

**S.SILAS THE MARTYR AND THE MOST HOLY TRINITY, KENTISH TOWN**Presbytery: Tel and Fax 020 7485 3727. Website: [www.saintsilas.org.uk](http://www.saintsilas.org.uk) E mail: [ssmktw@gmail.com](mailto:ssmktw@gmail.com)**News sheet for the week beginning 5<sup>th</sup> April 2020: HOLY WEEK****Notices for the week**

Today we begin the most important week in the Church's Year: it is very strange that we are not able to celebrate it together, but we must remember that in prayer we are never separated from one another. For the first time in our lives, all the Churches are closed; so we need to make an extra effort to share in the offering which is being made inside them. It is very important that we observe the rules about 'social distancing' in order to keep ourselves and others safe from the pandemic of Covid 19. But it is just as important that we join together in our celebration of Holy Week. I hope you will by now have received a copy of the booklet to help us to celebrate Holy Week in our own homes and a Palm Cross, which has already been blessed. With this Newsheet, you will also receive an electronic copy of the booklet in case that makes it easier for you. If you would like a 'hard copy' of the booklet, let me know and I shall deliver one to you at home or send it by post. If you do not have a Palm Cross, there will be some available on the altar in the porch at S. Silas, during the usual morning Mass time. The Church itself is closed but the outer doors of the porch will be open. The Mass will be offered privately at 11.00am in Church: please try to make an act of Spiritual Communion during that time, which enables us to receive the grace and life from God which we so wish we could receive in reality in the Blessed Sacrament of Our Lord's Body and Blood.

On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday in Holy Week, the Mass will be celebrated every day in S. Silas at 12.30pm. The Office will continue to be said in Church at 7.30am, 12 noon and 6.00pm. The lamps at the Shrines are lit, as usual, every day during the Mass. If you have any particular intentions for the daily Mass, let me know them and they will be offered. On Maundy Thursday, the Mass of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated at 7.30pm, and on Holy Saturday the Ceremonies of the Vigil and First Mass of Easter will be observed at 8.00pm. On Good Friday and Easter Day, although the church is closed, if you are not prevented by the guidelines or by your health and if you live nearby, you may care to walk past S. Silas during your daily exercise. There will be a lamp for you to light and leave at the foot of the Crucifix outside Church. Fr Graeme will be there silently to join you in prayer from 2.00 – 3.30 pm on Good Friday and 10.30 am – 12 noon on Easter Day. We cannot gather or stop there, nor can we go into Church, but we can leave behind a sign of our prayers for those we love and for ourselves. I shall therefore celebrate the Mass at 12 noon on Easter Day.

Many parishes are 'live streaming' the Mass every day: if you have the internet make the most of those opportunities. Bishop Jonathan will be live streaming the liturgies this week on Palm Sunday at 11.00 am, Maundy Thursday at 6.00 pm, Good Friday Liturgy at 3.00 pm, Holy Saturday at 8.30 pm on: <https://www.facebook.com/BishopOfFulham/> The Shrine at Walsingham offers Shrine Prayers every day at 6.00pm on <https://bit.ly/33ppi0W> If you wish to share in the liturgies in Rome, the Holy Father will be celebrating these on Palm Sunday at 9.00 am, Maundy Thursday at 4.00 pm, Good Friday 4.00 pm (Liturgy) and 7.00 pm (Stations of the Cross), Holy Saturday 7.00 pm. All these times are GMT and they can be accessed on <https://www.worldtelecast/Easter2020> As I said last week, do take proper care of yourselves. Keep to a routine, eat proper meals, divide up the day with times for prayer, work at home and recreation. Make sure you get enough rest: all the pressure of life is immensely tiring at the moment. If you need shopping, tell me and it will happen; if, in emergency, you need the Sacraments, tell me and I shall be there, if I am allowed.

Please would you remember in your prayers: All doctors, nurses and medical staff who are caring for the sick and those who are supporting them; all key workers who continue to do their jobs to help us all; those who are teaching remotely and caring for the children in our school; all who have to travel; Tomek and Karolina Bieniek who have returned home to Poland; those affected by the Virus, particularly those who are seriously ill; those who are sick who have been commended to our prayers – Ted Russell, Doreen Moodie, Sarah Acres, Joan Rawlins, Clare Smith, Gill Bell, Julie Bell, Ethel Hostler, Amber Arthurs, Katharine Love, May Burton, Mary Maunsell, Patrick O'Donnell, Maura O'Donnell, Bert Brace, Francine Livingston, Margaret Hughes, Marquis Coker, Cynthia Grosvenor, Ellen Scott-Thomas, Cerys Chan, Maria Dunn, Fr Beaumont Brandie, Sutherland Manson, Janet Dann, Damien Knight, Yvonne Dobson; those who have died as a result of the Virus, and also Joseph Mendy, Brian Hamilton, Mavis Alleyne, Avril, and Alice Kennedy (recently departed), and Joan Walsh, Dominic McNeil, Elizabeth Greany, Patricia Hughes, Jean Wilson, Hylida Lancaster, Edward Baverstock (Pr), George Hatchard, Annie Tugwell, Ellen Bishop, William Hanks, Emily Holder, Katharine Maud and Brenda Rowlands (Anniversaries).

A new set of Mass Propers has been published this week for the Mass 'In time of Pandemic' and a prayer added to the Solemn Intercessions on Good Friday. Please use them in your personal prayers.

**Collect: 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 our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

**On Good Friday: Almighty ever-living God, only support of our human weakness, look with compassion upon the sorrowful condition of your children who suffer because of this pandemic; relieve the pain of the sick, give strength to those who care for them, welcome into your peace those who have died and, throughout this time of tribulation, grant that we may all find comfort in your merciful love.**

**Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**