



## Holy Rood Catholic Church

2 Groundwell Road  
Swindon SN1 2LU  
Tel: 01793 522062  
Clifton Diocese Registered Charity No: 1170168



Parish website: [www.holyroodswindon.co.uk](http://www.holyroodswindon.co.uk)  
Deanery website: [www.swindoncatholicdeanery.co.uk](http://www.swindoncatholicdeanery.co.uk)  
Diocesan website: [www.cliftondiocese.com](http://www.cliftondiocese.com)  
Parish email: [swindon.holyrood@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:swindon.holyrood@cliftondiocese.com)  
Youth Ministry email: [hrym.swindon@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:hrym.swindon@cliftondiocese.com)  
1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion email: [fhcg.swindon.holyrood@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:fhcg.swindon.holyrood@cliftondiocese.com)

Parish Priest: Canon John Cunningham: [john.cunningham@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:john.cunningham@cliftondiocese.com)  
Assistant Priest: Fr Richard Elson: [richard.elson@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:richard.elson@cliftondiocese.com)  
Deacons: Rev Jonathan Ager & Rev José Estrochio  
Administrator: Mrs Anna Cummins (Office Hours: Mon 11am-1pm, Tues, Wed & Thurs 9am-1pm)  
**Please contact the office by phone or email regarding any administrative requests**

### Sunday 22nd March 2020 - Year A Fourth Sunday of Lent (Laetare Sunday)

Traditionally, this Sunday has been a day of celebration, within the austere period of Lent. This Sunday gets its name from the first few words (*incipit*) of the traditional Latin entrance (*Introit*) for the *Mass* of the day. "Laetare Jerusalem" ("Rejoice, O Jerusalem") is Latin from [Isaiah 66:10](#).

"Rejoice, O Jerusalem: and come together all you that love her: rejoice with joy, you that have been in sorrow: that you may exult and be filled from the breasts of your consolation. *Psalm: I rejoiced* when they said to me: 'we shall go into God's House!'"

#### THIS WEEK'S INTENTIONS

Sadly the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will not be celebrated publicly until further notice. However the pre booked intentions will still be prayed for in private Masses.

Pearl Fernandes (21<sup>st</sup> Birthday)  
Edward Pereira (RIP)  
Katherine, Martin Casey & Ellen Ackrill (RIP)  
Otylia Wilbrandt (RIP)  
Claire Hallihan (RIP)  
Socorrina & Nafisa (Thanksgiving)  
Marie Moynihan (RIP)  
Nigel & Anson Cabral (Thanksgiving)  
Mariuccia (Maria) Virgilio (RIP) (1st Ann)  
Thanksgiving to Our Lady of Fatima

**Please Visit our Website or follow the link to our Home Worship page for Masses, Prayers & Spiritual content**  
<http://www.holyroodswindon.co.uk/home-worship>

## NOTICES:

**COLLECTIONS:** Week ending 15/03/20  
Main Collection **£2372.75**  
Green Envelopes **£207.50**

### **PASSPORT COUNTERSIGNING:**

Unfortunately Canon John is no longer able to countersign parishioners passport applications.

**GIFT AID:** The Diocese are currently changing the way they process Direct Debits and Green Envelopes. If you already have a gift aid/direct debit set up we need to contact you, so kindly advise us of your current address by emailing us at

[Treasurer.swindon.holyrood@cliftondio-cese.com](mailto:Treasurer.swindon.holyrood@cliftondio-cese.com)

or dropping your details off to the parish office, during office hours, before 31st of March 2020.

**GREEN ENVELOPES:** Please could the parishioners who have signed up for green envelopes collect them this weekend from the church foyer.

## REFLECTION

### **Sunday March 22<sup>nd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent**

In today's Gospel, Jesus gives sight to a man born blind. First, he can see physically and then with the eyes of faith. We too, through baptism, have been given the eyes of faith, but we can struggle to see what it is that God is asking of us. Through our sinfulness, we can find ourselves overwhelmed by darkness. Jesus longs to bring us out of this darkness. He wants to open our eyes, our minds and our hearts to the compassionate and merciful love he has for us. Lent gives us this special time and opportunity for facing our darkness and seeking once more the light which heals and forgives. Walking in the light of Christ, we walk in freedom and we walk in hope.

## CANCELLED/SUSPENDED EVENTS

**GROUP MEETINGS** Due to the issues we are facing regarding the coronavirus, all group meetings in the parish room & church are to be suspended until further notice.

**HOLY ROOD** Easter Vigil Choir Rehearsals cancelled.

**300 CLUB:** Renewals have been suspended until 2021.

### **PRINKNASH ABBEY RETREATS**

suspended until further notice, please see their website for updates.

**PENITENTIAL SERVICE** at Holy Rood has been cancelled.

### **SUMMER OUTING CANCELLATION**

It was decided at the Care Group meeting that with regret the annual Summer Outing should be cancelled this year.

**EXPLORING ST MATTHEW** Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March has been cancelled.

**YOUTH RETREAT** at St Peters Church, 21<sup>st</sup> March, has been cancelled.

## JUSTICE & PEACE

**LENT LUNCHESES:** There will be no more Lent lunches this year. We have raised just over £200 which is shared equally between CAFOD and Christian Aid.

### **COLLECTIONS FOR THE HARBOUR**

**PROJECT AND FOOD COLLECTIVE:** These are temporarily suspended at church. Please remember in your prayers families and individuals who are in crisis. If you are able to go out to shop for food, you can continue to donate instead at the collection points in most supermarkets.