



St. Edmund and St. Frideswide R.C. Church  
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**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B) – 7<sup>th</sup> February 2021**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading – Job 7:1-4, 6-7

Psalm – Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading – 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23

Gospel – Mark 1:29-39

‘Remember that my life is but a breath’ says Job. We are so fragile in many different ways, and in an instant all the things we take for granted can be taken away from us. The gift of health and the ability to do the simplest of things in our daily life can sometimes be truly appreciated when it is no longer there. There aren’t many of us who thank God daily for being able to use our hands, our feet, and all our senses as a gift of God. On top of these reflections, during this time of pandemic we are bombarded by a limitless supply of all sorts of strange news and conspiracy theories, and it is important to reflect on what the Church has to say.

This week we will celebrate a memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes. We know that Our Lady’s presence always leads us to her Son, the source of all health. On that day we pray for the sick, not primarily for their physical recovery, but for their spiritual well-being, for their greater understanding and appreciation of the value of their suffering. For us as followers of Christ, suffering is a gift of God just as much as good health. It is through the suffering of Jesus that we have been saved, and our own suffering when united with that of the Lord can also contribute not just to our own salvation, but that of others too.

Let us also remember that the Lord gives wisdom and knowledge to help alleviate the suffering of others – just look at how many people work in our hospitals, hospices, care homes, community, and in the labs. The following link will give you some guidance from our Bishops regarding the vaccine:

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/our-work/health-social-care/coronavirus-guidelines/update-on-covid-19-and-vaccination/>

The Pope has also addressed certain issues concerning the vaccine – as you become familiar with all these statements, please ensure your sources of information come from official sources rather than hearsay or extracts on the internet. Let us pray that all of us will continue to contribute to the welfare of our neighbour.

**Lenten Online Events** – Pay attention to our website for details of various events taking place during this Lent. We are planning to have a Parish Social on Zoom, a Quiz evening for our YouChat members, Stations of the Cross every Friday evening at 7.30pm, and a series of Lenten reflections on St. Francis of Assisi and Conversion on Saturdays 2pm-3pm via Zoom.

**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.

**CAFOD Family Fast Day 26<sup>th</sup> Feb** – Details of how you can contribute will be made available on our website during the week.

### **Mass Times and Intentions**

#### **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> February**

##### **5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

9.00am	Parishioners
11.00am	Da Silva, Rodrigues, Lopes Families
5.30pm	Catherine Fleming R.I.P. Anniv.

#### **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January**

7.30am	Zbigniew Mokszycki R.I.P.
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#### **Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January**

7.30am	Thanksgiving
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#### **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January**

##### **St. Scholastica, Virgin**

7.30am	Br. Charles' Intentions
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#### **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January**

##### **Our Lady of Lourdes (World Day of Prayer for the Sick)**

7.30am	Monica Simmons R.I.P.
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#### **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January**

7.30am	Kieran Hughes
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#### **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> January**

8.00am	Br. Ambrose's Intentions
6.30pm	Mary Gaffey 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.