

St. Philip the Apostle, Finchley Church End

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All services are suspended until further notice

Last Sunday's Collection: loose: £271.51;

envelopes: £397.00; total: £668.51.

Thank you. [WRCDDT Reg. Charity no. 233699]

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Dear Parishioners,

The Bishops of England and Wales this week made the decision that all public liturgies are to be suspended in our churches with effect from this weekend and until further notice. The obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holydays of Obligation has been removed for the time being. I will still be celebrating Mass, but I am not permitted to have others present for those celebrations. We will nevertheless be united in prayer through these challenging times. The church will be open at the normal Sunday Mass times for those who would like to come to pray privately in front of the Blessed Sacrament. First Holy Communion, Confirmations and Baptisms will all have to be postponed, and all preparation courses will be suspended.

A number of churches, in this Diocese and elsewhere, are offering a live streaming service so that you can join in their Mass online. A list of Masses available on that service in this Diocese are available on our parish website. You can find an up-to-date schedule of all available services via the following link: <https://www.churchservices.tv/timetable/>

Cardinal Vincent Nichols has issued a Pastoral Letter for this weekend. Copies are available in the church porch, and you can also read it online at <https://rcdow.org.uk/cardinal/homilies/>

Those who normally pick up a paper copy of this newsletter to read are reminded that it is also available on our parish website. Click on the 'News Letter' button and you will find links to the last four issues.

While we have to maintain social isolation at this time to delay the spread of the coronavirus, it is important that we keep in touch with others using the means that are available, especially phone and social media. We need each other's support, and we must always keep an eye out for those around us who are particularly vulnerable so that they know they are not forgotten.

May God bless you all.

Fr John Dermody.

Cardinal's Lenten Appeal 2020 – During Lent, we are raising money for Cardinal Vincent's appeal to support three different areas of need: Marriage and Family Life; Youth and Evangelisation; and the Church's Service in Society. Money can be placed in the marked wall box in the main porch. If you would like to Gift Aid your donation, please use one of the special envelopes that are available in the porch. You can also donate online at the Westminster Diocese website.

Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony – was due to take place at Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 30th May at 3pm, but is now unlikely to go ahead. Confirmation is awaited of that decision.

Finchley Food Bank – Donations for the Finchley Food Bank, to support families in need, may be left in one of the boxes at the church entrance. Thank you.

Mothers' Prayer Group has been suspended for the time being. For more, contact Cathy on 07947 741460 / catherinepellegrinelli@yahoo.com, or Isabel on 07539 611248.

Churches Together in Lent - The remaining Lent Lunches and study groups for this year have been cancelled. The Walk of Witness on Good Friday has also been abandoned.

Catholic Newspapers – Copies of the *Catholic Universe* and the *Catholic Herald* are on sale every week in the Repository at the back of the church.

Parish History – A commemorative book to mark the Centenary of the parish is available in the Repository. Whilst there is no charge, a donation to cover the costs would be appreciated.

The Passage 'Big Give' - is raising funds until 12 noon on Tuesday (24th March) to support its work helping homeless people to move away from the street to a new home and to return to work. Double your Donation, Double your Impact is a matched giving scheme for online donations. If someone (whether company, individual or trust) gave £10 online, matched giving of £10 would bring the gift up to £20 (and for individuals to £22.50 with Gift Aid; with higher rate tax relief it may cost the donor less than £10). For more information, contact Andrew Hollingsworth at andrew.h@passage.org.uk or (020) 7592 1886. Donate online at <https://bit.ly/334RmGH>.

Catholic Singles is an organisation which helps single Catholics of all ages (over 18) meet other single Catholics, either one-to-one or through social events. For further info. Visit www.catholicsingles.org.uk or tel. 0161 941 3498.

APF Red Boxes – If you have a red collection box that has not been emptied for a while, please bring it along and hand it in at the Repository at the back of the church. Please make sure that your name is on the label on the bottom of the box. It will be returned after it has been emptied. The contents will be forwarded to the APF.

Tax Refunds – If you pay tax, whether it is on salary, pension, savings or investments, we can reclaim the tax you pay on the money you donate to the church. All you have to do is to complete and sign a Gift Aid declaration and then make your offerings, either by numbered envelope or directly to the parish bank account. If you haven't already done so, please consider signing up. The forms you will need are all in the rack at the back of the church.

Polish Services – Information is available on the Polish-language website www.finchleyparish.co.uk or email proboszcz@finchleyparish.co.uk. The Polish Chaplain, Fr Marek Gałuszka, may be contacted on 07984 293753.

The Catholic Trust Child Safeguarding training – offered to all members of the Catholic community in England and Wales, free of charge via the Educare online e-learning modules. Email your name and parish to safeguardingadmin@rcdow.org.uk to register for the free training.

Job Vacancies – Information about job vacancies in the diocese can be found via the following link:
<http://rcdow.org.uk/diocese/jobs/>

Parking Controls – Please note that there are no restrictions on parking in the church car park during Mass or during other parish events. If you need to use the car park at another time, you must first obtain a permit from the parish office and make sure that it is displayed clearly in your car windscreen. Failure to do so may result in a penalty charge.

If you are admitted to hospital, and you would like to see a Catholic Chaplain, data protection rules require you to tell the hospital staff, firstly, that you wish your details to be passed to the RC Chaplain and, secondly, that you would like the RC Chaplain to visit you.

CAFOD donations & Printer Cartridge Recycling – recycle your used printer cartridges by printing off the Freepost label from <https://therecyclingfactory.com/cafod> and posting your used cartridges - a donation will be made directly to CAFOD for every recycled cartridge received.

Marriage Care volunteers needed! – This Catholic organisation provides marriage preparation and relationship counselling services across England and Wales. The Barnet & Enfield Centre needs **Marriage Preparation Course Facilitators** (training is provided); an **Administrator** to help run the Centre's services; and **qualified Relationship Counsellors**. Visit www.marriagecare.org.uk for information or to apply, or email volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk.

Parish Registration – Have you registered with the Parish? Have you changed your address since you registered? It is helpful, if you need any kind of reference, if you are already on our parish database. Our parish database is held securely on computer and contains only the information you provide to us. That information is never shared with any third party, unless you give your express consent. If you leave the parish, or no longer wish to be included on the database, you can let us know at any time and your information will be deleted. If you need to register, or update your details, or are not sure if you have registered, please complete a pink registration form available in the main porch. (Make a note on the top of the form if you are updating details.)