



PARISH OF ST. JOSEPH, BURNTWOOD

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Fourth Week of Easter

DATES	TIMES	MASS INTENTIONS
Sunday 3rd May – 4th Sunday of Easter World Day of Prayer for Vocations	10.00am	People of the Parish
Monday 4 th May – Easter Feria	10.00am	Benny Bogue RIP
Tuesday 5 th May – Easter Feria	10.00am	Mary & Thomas Buckley and family
Wednesday 6 th May – Easter Feria	10.00am	Celebrant's Intention
Thursday 7 th May - Easter Feria	10.00am	NHS Staff and frontline workers
Friday 8 th May – Easter Feria	10.00am	Mary & Thomas Buckley and family
Saturday 9 th May - Easter Feria	10.00am	Celebrant's Intention
Sunday 10th May – 5th Sunday of Easter	10.00am	People of the Parish

DAILY MASS: said privately by Fr. Linh for your intentions. Details for live-streamed Masses from different churches are on our website. *For those who can't attend online Masses, please join me spiritually in prayer at home at the above set times.* Mass intentions that have already requested will be offered as arranged. Any further Mass intentions can be arranged by phone or email. Thank you.

DEEPEST SYMPATHY: Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Anthony Scott** who died recently. *Tony's funeral service will be on Friday 15th May, 10.30am at Fradley Crematorium.* We extend our deepest sympathy to their families during this difficult time. *Eternal Rest grant unto them, O Lord! And let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in Peace!*

ANNIVERSARIES WITHIN THE WEEK: Peter Carter, Louisa Inman, Rev. Michael Byrne, Kathleen McGann, Martin Furlong, Agnes O'Mahoney, Molly McConnell, Anne MacInnes, June Ryan, Elizabeth Bailes, Audrey Galuszka, Winifred Geraghty, and Robert Hardy. May they rest in Peace.

PLEASE PRAY FOR: The sick and housebound of the parish. We include all those we know in hospitals, nursing homes and their own homes. We pray especially for those who are affected by the coronavirus pandemic in various ways. May the Lord grant them healing, strength and peace!

PASTORAL LETTER FOR THIS WEEKEND: We have the pastoral letter from our Archbishop Bernard Longley. Here is the link: <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/Handlers/Download.ashx?IDMF=d9ef074f-1148-4fbb-8090-8b243f5031c3>

MONTH OF MAY: Special devotion to Mary our Mother. Pope Francis encourages us to say the Rosary with him this month. His letter to us is attached here. Please read on.

If you are self-isolating and need any help

Grocery shopping, a friendly phone call, posting mail, walking the dog, urgent supplies.

Please call 01543 686266 or E-mail: stjosephsburntwood@googlemail.com

SOME PRAYERS DURING THE PANDEMIC

Jesus Christ, you travelled through towns and villages ‘curing every disease and illness.’ At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love.

Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care. Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbours from helping one another. Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders.

Jesus Christ, healer of all, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow. Be with those who have died from the virus. May they be at rest with you in your eternal peace.

Be with the families of those who are sick or have died. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair. May they know your peace.

Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace.

Be with the leaders of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they are meant to serve. Give them the wisdom to invest in long-term solutions that will help prepare for or prevent future outbreaks. May they know your peace, as they work together to achieve it on earth.

Whether we are surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, Jesus Christ, stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare. In place of our anxiety, give us your peace. Jesus Christ, hear us and heal us. Amen.

(From America Magazine (2 March 2020), by Kerry Weber)

Most merciful and Triune God,
We come to you in our weakness.
We come to you in our fear.
We come to you with trust.
For you alone are our hope.

We place before you the disease present in our world.
We turn to you in our time of need.
Bring wisdom to doctors.
Give understanding to scientists.
Endow caregivers with compassion and generosity.
Bring healing to those who are ill.
Protect those who are most at risk.
Give comfort to those who have lost a loved one.
Welcome those who have died into your eternal home.
Stabilise our communities.
Unite us in our compassion.
Remove all fear from our hearts.
Fill us with confidence in your care.
Jesus, I trust in you.
Jesus, I trust in you.
Jesus, I trust in you. Amen.

(Author unknown)

O Mary,
you always shine on our path
as a sign of salvation and of hope.
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,
who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain,
keeping your faith firm.
You, Salvation of the Roman People,
know what we need,
and we are sure you will provide
so that, as in Cana of Galilee,
we may return to joy and to feasting
after this time of trial.
Help us, Mother of Divine Love,
to conform to the will of the Father
and to do as we are told by Jesus,
who has taken upon himself our sufferings
and carried our sorrows
to lead us, through the cross,
to the joy of the resurrection. Amen.

Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy
Mother of God. Do not disdain the entreaties of
we who are in trial, but deliver us from every
danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin

(Pope Francis)

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that you are present
in this Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love
you above all things and I passionately
desire to receive you into my soul. Since
I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
come spiritually into my soul so that I
may unite myself wholly to you now and
forever. Amen.

Almighty and eternal God, our refuge in every danger, to whom we turn
in our distress; in faith we pray: look with compassion on the afflicted,
grant eternal rest to the dead, comfort to mourners, healing to the sick,
peace to the dying, strength to healthcare workers, wisdom to our leaders
and the courage to reach out to all in love, so that together we may give
glory to your holy name. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

Father, during this time may your Church be a sign of hope, comfort and love to
all. Grant peace. Grant comfort. Grant healing. Be with us, Lord. Amen.

(US Conference of Catholic Bishops)

Letter of His Holiness Pope Francis to the Faithful for the Month of May 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The month of May is approaching, a time when the People of God express with particular intensity their love and devotion for the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is traditional in this month to pray the Rosary at home within the family. The restrictions of the pandemic have made us come to appreciate all the more this “family” aspect, also from a spiritual point of view.

For this reason, I want to encourage everyone to rediscover the beauty of praying the Rosary at home in the month of May. This can be done either as a group or individually; you can decide according to your own situations, making the most of both opportunities. The key to doing this is always simplicity, and it is easy also on the internet to find good models of prayers to follow.

I am also providing two prayers to Our Lady that you can recite at the end of the Rosary, and that I myself will pray in the month of May, in spiritual union with all of you. I include them with this letter so that they are available to everyone.

Dear brothers and sisters, contemplating the face of Christ with the heart of Mary our Mother will make us even more united as a spiritual family and will help us overcome this time of trial. I keep all of you in my prayers, especially those suffering most greatly, and I ask you, please, to pray for me. I thank you, and with great affection I send you my blessing.

Rome, Saint John Lateran, 25 April 2020
Feast of Saint Mark the Evangelist

FIRST PRAYER

O Mary,

You shine continuously on our journey
as a sign of salvation and hope.
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,
who, at the foot of the cross,
were united with Jesus' suffering,
and persevered in your faith.

“Protectress of the Roman people”,
you know our needs,
and we know that you will provide,
so that, as at Cana in Galilee,
joy and celebration may return
after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love,
to conform ourselves to the will of the Father
and to do what Jesus tells us.
For he took upon himself our suffering,
and burdened himself with our sorrows
to bring us, through the cross,
to the joy of the Resurrection.

Amen.

*We fly to your protection,
O Holy Mother of God;
Do not despise our petitions
in our necessities,
but deliver us always
from every danger,
O Glorious and Blessed Virgin.*

SECOND PRAYER

"We fly to your protection, O Holy Mother of God".

In the present tragic situation, when the whole world is prey to suffering and anxiety, we fly to you, Mother of God and our Mother, and seek refuge under your protection.

Virgin Mary, turn your merciful eyes towards us amid this coronavirus pandemic. Comfort those who are distraught and mourn their loved ones who have died, and at times are buried in a way that grieves them deeply. Be close to those who are concerned for their loved ones who are sick and who, in order to prevent the spread of the disease, cannot be close to them. Fill with hope those who are troubled by the uncertainty of the future and the consequences for the economy and employment.

Mother of God and our Mother, pray for us to God, the Father of mercies, that this great suffering may end and that hope and peace may dawn anew. Plead with your divine Son, as you did at Cana, so that the families of the sick and the victims be comforted, and their hearts be opened to confidence and trust.

Protect those doctors, nurses, health workers and volunteers who are on the frontline of this emergency, and are risking their lives to save others. Support their heroic effort and grant them strength, generosity and continued health.

Be close to those who assist the sick night and day, and to priests who, in their pastoral concern and fidelity to the Gospel, are trying to help and support everyone.

Blessed Virgin, illumine the minds of men and women engaged in scientific research, that they may find effective solutions to overcome this virus.

Support national leaders, that with wisdom, solicitude and generosity they may come to the aid of those lacking the basic necessities of life and may devise social and economic solutions inspired by farsightedness and solidarity.

Mary Most Holy, stir our consciences, so that the enormous funds invested in developing and stockpiling arms will instead be spent on promoting effective research on how to prevent similar tragedies from occurring in the future.

Beloved Mother, help us realize that we are all members of one great family and to recognize the bond that unites us, so that, in a spirit of fraternity and solidarity, we can help to alleviate countless situations of poverty and need. Make us strong in faith, persevering in service, constant in prayer.

Mary, Consolation of the afflicted, embrace all your children in distress and pray that God will stretch out his all-powerful hand and free us from this terrible pandemic, so that life can serenely resume its normal course.

To you, who shine on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope, do we entrust ourselves, O Clement, O Loving, O Sweet Virgin Mary. Amen.