to the parish offertory collection on your way out. The inside of the Church does look rather different at present, but it is truly a blessing to be able to spend time, in person, with the Lord. There are strict hygiene and social distancing requirements we must follow, so we ask for your patience and understanding as we journey through this stage of emergence from lockdown. Very many thanks to those who have volunteered to be stewards! There is some lovely “welcome” and other artwork celebrating the Feast of “Corpus Christi” on display; these were created by children attending St Mary’s RC Primary School; they are worth a look – a BIG thank you to them!

**If you are not able to come to Church** at this time because of your need to continue to shield yourself on medical or other official advice, please do not feel excluded! If you would like to offer up a prayer in Church, let me know and I will ask one of the stewards to light one on your behalf. Your intention/prayer requests will be placed upon the altar by me. If you wish to keep up-to-date with the latest developments, do please refer to the Diocesan website <https://northamptondiocese.org/> or the Bishops’ Conference website <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/> and most definitely, do keep our church in your prayers.

**Day for Life** is the day in the Church’s year dedicated to raising awareness about the meaning and value of human life at every stage and in every condition. The Church teaches that life is to be nurtured from conception to natural death. This year’s Day for Life is **this Sunday**. This year’s theme, ‘Choose Life’ is particularly fitting in this twenty-fifth anniversary

**St Mary’s RC Primary School: [www.stmarysrc-astonlewalls.co.uk](http://www.stmarysrc-astonlewalls.co.uk)                      Tel: 01295 660258**

**Parish Safeguarding Rep: Sally Doran 07866 701666**

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year of St John Paul II's Encyclical *Evangelium Vitae*, which summoned the entire Church to be 'a people of life and for life' (n: 78) and emphasises the care of the unborn child and pregnant women. Let us therefore pray that minds and hearts may be opened to the sheer gift and wonder of every new life in the womb and thank those who work ceaselessly to protect this life more fully by legislation. Let us also draw attention to the hope and healing that women and men can experience following the trauma of abortion. Please visit <http://www.dayforlife.org/> for prayers, information and support which is available.

**Offertory Giving** Many thanks to all who are continuing to support the parish financially; people have successfully made donations by bank transfer or other online facilities. Some are sending cheque donations (payable to the Parish, not Fr James) by post or dropping off donations through the presbytery door. This is very welcome; thanks to you all! You will find more on finances elsewhere on the parish website or give directly, via the Diocesan website: <https://northamptondiocese.org/donate/>. Please ensure the parish name and area are put in the notes section of the donate page: Sacred Heart and Our Lady, Aston le Walls. Alternatively, the Diocese has introduced a new way of making donations to the parish – 'Giving Tuesday'. All you need to do is telephone 01604 712065 and make a donation to the parish. You will need a credit or debit card to hand and you will be able to make a one-off donation to cover any missed Sunday offerings or simply call each week to make an offering. Patience may be needed, as only one person will be taking these calls, but if you leave details on the answer machine someone will get back to you!

**Please pray for:** Jeffrey & Terence H, Rev Stevie C, Fr Euan OP, Tess K, Tony B, Carmel R, Sarel S, Averil M, Bernard B, Paul C, Herman L, Colm E, Joy B, Catherine R, Joan T, Alan and Jean R, Josie M, Eileen E-L, Michael B. We enfold in prayer all those suffering with COVID-19 and all working within the NHS, Care Homes, hospices, our schools and all key workers.

**MAY THE LORD BLESS YOU AND KEEP YOU AND YOUR FAMILY  
SAFE AND WELL THIS COMING WEEK!  
A VERY "HAPPY FATHER'S DAY" AS WELL!**

**Entrance Antiphon**



*The Lord is the  
strength of his  
people, a saving  
refuge for the one he  
has anointed.  
Save your people,  
Lord, and bless your  
heritage, and govern  
them for ever.*

(cf Psalm 27:8-9)

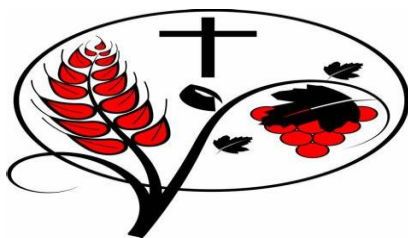
**Spiritual Communion Prayer**

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you.

Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

(Prayer of St Alphonsus)



**A "Father's Day" Prayer**

"God our Father, in wisdom and love, you create all things. Bless those fathers who have taken upon themselves a responsibility in parenting. Bless our priests who have answered that Vocational calling. Bless those fathers who have lost a spouse to death, separation, or divorce, who are parenting alone. Welcome those fathers who are no longer with us, that they may see you face to face.

Strengthen all fathers by your love that they may become the loving, caring people they are meant to be. Grant this through Christ our Lord."

**AMEN.**