

Parish of Our Lady of the Annunciation - King's Lynn

Church of Our Lady of the Annunciation
London Road,
King's Lynn. PE30 5HQ

The Catholic Rectory,
North Everard Street,
King's Lynn, Norfolk, PE30 5HQ
Tel : (01553) 772220 Email : parishpriest763@gmail.com
www.catholicparish-kingslynn.org.uk

Holy Family Church
Field Lane, Gaywood,
King's Lynn. PE30 4AY

Thursday, 26th March 2020.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We often hear it said that these are unprecedented times. Yet in one respect this is not so for the Catholic Church in England. We have been here before. In the thirteenth century bad King John (who gave our town its Charter and whose statue stands in New Conduit Street) had an argument with Pope Innocent. King John would not accept the Pope's appointment of Stephen Langton as Archbishop of Canterbury. (It was Stephen who gave the Church that beautiful Sequence for Pentecost – Veni Sancte Spiritus, Holy Spirit, Lord of Light) This resulted in the kingdom being placed under Interdict which meant that all the churches had to be closed, there was no public celebration of Mass and the faithful were deprived of the sacraments and Christian burial. This lasted from 23rd March 1208 until 2nd July 1214 – SIX YEARS! Even the most pessimistic of forecasts at the moment do not envisage anything like that. And yet, as we know, the Church survived and flourished in after years. The fourteenth and fifteenth centuries were the Age of Faith in our land. There were many holy men and women, our most beautiful churches date from this period. The present village of Walsingham was built at that time to provide for the huge number of pilgrims making their way to Our Lady's Shrine. So let us hope and pray that this present trial bears fruit in a renewal of faith, a new thirst for the things of God and a greater appreciation of the sacraments. Meanwhile, the rhythm of prayer in the parish church continues. The Divine Office is prayed throughout the day and Holy Mass is offered daily in the Holy House. The ceremonies of Holy Week and Easter will take place albeit in reduced circumstances and behind closed doors. Please pray for all those suffering from the virus and all those working so hard to combat it. Let me conclude with some words of Stephen Langton invoking the Holy Spirit:

*Thou, of all consolers best,
Thou the soul's delightful guest,
Dost refreshing peace bestow;
Thou in toil art comfort sweet;
Pleasant coolness in the heat;
Solace in the midst of woe.*

God bless.

Fr. Peter.

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Dear Father, dear Deacon, dear Religious,

The Nunciature have asked us to make the following as widely known as possible. Please put it on your parish websites.

FRIDAY MARCH 27th 5.00PM (London time)

*In order to offer intercession and consolation during this time of exceptional discomfort, the Holy Father will preside over a time of prayer and Eucharistic Adoration in St Peter's Square, without a congregation, on March 27th. During this time Pope Francis will impart the *Urbi et Orbi* Blessing and will grant a plenary Indulgence to all those who share in this prayer via the media.*

This will be broadcast on mondovision and streamed by *Vatican News*.

Thank you!

Prayer and good wishes,

+Alan

**The Rt Rev Alan S Hopes
Bishop of East Anglia**

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W/c Sunday 29th March 2020

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT 29th MARCH

Intentions : Fr. Michael Teader RIP and Archbishop Peter Smith RIP

Monday 30th March Feria in Passiontide

Intentions : Alice Josy RIP

Tuesday 31st March - Feria in Passiontide

Intentions : Holy Souls

Wednesday 1st April - Feria in Passiontide

Intentions : Mary & George Adler RIP

Thursday 2nd April - Feria in Passiontide

Intentions : Marion King

Friday 3rd April - Feria in Passiontide

Intentions : S. Powell

Saturday 4th April - Feria in Passiontide

Intentions : Fr. John Garrett RIP

PALM SUNDAY 5th APRIL

Intentions : Maria Augusta Lopes RIP

Intentions : People of the Parish

REDEDICATION OF ENGLAND AS OUR LADY'S DOWRY

This takes place throughout the country on 29th March.

Fr. Peter will make the Rededication in the Holy House on Sunday and all are asked to do the same in your homes.

(The prayers are on the website)

This is a moment of great grace for our country and sorely needed in our present situation.

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

This week would have been our parish's turn to have Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament to pray for Vocations in our diocese. There will be prayer offered in the Parish Church but please try to set aside some time each day this week to pray that the Lord will send more labourers into his vineyard in East Anglia.

OF YOUR CHARITY

Please pray for the repose of the soul of

Canon Michael Hazell

who died on 25th March.

Fr. Michael was a priest of Northampton diocese who was living in retirement in Ipswich.

He was of invaluable help to the parishes in Ipswich especially at times when there was a shortage of priests due to illness.

May he rest in peace.

PALM SUNDAY

Palms will be blessed as usual and they will be left on the doorstep of the Rectory and Holy Family if anyone would like to collect them on your once-a-day exercise walk. (Wash your hands afterwards)