

Our Lady and St Aidan & St Bernadette's Parish Communities

Parish Priest Fr John McElhone

Resident Priest Fr Pat O'Connell

www.staidanschurch.uk or www.stbernadetteschurch.uk

FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING

22ND November 2020

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Dear Friends

Today we celebrate the Feast of Christ the King which marks the end of the Church's year—ordinarily this would be a very special celebration for us—alas this year that is not to be but I hope you will use the resources available via the website to celebrate the Feast at home. To mark the beginning of Advent next Sunday St Aidan's church will be open for private prayer between 10am and 12 noon. Stewards will be on duty to assist and Covid guidelines must be observed.

We are busy working on an Advent programme which will allow participation at home for those who are still shielding. I am hopeful that churches will be allowed to reopen for public worship on 6th December which is the Second Sunday of Advent.

Sunday Half Hour and on line Mass celebrated by Fr Denis McBride available via the website. 40 minutes of reflective music available via www.divinehymns.com

HELP AVAILABLE

Parish Covid Support Team contact Mary Coughlan on 07870965084 North Tyneside Council Covid -19 support hub TEL: 0345 2000 101 or emailing contact.us@northtyneside.gov.uk

For anyone needing professional counselling or support locally there is a facility in Wallsend that offers counselling. This facility is located in the VAULT, 31 Station Road Wallsend NE28 6RL where the Citizen's Advice Bureau used to be. They can be contacted anytime on 0192 262 0305. 0191 262 0305 - they can be accessed on line : <https://www.the-vault.org/>

I would like to thank the volunteers who came forward to clean St Bernadette's church and have done an amazing job! We will have enough teams of Stewards in place to open St Bernadette's for Mass on Sundays starting the Second Sunday of Advent. MORE ARE REQUIRED IF A WEEKLY MASS IS TO CONTINUE

Please remember that the measures that have been put in place are to try and keep you safe. Please adhere to the following guidelines to ensure everyone can attend Mass safely.

PLEASE STAY AT HOME AND DO NOT ATTEND CHURCH IF YOU FEEL UNWELL.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT ON RETURNING TO CHURCH?

Booking for Mass online is essential—if you do not book and turn up you will not be allowed to attend

If you're in a bubble at home, you must stay in a bubble at church.

Maximum Mass attendance at St Bernadette's has been determined by the diocesan risk assessment team and will be strictly adhered to.

Wearing of face covering is compulsory.

Social distancing will be in place and you are asked to follow the guidance of the Stewards at all times

You are asked to use hand sanitiser on entering and leaving the church

There will be no holy water as you enter church

Holy Communion will be of one kind only and must be taken in the outstretched hand. Leave straight after receiving communion and quickly disperse.

There will be no singing and no sign of peace

Newsletters must be taken home with you

Planned Giving baskets will be left at the back of church—please use envelope sets or donate by standing order

Families are asked to closely supervise children to reduce the likelihood of them touching surfaces and spreading the virus

SHOE BOX APPEAL—DATE EXTENDED FOR DONATIONS: BOXES CAN NOW BE TAKEN TO ST BERNADETTE'S SCHOOL UNTIL FRIDAY 4TH DECEMBER. CASH DONATIONS CAN BE MADE TO OLIVE PRESTON—2625769

The Bay Foodbank are very grateful for your continued support—last week along with the food donations we were able to send £320 in cash. Next weekend we will begin our Reverse Advent Calendar !