

THE CATHOLIC PARISHES
OF MOLESEY & HERSHAM
St Barnabas Vine Road Molesey
All Saints Queens Road Hersham

25 October 2020

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice;
turn to the Lord and his strength;
constantly see his face.*

Parish Priest: Fr Richard Biggerstaff
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Confessions *By appointment and before and after Saturday Masses*

Richard
Bishop of Arundel & Brighton

PASTORAL LETTER
for the 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time
50th Anniversary of the Canonisation of the 40
Martyrs of England & Wales
25th October 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This day in 1970 marked a most significant moment for the Church in England & Wales. Saints John Fisher and Thomas More had been canonised in 1935, but on this day, forty martyrs of the 16th and 17th centuries were canonised by Pope St. Paul VI. This group of saints (laywomen and men, priests and religious) includes our own Diocesan Patron, St. Philip Howard.

While not questioning their sanctity, some may look back at the 16th and 17th centuries and wonder if men and women of a bygone age have very much to teach us. Certainly, they were people of their own time - a period when lives tended to be shorter, perhaps a more barbarous time in some respects, a time when the vast majority of the population lived in great poverty, the threat of war or plague not far from the door.

Molesey Parish Office Tuesday – Friday 9.15 -12.15
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Church Hall Hire Molesey Theresa D'Burrage
Tel: 07453 174 354
Email: theresa.dsouza852@btinternet.com

Church Hall Hire Hersham Paul Fields
Tel: 01932 221 101 Email: paul_fields@ntlworld.com

Kiltegan Fathers 20 Beauchamp Road Molesey
Sisters of Christian Retreat 35 Seymour Road Molesey

Cardinal Newman Catholic Primary Hersham
Headteacher: Mrs Catherine Burnham
Tel: 01932 222 536
Email: office@cardinalnewmanschool.co.uk
Website: www.cardinalnewmanschool.co.uk

St Alban's Catholic Primary Molesey
Headteacher: Mr Martin Brannigan
Tel: 0208 8979 5893
Email: admin@stalbans.surrey.sch.uk
Website: www.stalbans.surrey.sch.uk

Times do move on, although human nature changes little, and every time in history has faced its own perils and societal failures. In our own time, we are living in the midst of a pandemic and many across our world live in abject poverty and there is much injustice.

The challenges to Faith that are present in our society, although expressed differently, would be recognised by the martyrs we celebrate today. Pope St. Paul VI drew attention to this quality in our martyrs, in his homily at the Mass of Canonisation. He spoke of the "interior quality of unshakable loyalty to the vocation given them by God - the sacrifice of their lives as a loving response to that call."

In a secularised society, one of the greatest expressions of faith we can offer to the world around us is simple, persevering fidelity to the Lord's discipleship. This is a most pressing demand upon every one of us - to be, before all else, people who answer God's call, living this out for the good of the whole world.

Pope St. Paul VI spoke also of his desire, in the act of Canonisation, to "assist in advancing ecumenism worthy of the name." This witness in the society of our day is carried out alongside our Christian brothers and sisters.

In these present times of the Covid-19 pandemic, this fidelity, this loyalty, expressed in love and charity, is as vital as ever. It is, perhaps, the most powerful witness in times of crisis - and our martyrs show the way of fidelity without limit.

It may have been difficult for us to celebrate Mass together for some time - the "truth of the Holy Eucharist", Pope St. Paul VI reminds us, was a particular point of testing for the martyrs. These present times are testing for us too. Our response must, surely, be that of the martyrs - placing the Eucharist at the centre of our lives and returning to the celebration with renewed hope and trust in the One who gave Himself for us on the Cross and continues to give Himself to us completely in the Sacrament of the Most Holy Eucharist.

Faithful to his own promise, the Lord Himself is with us on our journey, just as He was with the martyrs whom we celebrate today. Through His closeness to us and our openness to His love, we are made a people of hope. This hope, rooted in the Eucharist, makes our witness strong; more effective than we might ever imagine.

As we give thanks for the witness of our martyrs, may their prayers strengthen us on the path of fidelity to the vocation, the mission, to which each of us is called.

With every Blessing,

Yours sincerely in Christ,
Richard, Bishop of Arundel & Brighton

THIS SUNDAY we welcome Fr Brian Oswald, a Mill Hill Missionary priest, who has had a long and fruitful association with the promotion of red boxes and our parishes' commitment to the mission of the Church. We welcome him.

SADLY BISHOP RICHARD will postpone his All Saints visit to Hersham because of the Tier 2 status of Elmbridge. We look forward to celebrating with our bishop the 60th anniversary of the opening of the church, who sends his warmest wishes to us all.

THE OPENING OF CHURCHES FOR PRIVATE PRAYER & PUBLIC MASSES

The churches are open for private prayer during the day. The churches are also open for Mass.

Bear in mind that the doors of the churches will be open, so it will be possible to be outside the building itself but have a reasonable connection with the celebration of the liturgy.

We need to be attentive to safety and social distancing requirements. There will be limited space in the churches, but the doors will be open, and those who don't mind standing can participate in the Mass from outside the church as long as social distance is observed.

PLEASE NOTE

- The obligation to be at Sunday Mass continues to be suspended until further notice.
- The homily will be short!
- We are not permitted to sing together.
- Holy Communion will now be distributed in the usual place. Please remove your face coverings in preparation for the reverent reception of Holy Communion.
- Every effort will be made to avoid any possible transmission of the virus.
- The celebrant's hands will be thoroughly cleansed before the distribution of Holy Communion.
- Take advantage of the weekday Masses to spread the numbers and assist safe space.
- Wear face coverings.

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE OF WEEKDAY MASSES & LITURGY

AT MOLESEY: All Live streamed

Thursday 9.30am & Latin Mass on Saturday at 10am

AT HERSHAM: All live streamed

Wednesday & Friday at 9.30am.

To access the live stream Molesey & Hersham go to www.stbarnabasmolesey.org and click on the picture of the appropriate church. Make sure your device's sound is turned up.

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

Holy Ones of Encouragement

For regular updates, news and devotions

Access the page by going to

www.stbarnabasmolesey.org

and click on the Facebook icon.

You do not have to join Facebook to see this.

PARISHIONERS LOOKING AFTER EACH OTHER

from the parishes have joined together to provide mutual help and support during these days of lockdown and isolation by means of telephone calls, email and social media groups.

Contact Fr Richard Tel: 07803 197 840.

PRAYERS & DEVOTIONS

Soul of Christ, sanctify me;

Body of Christ, save me;

Blood of Christ, inebriate me;

Water from the side of Christ, wash me;

Passion of Christ, strengthen me;

O good Jesus hear me;

Within your wounds hide me;

Suffer me not to be separated from you,

From the evil one protect me;

At the hour of my death, call me;

And bid me come to thee; That with thy

saints I may be praise thee

For all eternity. Amen.

Act of Spiritual Communion

This prayer is said when it is not possible for us to receive Holy Communion. If you are watching a live stream Mass you might like to say the prayer as the priest receives Holy Communion.

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 in my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen

For those who are suffering

O God, who willed that our infirmities be borne by your Only Begotten Son to show the value of human suffering, listen in kindness to our prayers for our brothers and sisters who are sick; grant that all who are oppressed by pain, distress or other afflictions may know that they are chosen among those proclaimed blessed and are united to Christ in his suffering for the salvation of the world. Through Christ Our Lord. Amen

Merciful God, come to the help of your people. Be our shelter in this time of peril and strengthen the bonds of our community. Bring healing to all who suffer the ravages of disease and assist those whose skill and art can put an end to this affliction. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

The Memorare to Our Lady

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known

that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help,

or sought your intercession was left unaided.

Inspired with this confidence,

I fly to you, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother.

To you I come, before you I stand, sinful and sorrowful.

O Mother of the Word Incarnate,

despise not my petitions, but in your mercy, hear and answer me.

LET US PRAY FOR: *For those who are sick in our parishes:* Beatrice Hammond, Sue Bolton, Kevin O'Connor, Eptisam Yusef, Peter Weeks, Lynda Ellis, Eileen Firth, Patrick Russell, Ann Griffin, Andy Hanges, Patricia Malcolm, Patrick Duggan, Rose Collins, Maureen Lloyd, Therese Ayres, Mary Hales, Ann Livingston, Dina Yates, Sheila Day, Nicoletta Lanzisera, Richard D'Alton, Nellie Widdup, Ben Adderley, Nedra Gilson, the Superville and McComb family, Mark.

Those who have died: Patrick Duggan, Kathleen Bell, Peggy Fitzgerald, Edward Quigley, Carl Zalman, Carmen Szkwirko, Harry O'Sullivan, William Ritchie, Teresa Redmond, Rosanna Hilling, Helena Wallis, John Knowles, Kathleen Kelly (Lambert), Gerry Firth, Glen Adderley, Salvator Messini, Rui Da Silva, Maria Camara.

Those who anniversaries fall this week:
Fr James Pitts, Fr Peter ap Morris, Dc Eric Kilminster, Fr John Sheehy, Fr Charles Slaughter, Fr Seamus Stapleton SCA,
And the intentions of all.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES

Martha, Isabella and Frederick who will be confirmed on Sunday 1st November at the 9am Mass, All Saints Hershams.
And Isabella, Claire, Olivia, Rosamund and Antoni at the 11am Mass, St Barnabas, Molesey.

WAITING FOR THE LORD
Types of Waiting

An Advent Retreat for our parishes
Monday 30 November- Friday 4 December

At Hershams Rosary at 9.15am followed by Holy Mass at 9.30am followed by an Advent Talk

At Molesey Adoration at 6.30pm, followed by Holy Mass at 7pm followed by an Advent Talk

An On Line Link for Mass Prayers

The readings from daily Mass:

<http://universalis.com/mass.htm>

PARISH FINANCES

With the suspension of Sunday Masses and the lack of a Sunday collection, please consider the financial needs of the parishes. Whilst it might be possible to set aside your Sunday contribution why not think about a standing order to the parishes?

FOR HERSHAM ALL SAINTS

Account Number 21077295

FOR MOLESEY ST BARNABAS

Account Number 71077252

The Sort Code for both accounts is 40-05-20

Many parishioners already do this and it is easy to do. You will understand that we need to support our parishes even though we can't physically enter the churches.

Missio (red boxes) and CAFOD - HUGE THANK YOU

October is the month for two large collections for our overseas charities - CAFOD and Missio.

Both international charities are supported by Pope Francis and help local communities to thrive. CAFOD works with local partners in 165 countries to teach new skills, develop good health care, education and justice. Missio works with local Bishops and communities; including some countries where Christianity is not encouraged.

These times are hard for everybody, and our community is very generous in our prayers and donations for both charities. Please continue to pray for both charities and if possible, donate a little money to continue their good work to improve lives and reduce the impact of Covid-19 pandemic. More information is on their websites.

Examples of expenditure

£17.84 pays for a pack of nutritious food to feed four malnourished children or pregnant women. (CAFOD)

To donate to CAFOD. UK registered charity 1160384

1. Directly by online payment www.cafod.org.uk/give
2. Pick up an envelope, write a cheque include details of gift aid if a UK taxpayer, and post free of postal charge.
3. Donate £10 by text CAFOD to 70085 (£10 + standard message rate)
4. Telephone 0300 303 3030
5. Contact Hersham Parish representative, Marion Dawes. 01932 231317

To donate to Missio - UK Registered charity 1056651

1. Direct by online payment at mission.org.uk/redbox
2. By text, sending REDBOX 5 or REDBOX 10 to 70085 to donate £5 or £10 (plus standard message rate)
3. Send a cheque payable to Missio-Mill Hill and post to Red Box, 23 Eccleston Square, London, SW1V 1NU
4. Contact Hersham Parish Local Secretary, Angela Hudson on 01932 882717 or 07970 860394

ONLINE RETREATS AND TALKS AT THE HOUSE OF PRAYER, MOLESEY An online preached Zoom retreat hosted by the House of Prayer.

Lectio Divina Led by Bishop Richard Moth on Zoom Saturday, 31 October 2020 - 11:00am - 1:00pm

This day introduces the practice of Lectio Divina - Praying with the Scriptures.

Suggested donation: £15, but no one should feel excluded from attending.

For more information and to register, please contact the House of Prayer at

admin@christian-retreat.org or look at our website at <https://www.christian-retreat.org/our-programme>.

CARDINAL NEWMAN FUNRAISING

Cardinal Newman is extending their school hall, and the work started on the 3rd August. Our target is to raise £150,000, and our current balance stands at £93,439. We are delighted to let you know we continue with our 'buy a brick' at the cost of £50 per brick, where each brick has two lines, and each line consists of 16 characters including spaces. The brick can have your name inscribed or indeed words of wisdom for the current and new pupils that will continue their education through Cardinal Newman. We will then be creating a display board on which all bricks will be on display for all to view. This opportunity is open to both current and past families of Cardinal Newman. If you would like to make a donation or purchase bricks, please contact Tina O'Kelly: tokelly@cardinalnewmanschool.co.uk. Forms can be emailed directly to Tina, and she can provide you with the Governor's account bank detail to make direct payments. We have attached a form below. Thank you for your continued support.

AND FINALLY, If you know of anybody in difficulty, or anybody who is not receiving news or anybody who is anxious, please, please contact the parish priest who will be only too pleased to do what he can.

May the good Lord continue to bless us all during these strange times

Fr Richard Biggerstaff,

Parish Priest of All Saints Hersham with St Barnabas Molesey