

St Michael and All Angels Catholic Church

437, Dunsbury Way, Leigh Park, Havant, Hampshire, PO9 5BD, 023 9248 4323

Parish Priest Canon Gerard Flynn, The Presbytery, 83, Bramdean Drive, Leigh Park, Hants, PO9 4RR
gerardflynn@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Deacon Rev. Nick O'Neill noneill@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Parish Secretary Ellen McCarthy leighpark@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Minister Anne Iheanacho 07979 963477

Website <http://www.stmichaelsleighpark.org.uk/>

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God is love!

God is with us in all this suffering and disturbance.

There will be no public Masses from Friday 20th March for the foreseeable future. This will be a difficult loss for so many people. In this necessary fast from the Eucharist perhaps we can take a moment to really reflect on what it means for us and come to appreciate this mystery all over again. But don't for a moment think that if you are unable to get to Mass you are committing a sin! God does not expect more of us than we can offer.

This website might help: <https://www.ctsbooks.org/if-you-cant-get-to-mass-making-a-spiritual-communion/>

And this prayer leaflet is good to keep handy:

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2020/03/prayer-flu-viruses.pdf>

Since we cannot gather to celebrate Mass perhaps we could watch Mass online. Of course, it's not the same, but it could help us maintain our Sunday custom, remembering that Sunday is the Lord's day.

Our own St John's Cathedral, Portsmouth offers live-streamed Mass.

<https://www.portsmouthcatholiccathedral.org.uk/live-mass.php>

So too do the Dominican Sisters of St Joseph at Sway. <https://dominicansistersofstjoseph.org>

The Sisters' website also offers the Rosary, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and the Divine Office.

Mass Online <https://mass-online.org/daily-holy-mass-live-online/> offers links to Mass being streamed in many churches across the world.

A resource offering Mass from Medjugorje can be found on the Mary App at <https://www.marian.org/app>

Bishop Robert Barron's Daily Mass can be found at: <https://www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass>

Public Health England, U.K. Government & the N.H.S. can help with your health questions:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-social-distancing-and-for-vulnerable-people/guidance-on-social-distancing-for-everyone-in-the-uk-and-protecting-older-people-and-vulnerable-adults>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response>

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19>

Prayers *O God, you sent your Son, Jesus, to bring eternal life to all who believe. I join him in praying for labourers for your harvest. May your Holy Spirit inspire men & women to continue his mission through your priesthood, diaconate, religious life & lay ministry.*

May this same Spirit make known your will for my life. Amen

Lord Jesus Christ, true physician and heavenly medicine, be merciful to us and bring us aid. Heal all our sickness, Lord. Heal every malady that afflicts Thy people. Banish our infirmities of soul and body. Rid us of all disease and pestilence. And in Thy pity, deal also with the causes of our evil plight, so that, in curing our perverseness, Thou mayest also remedy our bodily ills. Amen.

from the Manual of Catholic Prayer

Scriptures for the Fourth Sunday of Lent, Year A, 22nd March 2020, Christ the Light of the World

Prayer of the Church Week 4

God chose David, the least of Jesse's sons, to be king of Israel.
While people look at appearances, God looks at the heart. (1 Samuel 1.6-7.10-13)

Paul tells the Ephesians that now that Christ has enlightened them,
they must adopt a lifestyle in keeping with their new state. (Ephesians 5:5-14)

Jesus, the light of the world, not only gives sight to the physically blind,
but the light of faith to the spiritually blind. (John 9:1-41)



The healing of the man born blind, 1311, Duccio di Buoninsegna

Please pray through the week for these intentions:

21st March, Saturday of the Third Week of Lent

for all the people of our Parish and our Pastoral Area

22nd March, Fourth Sunday of Lent

Dejoie Dalaba on his tenth birthday!

23rd March, Monday

Fr John Castelli RIP

24th March, Tuesday of the Fourth Week of Lent

for those suffering from the corona virus

25th March, The Annunciation of the Lord

for all expectant mothers

26th March, Thursday of the Fourth Week of Lent

for all health workers

27th March, Friday of the Fourth Week of Lent

for all who are homeless

28th March, Saturday of the Fourth Week of Lent

for Charles Judge's intentions

29th March Fifth Sunday of Lent

Jan & Martin McGranaghan on their Golden Wedding

Of your charity please pray for all those who are sick.
Please pray for the repose of the soul of Ida Veronica Reavell RIP who has died recently. We pray for all who mourn her.

Gratitude *The discipline of gratitude is the explicit effort to acknowledge that all I am and have is given to me as a gift of love, a gift to be celebrated with joy.*

Henri Nouwen

Puzzling! Last week's week's anagram, ROASTMULES, leaps into shape: SOMERSAULT. Well done several parishioners who jumped to it directly! Queen Victoria loved anagrams but she was stumped by this one: ABONETY. Let Canon Gerard know if you get it!

Collections If you wish to maintain your donations to our Parish during this challenging period envelopes can be put in the Donations box in the church Welcoming Area. Direct Debit forms are available from leighpark@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or just ask the Parish Office. If you wish to receive this newsletter by email please ask at the same address.

St Juliana Falconieri, patron saint for those suffering illness, and St Michael and All Angels, our own patron, please pray for us.

