



St. Edmund and St. Frideswide R.C. Church
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Fourth Sunday of Easter (Year B) – 25th April 2021
World Day of Prayer for Vocations

1st Reading – Acts 4:8-12

Psalm – The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.

2nd Reading – 1 John 3:1-2

Gospel – John 10:11-18

Today we are praying for vocations, we are asking the Lord to send labourers into his harvest, we are asking for the gift of good shepherds. This is not a call for volunteers or to support a charity, it is about giving one's whole life in the service of the Lord, ultimately sharing in the great ministry of the Good Shepherd, our Lord. The call is an urgent one, and we need to remember that those good shepherds come from our families, our homes, and that all of us are responsible for encouraging, nourishing, and presenting such a way of life as a worthy option to consider when discerning the future. That call, however, has a better chance of being heard when we learn and teach our youngsters to listen to the Word of God.

The Good Shepherd knows us fully, knows everything about us, and wishes us to have an intimate knowledge of Himself, so that we can truly say that we are able to recognize Him. It is important, otherwise we end up listening to all sorts of voices of strangers that end up leading us astray. The Lord wants us to know that He is the one who heals us, who binds up our wounds, who makes us His children, who loves us eternally with the same love. Once we discover and begin to taste this great love within us, we will be able to reflect it to others, to become a living image of the love and unity that exists between the Father and the Son.

We cannot have a greater calling than this. The beauty of how we have been created means that we are already reflections of God. Sin is only preventing us and others from seeing the beauty of who we are. Remember we are already God's children, but something even greater awaits us. Let us pray especially that our young parishioners will dare to dream big, to aspire to real greatness that can only be found in responding to the voice of the Good Shepherd. The greatest support we can all provide is our example of what the Lord can achieve through us, our hope in the One who can do all things, our faith in the One who can remove all obstacles that prevent us from enjoying life to the full.

Café Programme – Joy of Hope



Don't miss: 'The Joy of Hope'. Our 2nd session is on Wednesday 28th April at 7.30pm. Each session features a short video followed by discussion in small groups and closes with a prayer. The sessions explore the virtue of Christian hope and what it means for us today. Sessions start at 7.30pm and each runs for just over an hour, finishing around 8.30pm. You are very welcome to attend any session. **To receive further information please e-mail John Kirwan johnkirwan1a@gmail.com**
Zoom Link: Meeting ID 828 0652 7052 Passcode 744625

CAFOD Campaign to Reclaim our common home - Cafod have launched a campaign 'to reclaim our common home' in advance of the G7 meeting in June of leaders from seven of the world's richest countries under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister and the COP26 climate talks in November also under Mr Johnson's chairmanship. The aim of the campaign is to bring before our political leaders in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic the plight of the poorest nations of the world and to adopt measures to help rebuild them by ending unjust debt repayment and tackling the climate crisis.

The easiest way to sign the petition is to do so online at <https://cafod.org.uk/Campaign/Reclaim-our-common-home>

There will also be a few cards at the back of the church for you to use in order to sign the petition.

Parish donations – Our website provides you with details of how you can support our parish financially during this time, whether you are a member of our GIFT AID scheme or not. If you are a tax payer, please take a moment to fill in the relevant form you will find on our website – all at no cost to yourself, but helping us immensely. Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

Intercessory Prayer Group

If you would like us to pray for somebody or for anything else, please email

GreyfriarsIntercessoryPrayer@gmail.com or phone 07384 116920. All requests will be treated in strictest confidence.

Diocesan Newsletter

To keep up-to-date with all the latest news, information and online events from across the Archdiocese and beyond please sign up to the newsletter, issued every few weeks via email.

Please visit www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/e-news to sign up.

Important information for EU Citizens

If you are an EU passport holder and have not yet obtained Settled status please be aware that the deadline for this is the end of June this year. It applies regardless of how long you have been resident in the UK. Spread the word! You can ask for help with your application at **Europa Welcome**, based in East Oxford. They can help with language problems and have information on their website in **Tetum**, the language of East Timor, many of whose citizens hold Portuguese passports.

You can find more information generally about who needs to apply for Settled Status here:

<https://www.london.gov.uk>

And here is the website for Asylum Welcome:

<https://www.asylum-welcome.org/europa-welcome>

To read it in **Tetum**, go here:

https://www.asylumwelcome.org/docs/Asylum%20Welcome%20Eschema%20Settlement%20iha%20EU%20no%20Coronavirus_4%20Aug%202020.pdf

NB The information above does **NOT** apply to Irish citizens as they are covered by the Common Travel Area legislation and do not need to apply for Settled Status.

Mass Times and Intentions

Sunday 25th April

Fourth Sunday of Easter (Year B)

9.00am

Holy Souls

11.00am

Barry Macey Dore R.I.P.

5.30pm

Parishioners

Monday 26th April

7.30am

Silvester Agnelo Dacunha R.I.P.

Tuesday 27th April

7.30am

Mrs Rosalina Mascarenhos (Birthday)

Wednesday 28th April

7.30am	Friars & Benefactors
Thursday 29th April	
St. Catherine of Siena, Feast	
7.30am	John & Kathleen Collins & Arthur & family
Friday 30th April	
7.30am	Kieran Hughes
Saturday 1st May	
St. Joseph the Worker, Optional Memorial	
8.00am	Annie Breen R.I.P.
6.30pm	Michael O'Shea R.I.P.

Please pray for those members of our community who are sick, especially **Therese O'Malley**. If you are aware of somebody in our community who is sick and in need of our prayers, please ask them to contact the parish or let us have their contact details.