

Message from Rev Jules Mambu, Priest in Charge

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ,
 We are facing an invisible killer. We are going through such difficult and unprecedented times.
 We as a community of faith cannot access to our place of worship as usual.

I want to assure you that I continue my daily prayers at the Rectory at 10:00am and offering Holy Communion in the Rectory.

Rev Sheila Cant is also available for pastoral ministry during the Coronavirus lockdown.

So please send us your prayers requests and intercessions either:

By email:**mambujules@hotmail.com****Or by phone:****0161 320 4895****Sheila.cant@btinternet.com****0161 336 1566**

Even though we cannot worship together at present, we can continue to worship while not gathered.

I will suggest a **Chain of Prayer**; we all commit to doing prayer at the same time:

In the morning**9:00am****and in the evening****9:00pm****Week 1****Prayers and reflection are based on the stations of the cross****Fri 27th March – Thu 2nd April****Introduction - We will reflect on the Stations of the Cross for week 1.**

The stations of the Cross are an expression of the core of our faith, which is that Jesus embraced the dramas of every human life, our triumphs and failures, our joys and sorrows. In the Stations, we remember how the Lord is with us, especially when we seem to be stuck and have lost the way forward. He walks with us, trips with us when we stumble, and helps us to our feet again.

In these difficult moments, as we reflect on the final journey of Jesus, leading to his death on the cross, we are also contemplate the lives of our brothers and sisters suffering and dying from Coronavirus disease.

Let us pray together for God to transform our lives and the lives of others.

**Friday 27th March****Jesus is condemned to death**

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you. Because by your Cross, you have redeemed the world.

Silence**Reading (John 19: vs14-16)**

Reflection and meditation: God's love and power extend over all creation. Every life, including our own, is precious to God. Christians have always believed that there is hope in death as in life, and that there is new life in Christ over death.

Prayers: Let us pray today for the dead, for those who, because of the virus, have lost their lives.

Saturday 28th March**Jesus receives the Cross**

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you. Because by your Cross, you have redeemed the world.

Silence**Reading (Mark 15: v20)**

Reflection and meditation: Jesus says that if we are to be his disciples, then we must take up our cross and follow him. We dare to embrace the life that is given to us, with its joys and suffering, its blessings and limitations.

This is our life.

Prayers: Let us pray for those who are sick.

Pray personally for 5 people you know

Sunday 29th March

Jesus falls for the first time

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you. Because by your Cross, you have redeemed the world.

Silence

Reading (Isaiah 53: v5)

Reflection and meditation: We all have many falls. When we fall and feel discouraged, may we know that Jesus is close to us, bearing our shame and giving us the strength to stand up on our feet and begin to walk again.

Prayers: Let us pray for Doctors, Nurses, Police, Army and volunteers helping fight Coronavirus.

Monday 30th March

Jesus Is met by His Blessed Mother

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you. Because by your Cross, you have redeemed the world.

Silence

Reading (Luke 2, vs33-35)

Reflection and meditation: The death of a child before his or her parents is outrageous. It contradicts the natural order of things. It is the child who ought to care for his or her parents and bury them. This is the appalling suffering of parents who lose their children to illness, coronavirus.

Prayers: Let us be close to all who lose or become distant from the people they love, especially parents mourning their children, because of coronavirus.

Tuesday 31st March

Simon of Cyrene Helps Jesus to Carry His Cross

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you. Because by your Cross, you have redeemed the world.

Silence

Reading (Luke 23: v26)

Reflection & Meditation: Simon is compelled to help Jesus. Despite not knowing who Jesus is, he is taken from the crowd to walk with him and carry his cross. Dependency is part of being human, and it is embraced by God in Jesus at that moment. God wanted to make us dependent on one another so that each of us would be His minister, dispensing the graces and gifts received from God.

Prayers: Pray for those giving their time to volunteering during the crisis.

Pray for 5 people you know

Wednesday 1st April

Veronica Wipes the Face of Jesus

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you. Because by your Cross, you have redeemed the world.

Silence

Reading (Matthew 25: vs37-40)

Reflection and meditation: Jesus, you know how it feels to be hurt and to cry out in pain and fear.

Walk with us in these difficult moments.

Show us how to walk together with others. Show us how to be there for those who need us.

Prayers: We pray for those who are dying far from their family members.

Pray for someone you know

Thursday 2nd April

Jesus falls for the second time

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you. Because by your Cross, you have redeemed the world.

Silence

Reading (Hebrews 2, vs17-18)

Reflection and meditation: Jesus becomes increasingly weak. He falls again. The journey must seem never ending. When the everyday pressures of life - health, work, relationships, death, illness - are pulling us down, it can be hard to remember that other people may be experiencing even greater difficulties.

Prayers: Jesus, you stumbled and fell. You lost strength and became tired. And yet you carried on.

Walk with us Lord.

We pray for those who are weary today.

Pray personally for 5 people you know