

CATHOLIC LEAMINGTON: Feast of Saints Peter & Paul (A)

Sunday 28 June 2020

St Joseph's

47 Murcott Road East,
Whitnash CV31 2JJ
T: 01926 772712



St Peter's

3A Dormer Place
Leamington Spa CV32 5AA
T: 01926 423824



Our Lady's

Valley Road
Lillington CV32 7SJ
T: 01926 423824



Parish Priest, St Joseph's

Fr Andrew Franklin
Priest in Residence
Fr Ramunas Gerdauskas

Parish Priest, St Peter's & Our Lady's, Dean of Warwick Deanery Fr John Cross

Assistant Priest Fr Noel Breslin
Retired Priest Fr Christopher Greaney
Deacon Rev David Palmer

Office: stjoseph.whitnash@rcaob.org.uk

Priest: fr.andrew.franklin@rcaob.org.uk

Website: stjosephs47.org.uk

Office: stpeterapostle.leamington@rcaob.org.uk

Priest: fr.john.cross@rcaob.org.uk

Website: catholicleamington.org.uk

In Matthew's account of the Gospel, Jesus praises Simon and renames him "Peter" – the "rock" on which Jesus will build his Church. Hell's gates will not prevail against it. Peter will receive the keys of the kingdom of heaven; what he binds on earth will be bound in heaven. The Pharisees claimed these attributes for themselves. Jesus had said of them that they held the keys of knowledge but locked the gates; Peter is given the keys to open the gates of heaven. All goes well until, in the verses following today's reading, Jesus predicts that the Son of Man will suffer, die and rise on the third day. Peter breaks ranks to tell Jesus that this must not happen to him. Peter is told, "Get behind me, Satan!" A bit severe? Not when we examine the language closely. When Jesus says, "Get behind me", he uses the same Greek words he spoke when he called Peter, Andrew, James and John to "follow me". Using these words now must mean that Jesus is reminding Peter his role is to follow the Lord, not to lead him. But why call Peter "Satan"? Perhaps Jesus is reminding Peter that, had he succeeded in deflecting Jesus from going to the cross, Peter would have succeeded where Satan had failed at the temptations following Jesus' baptism. Peter would have joined Satan in trying to persuade Jesus to do his own will rather than his Father's.

This is also St Paul's feast. He certainly understood the importance of the cross, so let's allow him the last word: "the only thing I can boast about is the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom the world is crucified to me, and I to the world." *The Living Word*

First reading: Acts 12:1-11; **Responsorial Psalm** "From all my terrors the Lord set me free."
Second reading: 2 Timothy 6-8.17-18; **Gospel:** Matthew 16:13-19

Dear Parishioners, social distancing would have been a non-starter for St Peter and his fellow fishermen Apostles. The boats simply weren't big enough for the one-metre rule, never mind two! There were times when St Peter was well and truly in uncharted waters. I think many of us feel that is where we are too at this time. St Paul was no stranger to boats either. For him, boats transported him to his missions and on one occasion he was shipwrecked – Paul is our missionary preacher and writer of the Pastoral guidance which continues to direct the practice of our faith.

As a humble cleric, following in their mighty footsteps, where should I start? In a week where the goalposts have been moved a number of times, perhaps I should say "Let's start at the very beginning" (like Julie Andrews in *Do-Re-Mi* in *The Sound of Music*)! After so many weeks of lockdown the doors of the churches are beginning to open for private prayer. However, as we will soon realise, the churches that have re-opened for private prayer are not the same as those that closed their doors back in March. When Mass can be celebrated, there will be no public singing, and the Masses will be shorter. Neither Our Lady's or St Peter's will be ready to celebrate Mass in the immediate future.

What is important to realise, is that there is a great deal of hard work behind the scenes before parishioners return. For some churches it will be easier than others. At all times Fr Andy and I are aiming to ensure your safety. The advice at the moment is to continue with live-stream Masses only until we have all the

St Peter's live-stream

Sunday 28 June

Feast of SS. Peter & Paul

8.00: The People of the Parish

11.00: William Harbison;
Margaret Lown

Monday 29 June Feria, Psalter Week 1

11.00: Thanksgiving

Tuesday 30 June Feria

11.00: Ann Sayce RIP

Wednesday 1 July St Oliver Plunkett

11.00: Gertrude Lane

Thursday 2 July Feria

11.00: People of the Parish

Friday 3 July St Thomas, Apostle

11.00: Joy Barry

Saturday 4 July Bl. Pier Giorgio Frassati

11.00: Florence Keenan;
Michael, Mildrid & Margaret Looney

Sunday 5 July

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time A

8.00: In Thanksgiving

11.00: John Hannan

St Joseph's live-stream

Sunday 28 June

Feast of SS. Peter & Paul

9.00: John Skinner;
Paddy & Bridie O'Connor 64th wedding anniversary

Monday 29 June Feria, Psalter Week 1

7.00: Ann Sayce RIP

Tuesday 30 June Feria

9.30: Willy Ryan RIP

Thursday 2 July Feria

7.00: Anniversary (CS & TJ)

Friday 3 July St Thomas, Apostle

9.30: Private Intentions (MH);

Eddie Goggin Anniversary

Saturday 4 July Feria

9.30: Audrey Attack RIP

Sunday 5 July

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time A

9.00: In Thanksgiving (AJ);

Mr & Mrs O'Connor

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necessary measures in place. Social distancing will affect the number of people we can accommodate in church at any one time. Everything needs to be carefully planned. The full text of the Bishops' Letter can be read on the website (www.catholicleamington.org.uk).

This weekend, as we are on the cusp of getting back to something resembling normality, we seek the intercession of Saints Peter and Paul – these great saints of our church – and look to their example and experiences to guide us. We can see how our faith has supported us through difficult times. It has grown and developed and even flowered in our re-discovery of the Mass, in the devotions which have become special to us. Of course, we all look forward to the time when we can return to Mass within our bricks and mortar churches but, in the meantime, we ask your prayers, generous spirit and goodwill to bear with us. Keep an eye on the parish websites for updates and information.

Happy Feast Day!

Every Blessing, Fr John.

St Joseph's



This week
Our
Lady's
Seven Day
Candle
burns for **Charles
Ferguson**

Confessions: From Saturday 4 July the Sacrament of Reconciliation will recommence from 10.00-10.30 am. Please come to the Narthex where a social distancing open confessional will be available.

Church Opening: During the period of Church Opening on Sundays (12.00-2.00 pm) the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed. However, there will not be Benediction at the end. The Blessed Sacrament will be reposed after the Church has been closed. Please do try and come along to pray for the needs of our world today. The Church is also open on Fridays (10.30-11.30 am).

Sunday Hymn: Today the hymn is *Soul of my Saviour*. Next weekend the hymn will be *How Great Thou Art*.

Requests for the **Seven-Day Candle** intentions (£5.00) are available from 19 July onwards. Please put requests through the Presbytery door.

E-mail Addresses: Please take note of the new addresses. Mine is fr.andrew.franklin@rcaob.org.uk and can only be accessed by me for all matters that may be deemed private and confidential. The new general parish address is stjoseph.whitnash@rcaob.org.uk and will, in time, become the new office email address. Please do begin to use these addresses. The old ones – st.josephs47@outlook.com and secretary.st.josephs@gmail.com will remain in use but will gradually be phased out.

SVP Whitnash is willing to help anybody who may feel isolated. Contact davidburton636@gmail.com. The SVP is taking food donations to the local foodbank. Take these either to 4 Peto Grove, Heathcote, CV34 6GT (Jackie Rabone on 01926 832983) or donations can be left on the Presbytery doorstep for Jackie to collect. Thank you for your continued support of this worthy cause.

E-news: Sign up for the Newsletter via the parish website (stjosephs47.org.uk) or www.warwick-catholicdeanery.org.uk/newsletter-sign-up/

St Peter's & Our Lady's

We welcome visits from parishioners for private prayer at St Peter's on Sundays 4.00-5.00 pm, Tuesdays 9.00-10.00 am and Thursdays 12.00-1.00 pm. Only a portion of the church is accessible to enable it to open safely. Call **07927 929204** between 11.00 am to 3.00 pm if you would like to check that your planned visit is not at a busy time.

We are preparing Our Lady's Church to open for private prayer. It would be helpful to know roughly how many people will be attending and the best days/times. Email stpeterapostle.leamington@rcaob.org.uk

Signed Mass cards/Mass Intentions can be exchanged at the above visiting times with advance notice. Please call **07927 929204** between 11.00 am to 3.00 pm to organise this if you need a card. You can also continue to put your Mass Intentions through the Presbytery door, or send a request through the website 'contact us' form.

If you would like your child to be baptised please download the form from the website (www.catholicleamington.org.uk/sacraments/baptism) and return it by post or email. We are still processing forms. We will be looking at dates in the near future.

Some parishioners apparently thought the newsletter had stopped during lockdown! If you would like to receive the newsletter in your inbox each week, please use the 'Contact us' form on the website (www.catholicleamington.org.uk and scroll down the Home Page).

SVP Lillington President Richard Gordon (07974 455732) is organising a host of volunteers for outreach work in this time of lockdown. Please do get in touch if you are able to help/donate.

Tales of the unexpected: Every cloud has a silver lining. Yes I do have diabetes and now the boss has to give me an insulin injection twice a day. The good news is that I have far more energy and I am keen for him to enrol us at the local gym! Best woofs, Bertie ;-)

The recently deceased of our churches: Mary 'May' Crawford, Gertrude Lane, Leslie Harfield, Rupert Atkinson, Patrick Thompson. **May they rest in peace.**

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We are in the process of setting up a 'Catholic Leamington Young Adults Group' for those aged 18-30. Anyone in the local area is welcome to join. It'll be inspired by Youth 2000 style prayer and worship. Together we can grow and deepen in spiritual faith formation, fellowship, friendship and have fun! We now have a Facebook group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/949489832168594>. This is where all of the latest information will be posted. We'll be having our first meet up with the theme 'Worship' at 7.00 pm on Saturday 4 July (the Feast Day of Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati, patron for young Catholic adults and patron for World Youth Day). If you're interested and/or would like to get involved, join the Facebook group or if you're not on Facebook, text/WhatsApp me on 07484 127253 for the meeting details. *Rosemary Pauling*

Evangelisation Team: The next virtual meeting via Zoom is on **Monday 6 July** at 7.30 pm. Newcomers are always welcome to help us to plan how to share the Good News, especially in these challenging times. Contact Peter 428399; mdimambro@hotmail.co.uk

NEW PRAYER GROUP dedicated to Our Lady is starting virtually using Zoom on **Tuesday 7 July** at 7.30 pm and weekly. Anyone is welcome to participate. Contact Margaret or Peter if you wish to find out more or join the group: mdimambro@hotmail.co.uk

Also WhatsApp: Are any readers interested in linking up this way? This app allows text, picture and short video messaging and also offers free phone and video calls to other WhatsApp users. Let Peter know if you wish to join in: mdimambro@hotmail.co.uk

Anniversaries of the faithful departed:

Michael Looney, Peter Whelan, Anya Leslie, Jane Keegan, Josephine Klec, Mary Carroll, Brendan Taylor, John Walsh, Harry Heise, Monica Kelsey, Michael McKeown, Frances Stevens, Thomas Rowland, Brian O'Reilly, Agnes Bates, Susan Cleary, Patricia Wright, John Regan, Agnes Mills, David McMullen, Harry Beckett, John Hiorns, Edward Goggin, Ernest Critten, Fr William O'Malley, Mgr Patrick Corrigan, Canon Francis Dudley, Fr Michael Cullinan, Fr Henry Hayward.

May they rest in peace.

Our prayers for those ill at home, or in the nursing homes & hospitals of Catholic Leamington.

Giovanni Allurlino, Janice Austin, Edward Behan, Mary Craig, Mario Fasi, Edna Hale, Eileen Hiorns, Katie Hobson, Jo Holleron, Estelle Holmes, John Ireson, David Kendall, Mist Johnson, Antonina La Spisa, Nathaniel Manning, Kate Miles, Ann Reilly, Marie Robinson, Patricia Robinson, Peggy Rowlands, Marjorie Smedley, Luke Sweeney, Terena Tam, Terry Tam, Anna Tye, George Wall, Elizabeth Weston and Peter Wright. **Lord Jesus, watch over all who suffer and are in pain.**

Bless all those who care for them.

Newsletter EXTRA How have you managed throughout lockdown? What has sustained you? Are there resources that have particularly helped you that you could share with others. If so, the EXTRA team would love to hear from you. All parishioners are invited to send in articles, views and opinions. Please send items to catholicleamington.extra@gmail.com.

Justice & Peace, Catholic Leamington

There is much to think about as regards Justice and Peace – so we are having a Zoom meeting on **Monday 29 June** at 7.00 pm. Anyone who would like to 'come along', you are most welcome. Email me jenarmstrong@talktalk.net before the meeting and I will send you the necessary links.

STOP PRESS! At short notice! **The Climate Coalition** is holding a mass virtual lobby on Zoom with your own MP THIS COMING TUESDAY 30 JUNE. You need to register first with The Climate Coalition and also with your MP to get a Zoom invite. If you want to take part please contact Brian at cl.jandp@gmail.com or on 07989 667106 straight away and he'll help you through it. (Jeremy Wright's Zoom meeting is at 10.30 am on Tuesday morning; we don't yet have details for Matt Western. See <https://www.theclimatecoalition.org/virtual-lobby/>

Laudato Si'

Care of our Common Home: We still have copies of the Pope's encyclical letter available for purchase (£4.95) and a booklet 'Catholics & Our Common Home' (£2.50). Please email catholicleamington.extra@gmail.com with your name and address and it will be sent to you (postage free) with details of how to pay.

CAFOD coronavirus petition

To see the full text and to sign the petition visit the Catholic Leamington CAFOD page at catholicleamington.org.uk/cafod or cafod.org.uk/coronaviruscampaign