

SAINT EDMUND'S PARISH – CALNE

Parish Priest: Fr. Vincent Curtis

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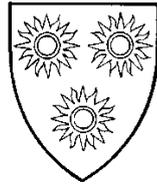
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Clifton Diocese website:

www.cliftondiocese.com

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SPECIAL NEWSLETTER FOR 5th APRIL

In response to the Coronavirus pandemic, so many aspects of our lives must change. This includes the ways in which we publicly express our faith. It is very clear that, following official advice and in order to keep each other safe, save lives and support the NHS, at this time we must not gather for public acts of worship in our churches and our churches must remain closed.

Please contact Fr Vincent by telephone (not email) on matters requiring the urgent attention of a priest.

Please note that all scheduled parish meetings and gatherings have been cancelled until further notice. Weekly updates, including the newsletter, the Liturgy sheet for each Sunday, and the children's edition, will be posted on the parish website each week on a Friday evening. The website is at <https://www.saintedmundscalne.org.uk> and will become an essential channel of communication and keeping up to date.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

All who are unwell or housebound, especially those members of our parish, including Florence Bampton, Kevin Bewley, Teresa Bowyer, Christopher & Clifford Browne and family, Teresa Collar, Kathleen Drury, Margaret Heard, Teresa Hickling, Michael McNiff, Maggie Murray, Fr Richard Northey, Mary O'Brian, Eileen Tyler and Elizabeth Wilkins. Please also remember in your prayers Audrey Tickner who has died. RIP.

THE DIOCESE HAS PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING SUGGESTIONS FOR HOLY WEEK

Holy Thursday 9 April 2020: At sunset or early evening have a simple meal together, including bread and wine, if possible. Beforehand, maybe earlier in the day, read 1Corinthians 11:23-26 and John 13:1-15. During the course of the meal talk about what Jesus was doing when he was celebrating the Passover. Talk together on what the washing of the feet in John's gospel means for us today, in how we show love for one another. It might be possible to choose a specific act you could engage in over the Easter period, eg contribute to a food bank or charity, write or phone someone, make it a unique gesture that suits your family, or your circumstances. Finish with a prayer thanking God for all we have been given.

Good Friday 10 April 2020: At 3pm, if possible, gather together with a cross in the middle of the gathering. Read together, John 18:1-19:42. (If children are present tell the story in an age appropriate way rather than reading the text.) Spend some time quietly and pray for the pain and suffering of our world. Depending on how many are there, it might be good to encourage everyone to share and pray for where they see suffering at present. Finish with an Our Father.

Easter Sunday 12 April 2020: As early in the morning as is possible for you make and have a very special breakfast. Decorate the table, including in the decorations a symbol of new life, possibly a plant, and home baked bread. Read, Matthew 28:1-10 either before breakfast or during it. Finish with a prayer asking God to enable us to live "Do not be afraid..."

Details of the live streaming of the Holy Week liturgies and the Easter Triduum are on the parish website.