

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Spiritual Communion is the heartfelt desire to receive Our Lord, even when we are unable because of the distance or for some other reason. This desire to receive him through spiritual Communion is an act of love which prolongs our thanksgiving even when we are not in the Eucharistic presence of Our Lord. The wish to live constantly in his presence can be fueled by acts of love and desire to be united with him and is a means of drawing more deeply from the life of the Holy Spirit dwelling within our souls in the state of grace.

'The effects of a sacrament can be received by desire. Although in such a case the sacrament is not received physically ... nevertheless the actual reception of the sacrament itself brings with it fuller effect than receiving it through desire alone'. (St Thomas Aquinas)

Here are two options for prayers you can say:

From St Aphonusus Liguori:

My Jesus, I believe that You are truly present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as being already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

From St Thomas More:

I wish, my Lord, to receive You with the purity, humility and devotion with which your Most Holy Mother received You, with the spirit and fervour of the saints. Come Lord Jesus.

Give me, good Lord, a longing to be with You ... give me warmth, delight and quickness in thinking upon You. And give me Your grace to long for Your holy sacraments, and specially to rejoice in the presence of Your very blessed Body, Sweet Saviour Christ, in the Holy Sacrament of the altar.

Source: A Simple Prayer Book, published by The Catholic Truth Society

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL



Parish Priest: Fr Mark Reilly

61 London Road, Wickford, Essex SS12 0AW
Tel 01268 733219

Website: www.wickfordcatholic.com

Email: wickford@dioceseofbrentwood.org



FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Sunday 22nd March 2020

**The Gospel for Sunday 22nd March 2020 - The Cure of the Man born Blind
John 9:1.6-9.13-17.34-38**



"As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. He spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored. His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.'

They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God; he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet,' replied the man. 'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied, 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away. Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied, 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him."

Parish Office (Mon, Wed, Fri 9.30am - 2.30pm)

Hall Bookings: email wickfordcatholichalls@gmail.com/ 07709 406518

Safeguarding Officer: Esther Leighton 07719 403792

Our Sunday masses are live streamed at www.wickfordcatholic.com or www.churchservices.tv/wickford
Brentwood Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 234092

Notices

The Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, having consulted the Ordinaries of the Dioceses, has agreed that the cessation of public liturgies should begin from Friday evening 20th March 2020. Because of the situation the Church finds herself in, the obligation for the faithful to attend Holy Mass on a Sunday or Holy day of Obligation is removed, until further notice.

Therefore, **public** Masses will not be said in the church. However Fr Mark will be celebrating Masses privately, in a closed church, for any intentions he receives, including those that have already been requested. Although you will not be able to be physically present in the church for any Mass, Fr Mark invites you to join him in Spiritual Communion via our Live-Streaming Service. (Which is accessible through the website)

THE CHURCH will remain open during the day for people to come and pray or to light a candle.

WATCH MASS LIVE: It may not be the same as being there, but if you can watch a Mass online it will help you to maintain your Sunday routine and to remind yourself that Sunday is the Lord's Day. Our live streamed Masses are: 6pm Saturday, 10am Sunday 7.30pm Tuesday and 9.20am on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION will continue and be in the main church on Tuesdays 10am to 5pm, Wednesday 10am to 4pm and Friday 10am to 5pm or available via our livestreaming.

SOCIAL DISTANCING IN CHURCH: Please do come in during the open/Eucharistic Adoration hours to light a candle, to pray in the church and to be in the presence of Our Lord Jesus who dwells among us. However, when you are in the church during opening hours, please observe the government's guidelines on personal hygiene, hand-washing, and social distancing: you must be at least 6 feet (2 metres) apart from the next person, and regrettably there can be no communal or group prayers in the church.

NOVENA TO ST ANTHONY OF PADUA will be live-streamed on Tuesdays at 7pm followed by Mass.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS: Baptisms, First Holy Communion, RCIA and are suspended.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE SICK will be administered in emergency situations on request. We will be unable to continue to bring Holy Communion to the housebound except in emergencies. If someone you know becomes seriously ill, please call Fr Mark.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS IN LENT: This will now be live-streamed from the church on Friday at 7.30pm.

MOTHERING SUNDAY: Fr Mark wishes all Mothers a very special day on Sunday despite the Coronavirus and he will be praying for all Mothers both living and deceased at the Sunday Masses.

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER will be available with up to date information on a Friday. Please download it from the parish website or a few paper copies will be available for collection from the church porch but these must be taken away with you.

READ THE MASS READINGS OF THE DAY. Even when the world is business as usual, it's important to read Sunday Mass readings ahead of time. If you can, try to spend some time meditating on them to discern what God might be trying to tell you through the readings. The Magnificat App is currently free to help all those unable to attend Mass. The UK edition is available on Android and on iOS. Alternatively, you can find them online at Universalis. The Universalis app is a great purchase as it contains Mass readings, Lectio Divina, and the Divine Office in full. It costs £10.99 to buy. Available on Android and iOS.

THE LADIES SOCIAL CLUB will not be meeting until further notice.

DEEPEN YOUR FAITH' SESSIONS are suspended.

LENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE is now cancelled. Confessions are available to be heard on Saturday at 10am and 5pm or on request.

EMBRACING THE CROSS this talk is now cancelled.

MASS INTENTIONS FR MARK WILL BE CELEBRATING PRIVATELY THROUGH THE LIVE STREAMING

Saturday 21st March 2020	6.00pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 22nd March 2020	10.00am	Phoebe Truelove's Intentions
Tuesday 24th March 2020	7.30pm	Francis Lotsi RIP
Wednesday 25th March 2020	9.20am	George O'Rourke's Intentions
Thursday 26th March 2020	9.20am	Michael Cooney RIP
Friday 27th March 2020	9.20am	Herman Hernandez RIP
Saturday 28 th March 2020	9.20am	Ivan Ambrose RIP

Sick Friends and Relatives - Please pray for Jayne & Danny Balaam, Delores Bilewycz, Frederick Bidnamrodi, Ruby Borien, Arthur Brittain, Mary Caruana, Theresa Eldred, Christina Elliott, Tom & Margaret Fanning, Bob Galloway, Patricia Gammell, Johnny Gee, Celine Guckian, Sharon Guckian, Beatie Harty, Connie Hounslow, Mary Hurley, Mary Jarvis, Kathleen Jennings, Pat Kingham, Rose Kudirka, Gabrielle & Ralphie Langridge, Margaret Livesey, John Maguire, Bridget Mahoney, Norman Miller, Carmella Micella, Elizabeth Mooney, Neil Murnane, Cecile Narbeth, Olivia Nazareth, Diane Neale, Margaret O'Doherty, Joy Orrock, Halina & John Ostrowski, Carmelo Piazza, Maureen Price, Conchita Prime, Barrie Reynolds, Joseph Rodgers, Alan Rushbrook, John Sheridan, Gerry Smyth, Catherine Skully, Gabrielle Wisken, Lucy Woods.

Anniversaries - We pray for Michael Morris, Catherine Ford, Jessie Foley, Canon Arthur Holmes, Albert Bibb, George Liddington, May Grisdale, John Buckley, Michael Glavin, Fr John Sherlock, Elizabeth Day, George Woodford, Marie Oddy, Justin White, Thomas Lambert, Veroncia Shaw, Michael Murphy, Joan Mills and John Sullivan. May they rejoice forever with all the saints in God's Kingdom.