

Parishes of St Columba and St Malachy Halifax

3rd May 2020

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Vocations Sunday. The fourth Sunday of the Easter season is Good Shepherd Sunday and throughout the Catholic world a day of prayer for Vocations to the priesthood, the diaconate and religious life. During this week please remember “to pray to the Lord of the harvest to send workers into his harvest” (Matthew 9:38).

May the month of Mary. May, together with October, are traditionally regarded as months dedicated to Our Lady and it is customary to pray the Rosary. Pope Francis has written a letter “to encourage everyone to rediscover the beauty of praying the Rosary at home in the month of May”. He writes: “it is traditional in this month to pray the Rosary at home within the family” and that the restrictions of the pandemic have made us appreciate all the more this family aspect.

A new message on behalf of the Bishops of England and Wales is posted on the parish website.

Fr Michael continues to celebrate daily **Mass** during this time. Mass will be celebrated for the **following intentions** this week

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>People of the Parishes</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>Simon Tuohey</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Intentions of Sr Therese Marie CP</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Mary King</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Kevin Megson</i>
<i>Friday</i>	<i>David Hall</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>November Dead List</i>

Please pray for:

Lately Dead: Jim Graydon, Edith Coulter, Mary O’Halloran, Roseanne Walton, Mary King (Canada), and the two Halifax paramedics who died this week

Anniversaries: Simon Tuohey

The **readings for daily and Sunday Mass** can be found on:
www.universalis.com/mass

The **times and web address** of daily and Sunday Mass available on the internet are posted on the parish website.

Fr Michael is happy to assist parishioners in any practical way he can and can be contacted on: 01422 361682 and michael.mcquinn@dioceseofleeds.org.uk.

Offertory Giving. The loss of our weekly offertory collections during this period of lockdown presents a challenge to cashflow in our parishes. A number of our parishioners may also be affected by a loss of income which will be reflected in what they can afford to contribute to their parishes. Others may be able to put their weekly gift to one side during this period to bring along when we are able to celebrate Sunday Mass again. However, to assist with current cashflow parishioners can also set up Standing Orders or make occasional donations directly to our bank accounts. Alternatively,

parishioners can use their mobile phones to text a £5 gift (or several texts for multiples of £5) to their parish.

The details are as follows:

1. **St. Columba's Halifax:** HSBC, Sort Code 40-27-15, Account Number: 21023233
Or text **CHURCH COLUMBA** to 70500 to contribute £5
2. **St Malachy's Halifax.** HSBC. Sort Code 40-27-15. Account Number 91017438
Or text **CHURCH MALACHY** to 70500 to contribute £5

St Columba's Offertory Envelopes. Please contact Fr Michael (details above) or Marina Armstrong (07768 875708) should you wish to have your new envelopes dropped off at home.

St Malachy's Catholic Papers. During the current pandemic the Catholic Universe and Catholic Times newspapers are to be combined. They are left each week in the side porch of church. These can also now be delivered directly to your home. Please visit www.thecatholicuniverse.com or ring 0161 820 5722

Weekly Mass of Solidarity. A national weekly Mass will be celebrated by one of the bishops of England and Wales and live streamed from his Cathedral for NHS front-line and care home workers, the sick and their families every **Thursday** at **7.00pm**. **This Thursday** mass will be celebrated by our own Bishop, Marcus Stock from Leeds Cathedral. To access this Mass simply visit Leeds Cathedral's website.

Catholic Care Community Response Service

In response to the impact of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Catholic Care have launched a Community Response Service to support those in our Catholic communities who are sick, self-isolating, have been adversely financially impacted or are finding it difficult to cope.

The service will be available Monday – Friday, 8-6pm

A team of Catholic Care workers (we may expand later to incorporate volunteers) will be available to support parishioners and families in a number of ways:

- A telephone support service. This service will provide a listening ear and a friendly voice for those experiencing isolation in their community.
- A pick up and drop off groceries and pharmacy service.
- A dog walking service
- A supermarket voucher for those experiencing financial hardship.

Please contact us on 07739975001 or 07739975008 or 07739975009 or email janet.kent@catholic-care.org.uk or Jessica.price@catholic-care.org.uk if you would like to access this service or you would like to refer a person in your Parish or school community.

Weekly Updates. Each weekend a weekly newssheet and a weekly reflection on the Sunday readings will be posted on the website throughout this period of self-isolation. Don't forget to take a look!

www.stcolumbascatholicchurch.com