



Welcome to  
Saint Bernadette's Church  
19<sup>th</sup> April – 25<sup>th</sup> April  
Second Week of Easter (A)

**Parish Priest:** Canon Geoffrey Hunton KHS, STB, BA

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**Parish Centre rooms to hire**

If you would like to book the Parish Centre hall or one of the three meeting rooms

**Telephone:** 01724 862804

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**Registered No:** 1134449

**Co Registration No:** 715164



**Easter 2020 Divine Mercy Sunday – Low Sunday**

Since 2000, the second Sunday of Easter has also been known as Divine Mercy Sunday.

This weekend as we continue to face down the effects of the pandemic and do all we can to stay at home, save the NHS and save lives, I thought it would be apt to reproduce here extracts from the sermon given by St John Paul II on the occasion of the canonisation of St Faustina Kowalska.

*“Jesus told Sr Faustina ‘Humanity will not find peace until it turns trustfully to divine mercy’. Through the work of the Polish religious this message has become linked forever to the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the last of the second millennium and the bridge to the third. It is not a new message but can be considered a gift of special enlightenment that helps us to relive the Gospel of Easter more intensely, to offer it as a ray of light to men and women of our time.”*

*“What will the years ahead bring us? What will man’s future on earth be like? We are not given to know. However, it is certain that in addition to new progress there will unfortunately be no lack of painful experiences. But the light of divine mercy, which the Lord in a way wishes to return the world through St Faustina’s charism, will illumine the way for the men and women of the third millennium”.*

*“It is not easy to love with a deep love, which lies in the authentic gift of self. This love can only be learned by penetrating the mystery of God’s love. Looking at him, being one with his fatherly heart, we are able to look with new eyes at our brothers and sisters, with an attitude of unselfishness and solidarity, of generosity and solidarity of generosity and forgiveness. All this is mercy!”*

*“It is this love which must inspire humanity today, if it is to face the crisis of the meaning of life, the challenges of the most diverse needs, and especially, the duty to defend the dignity of every human person. Thus, the message of divine mercy is also implicitly a message about the value of every human being. Each person is precious in God’s eyes: Christ gave his life for each one; to everyone the Father gives his Spirit and offers intimacy.”*

*This consoling message is addressed above all to those who, afflicted by a particularly harsh trial, ... have lost all confidence in life and are tempted to give into despair. To the gentle face of Christ is offered; those rays from his heart touch them and shine upon them, warm them, show them the way and fill them with hope...”*

*“Christ Jesus, I trust in you!”*

### From Canon Geoffrey

**To all Parishioners.** I do hope you are all keeping well and safe. Please continue to remember in your daily prayers those who are working hard to keep us all safe at this difficult time.

Fr Liam and myself continue to offer daily mass, and I know that Fr Liam continues to broadcast his mass via YouTube and Facebook: visit <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTVu12KyBK9X9xpOhMXEaQg>

We are holding you all very much at prayer during these difficult times.

Please continue to keep in your prayers all the sick, vulnerable and those who are in isolation at this time and where possible do keep in touch with these members of our parishes, via the telephone or email.

Please do remember in our prayers two of our retired priests who died during the past week – Fr Joe McGovern RIP and Fr Stephan Foster RIP. We also pray for Sr Anna Doyle PBVM RIP who taught at St Bede's and who has died recently. Please remember their families and former parishioners at this sad time.

To you all, please keep safe and well.

With every blessing to you all

Canon Geoffrey & Fr Liam

#### 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2020 Solemnity of St George

He was martyred at Lydda (now in Israel) in about year 303, during the persecution of Diocletian. Like so many saints of that period, the only fact that we can be certain of is his martyrdom. His cult spread quickly through both East and West, and the legend of St George and the Dragon only appeared sometimes afterwards.

During the crusades, George was seen to personify the ideals of Christian chivalry, and he was adopted as the patron saint of several city states and countries, including England and Catalonia. King Richard I of England placed his crusading army under the protection of St George, and in 1222 his feast was proclaimed a holiday.

#### 25<sup>th</sup> April 2020 Feast of St Mark

He was a cousin of Barnabas and accompanied the apostle Paul on his first missionary journey; later he followed him to Rome. He was a disciple of Peter, and his gospel is told from Peter's point of view. He was credited with founding the Church in Alexandria. His body was stolen from Alexandria in 828 (though some say that the wrong bones were stolen) and taken to Venice, which adopted him as its patron saint.

#### Live Streaming of Masses and Devotions 2<sup>nd</sup> Week of Easter

##### St Barnabas Cathedral

[http://www.stbarnabascathedral.org.uk/01\\_Community/livestream.html](http://www.stbarnabascathedral.org.uk/01_Community/livestream.html)

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April 10:00am Holy Mass**

celebrated by the Cathedral clergy

**Monday – Friday 1:00pm Weekday Mass**

##### Bishop Patrick from Bishop's House

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaf7upUMsn3KI8GD79FotjQ>

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April 11:00am**

A simple Mass celebrated by Bishop Patrick

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April 3:00pm**

Bishop Patrick is offering a period of prayer before the image of the Divine Mercy and in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament

**For the latest news visit St Bernadette's Church**

**Facebook page at:**

[www.facebook.com/stbernadettesashby/](http://www.facebook.com/stbernadettesashby/)

