

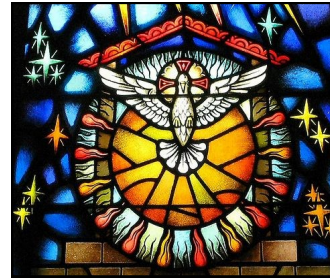
## **MASSES & SERVICES THIS WEEK**

PLEASE NOTE ALL OF THE MASSES LISTED BELOW WILL BE  
CELEBRATED IN CHURCH,  
**BUT WITHOUT THE PRESENCE OF A CONGREGATION.**

PLEASE JOIN IN BY FOLLOWING THE READINGS AND PRAYERS AT HOME  
AND JOINING US ON-LINE THROUGH THE PARISH WEBSITE

<b>Saturday 30th May</b>	<b>Vigil Mass PENTECOST SUNDAY</b>
17:00 Our Lady of Pity	The People of the Parish
<b>Sunday 31st May</b>	<b>PENTECOST SUNDAY. SOLEMNITY</b>
08:30 Our Lady of Pity	Ints of June Reynolds
10:30 Our Lady of Pity	Edmund Bedingfeld RIP (H&MB)
15:00 Our Lady of Pity	Holy Hour
<b>Monday 1st June</b>	<b>S Justin Martyr</b>
09:00 Our Lady of Pity	Ints of Josephine McKenzie (BM)
<b>Tuesday 2nd June</b>	<b>Feria</b>
09:00 Our Lady of Pity	Thomas Bragg RIP (JM)
<b>Wednesday 3rd June</b>	<b>S Charles Lwanga &amp; Companions</b>
09:00 Our Lady of Pity	Dec'd relatives of David & Teresa West
<b>Thursday 4th June</b>	<b>Feria</b>
09:00 Our Lady of Pity	Wayne Hackeson RIP
<b>Friday 5th June</b>	<b>S Boniface</b>
09:00 Our Lady of Pity	Stan Whelan RIP
<b>Saturday 6th June</b>	<b>Our Lady on Saturday</b>
09:00 Our Lady of Pity	Ints of Donna, Hannah & Finn
17:00 Our Lady of Pity	<i>Vigil Mass THE MOST HOLY TRINITY.</i> <b>SOLEMNITY</b>

Our Lady of Pity, 31 Station Street, Swaffham, PE37 7HP  
Watton Methodist Church, 57 High Street, Watton, IP25 6EJ  
Sacred Heart Convent, 17 Mangate Street, Swaffham, PE37 7QW



## **Our Lady of Pity Swaffham & Watton Newsletter**

Parish Priest: Canon Mark Hackeson  
The Presbytery, 31 Station Street, Swaffham, PE37  
7HP

Tel: **01760 721418**

**ourladyofpity@btinternet.com      www.ourladyofpity.org**  
**31ST MAY 2020      PENTECOST SUNDAY . SOLEMNITY**

### ***COME HOLY SPIRIT!***

In the Garden of Eden, when our first parents turned from God by eating of the 'forbidden fruit' they experienced, for the first time, shame and guilt and fear of God. The pride encouraged by the serpent, blinded Adam and Eve to love of God, His providence, care and presence with them. God's love was unrequited!

God, however, did not abandon the human race, but sought to reawaken their love by being faithful in His love towards them, patiently, slowly but surely, revealing Himself to them once more in and through the history of His chosen people, Israel. In the fullness of time, His only-begotten Son, takes human flesh to Himself and becomes our brother. As our brother, He stands with us, lives among us, and reveals His love in a manner which makes us wonder in awe, but in a manner we can see, touch and hear with our senses and grasp in our minds. That love is manifested in its dramatic fullness in His embracing of suffering and death for our sake. Our sinfulness cannot thwart the love of God. Our sinfulness is overcome by that love—it shows itself weak even when it appears to have vanquished the life of Christ Himself. Jesus is raised from the dead! 'He is risen indeed! Alleluia!'

After reassuring His followers, manifesting the life of God, He returns to heaven to prepare a place for us, so that where He, our head has gone before, we can hope to follow.

Today, He poured out upon the Church, His Holy Spirit, and so draws us into that relationship with God, that intimacy with our Creator that was lost in the Garden of Eden! It is the love of God that is poured out upon us now. It is not simply revealed to us, but we are immersed in it, just as surely as we are immersed in the waters of the Font. In the gift of the Spirit, we are sharing in the life of God Himself, we are part of that community of love—'*through Him and with Him and in Him.*'

This is where God places us; in the heart of His love. But like Adam and Eve, we are free to reject it and subject ourselves to the futility of life 'out in the cold'. Equally though, we are also free to accept it, and live, like Our Lady, 'full of grace'.

***Happy Feast Day, Fr Mark***

**STREAMED MASSES & SERVICES FROM OUR LADY OF PITY**  
**www.ourladyofpity.org**  
**Times of Masses & Services on back of this Newsletter.**

<b>PARISH CLERGY:</b>	Canon Mark Hackeson Rev Roger Sparks	Parish Priest Retired Deacon
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### PRAYERS FOR OUR PARISH

#### FOR OUR SICK:

Sr Francis, Vic Head, Kim Wright, Margaret Maxey, Catherine Hole, Theresa Axham, Norah Reeve, Catherine Oliver, Charles Burgess, Carole Pointer, Helen Philips, Edward Hodnett, Jack Izzo, Peggy Ellis, Davida MacDonald, Christine Dryden, Sheila Morris, Anna Dawson, Maureen & Eddie Doran, Gail Double, Lina Giovoni, Sr Elizabeth Rees, Dana Lavington, Francis Bostrom. *May the Lord bring them comfort and healing.*

#### FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED †

Amy Bennett, Barbara Gillet, Harry Silvester, Eileen Hall, Agnes Keane, Tony Roberts, Robin Goodall, Elizabeth Austin, Henry Austin, George Burton, Perpetua Opara, Fr. Willima McConalogue, Wayne Hackeson, Alan Tanner, John McConalogue, Margaret Tanner, Doreen Wilks, Dan O'Connor & Robert Sorrell *whose anniversaries fall this week.*

#### KEEPING IN TOUCH

Parish Website: [www.ourladyofpity.org](http://www.ourladyofpity.org)

Please consult the Parish Website for

- the weekly Newsletter
- Live streamed Mass and other Services
- Prayer Resources and links to other useful sites
- Information on how to continue to contribute financially to our Parish

**Telephone Helpline: 01760 721418 daily 9.30-10.30am** for

- Informing Fr Mark of illness at home or in hospital & requests for the Sacraments
- Requesting help with essential shopping & medicine pick up
- To request a friendly chat with fellow parishioners



#### GOING INTO HOSPITAL?

If you are, **PLEASE** inform the appropriate Chaplain:  
**QEH at King's Lynn** - Canon Peter Rollings 01553 772220  
**Norfolk & Norwich** - Canon David Paul 01603 624615  
**Swaffham Community Hospital**, please inform Fr. Mark.

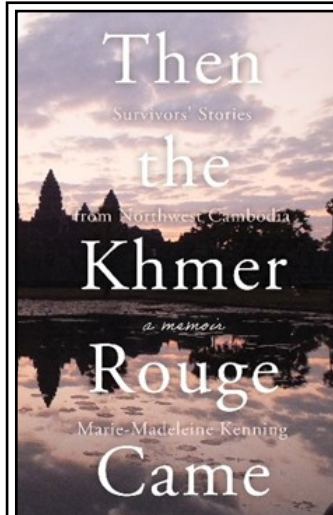
#### **NEEDED— WALL-MOUNTED BABY CHANGING UNIT**

During the weeks of lock-down, I have been able to clear, clean and re-decorate the Sacristy area of our Church, including the Church lavatory. There is now room to provide a baby-Changing Unit similar to that in our Parish Rooms, so that parents can see to their baby's needs in private and with dignity. If anyone is able to provide a unit, or to make a donation towards purchasing one, I would be most grateful!

might be good if two could volunteer from one household, although, for some of us that is not possible unless I rope in the Sausage Dogs!

3. **Volunteers to help prepare the Church** with necessary signage, sanitisers, masks and gloves etc.
4. **Volunteers to be present during opening hours** to ensure observance of the safety requirements.

Please could you, think and pray about what you might be able to do. As many of our more senior members should be 'shielding', I would ask the younger and less vulnerable members please to give special consideration to volunteering. I look forward to hearing from you! Thank you in advance! **Fr. Mark**



*Building Bridges between the Roman Catholic Diocese of East Anglia and Battambang Prefecture*

#### **Then the Khmer Rouge Came** by Marie-Madeleine Kenning

What is it like to visit a twin parish? How do you build a relationship with people so far away living in very different conditions from your own? And, in the case of Cambodia, what happened to people under the Khmer Rouge and how has it impacted their life?

These three questions prompted Marie-Madeleine Kenning, from St Mary's, Ipswich, to write **Then the Khmer Rouge Came**, drawing on her personal experience of making regular visits to the parishes of Battambang and Chomnaom,

All profits from the sale of the book, due to come out at the end of June, priced £14.99, will go towards helping those in need in Cambodia. To maximise the amount sent, Marie-Madeleine has set up a personal pre-order list and will distribute the book post free.

To reserve a copy please send an email to  
**[mariemadeleinekenning@gmail.com](mailto:mariemadeleinekenning@gmail.com)** .

No money needed now .

## PREPARING TO RE-OPEN OUR CHURCHES

Although dates have been proposed by HM Government for the phased re-opening of our schools, markets, car show-rooms, and other non-essential retail premises, **no date has yet been proposed for the re-opening of places of worship**. However, Cardinal Nichols, along with his fellow faith leaders have been working as part of an official government task force planning for this important step back to a more normal way of life for us all. It is to be expected that as an initial stage, our churches will be open for private prayer rather than for the public celebration of the Liturgy.

Bishop Alan has written to Parish Priests this week, indicating some of the preparations we need to make in our parishes in advance of re-opening. **Although we do not have a date as yet, it is important that we make the requisite preparations in order to demonstrate to the Government and to reassure ourselves, that a re-opening can be done safely and our buildings used in such a manner as to respect the need for continued social-distancing and good and effective hygiene regimes.**

**The first stage is a deep clean of our buildings.** Although the Parish Rooms would not be opened initially, I would envisage that we take the opportunity to include them along with the Church building itself. I need volunteers to perform this task, and will, of course, wield cleaning materials myself. The clean would have to be done in stages, with named tasks allocated to a team of no more than two people in the building at any one time. Gloves and masks would need to be worn, and cleaning materials would be provided. I have received clear instructions on what needs to be done.

**The second stage is to prepare the building** in such a way that enables observation of social-distancing and hygiene regulations: a one way system of entering and exiting, the roping-off of some benches to ensure people sit sufficiently apart from one another, the placing of hand sanitisers and signage to remind people of the rules to be observed and the number of people allowed in the church at any one time, and a rota and system of DAILY cleansing of those areas open to the public.

**The third stage is to decide upon opening hours, and to ensure that there is oversight** of visitors during these times: ensuring that only the appropriate number of people enter at any one time and that people are using the hand sanitisers etc.

As I have said, at present we do not have a date on which we will be able to open, but if we make the preparations now, it will ensure that when that date is announced we are ready and able to take advantage of it.

Accordingly I would like to ask your help in the following ways:

1. **Setting up of a Parish Council Sub-Committee of 6 PPC members** volunteering to work with me to co-ordinate our preparations.
2. **Volunteers to assist as part of a team in the deep clean of the Church** and Parish Rooms. As we would only be able to work in groups of two at a time, it

## THE WORD OF GOD JOHN 20:19-23

19 In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' 20 and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, 21 and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you. 'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.' 22 After saying this he breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

*Other readings: Acts 2:1-11 Psalm 103 (104) 1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13*



## REFLECTION

This gospel reading for the feast of Pentecost has already been read, in a more extended form, on the Second Sunday of Easter. It was read then to include Jesus' encounter with Thomas 'eight days later'. On the feast of Pentecost we have the opportunity to focus on the earlier verses, in which Jesus brings the gift of peace and the gift of the Holy Spirit. The account of the day of Pentecost is found in our first reading, from the second chapter of the Acts of the Apostles. Fifty days after the resurrection there was a spectacular manifestation of the power of the Spirit. Jews and proselytes, gathered from the nations for the Jewish feast of Pentecost, witness the power of the Spirit and hear the preaching of the apostles each in his own tongue. This event launches the mission to the whole world. Our gospel teaches that the Holy Spirit was also given by the risen Christ before the events of Pentecost. This is a quieter and more intimate demonstration of the power of the Spirit. It is related to the preaching of forgiveness and the possibility of new life for those who ask for it. The disciples are empowered to bring the forgiveness of Christ, but it is possible for people to reject this forgiveness. This seems to be the sense of the final verse, that some have their sins retained. This is the final day of the Easter period. The Lord who died on the cross has shown himself in his risen body. He has taken our humanity into the presence of the Father. He is no longer visibly present, but his Spirit is with us to remind us of Jesus and to lead us into all truth. That Spirit, as St Paul writes to the Corinthians, bestows gifts in abundance for the benefit of the whole Church.

*Do I allow the Holy Spirit to transform my life?*

*Do I seek the peace and forgiveness offered to me through prayer and the sacraments?*

*Pray for the whole church, that Christians everywhere will be enlivened by the Holy Spirit.*

*Pray that the Easter gifts of Christ will always be with us.*

***Reflections on the Sunday Gospels, written by Fr. Adrian Graffy***





**PENTECOST SUNDAY**  
**31st May, 2020**  
**Swaffham & Watton**

**Saturday 30th May**  
5.00pm **Vigil Mass** streamed live.

**Sunday 31st May**

8.30am & 10.30am **Live Streamed Pentecost Mass**

- 1.00pm **Lunch** - The Daughters of Divine Charity are helping us celebrate the Solemnity of Pentecost next Sunday, providing lunch for those who would otherwise be alone. With the support of Tesco and Waitrose a three-course lunch will be delivered to the homes of those participating at 1pm.
- 2.00pm **National Rosary Rally** - join Bishop Alan in leading our part of the Pentecost Sunday Rosary Rally. Live streamed from the Cathedral.
- 3.00pm **PENTECOST DEVOTIONS—**  
streamed live from Our Lady of Pity.



**Pentecost Sunday**  
**May 31<sup>st</sup> 2020**  
**National Rosary Rally**  
**9am to 9pm**  
**England, Wales, Scotland**

Pope Francis is encouraging Catholics to pray the Rosary in their family homes during the month of May, especially when the Pandemic is making us aware of the value of our families and making it possible for us to pray together in lockdown at home. He encourages simple Rosaries and joining online Rosary initiatives to pray to Our Lady for deliverance from Covid-19 and he has composed two prayers for this intention. I invite you to join in an initiative that follows on the Pope's request, the **Pentecost Sunday National**

**Rosary Rally**, from 9.00am to 9.00pm across Scotland England and Wales. Our Diocese has been asked to pray a **Rosary Hour between 2.00pm and 3.00pm**. I warmly invite you to take part.

**Proposed timetable for across the Dioceses**

- 9.00am Arundel & Brighton, Northampton and HM Forces  
10.00am Birmingham, Nottingham & Ukrainian Eparchy  
11.00am Brentwood & Plymouth  
12 Noon Cardiff, Portsmouth & Dunkeld  
1.00pm Clifton, Salford & St. Andrews & Edinburgh  
**2.00pm East Anglia, Shrewsbury, Aberdeen**  
3.00pm Hallam, Southwark, Glasgow  
4.00pm Hexham & Newcastle, Wrexham, Ordinariate OLW  
5.00pm Lancaster, Westminster, Argyll & the Isles  
6.00pm Leeds, Polish Mission & Galloway  
7.00pm Liverpool, Middlesbrough & Motherwell  
8.00pm Menevia, Paisley & Syro Malabar Eparchy  
9.00pm Bishop John Keenan, as the May 2020 Rosary Mission Episcopal lead, will lead a final Rosary at 9pm to which all are invited.

This is to be led in the form of a **Rosary relay Rally** where the Dioceses designated in their **Rosary Hour** encourage the peoples across their Diocese to pray the Rosary either, individually, in families, as online prayer groups, parish groups, and where possible led online by their parish priests and Bishop. It does not matter what time during the specified hour that the Rosary is prayed.

Then on the hour the next Dioceses take up the Rosary relay Rally and so on until 9pm. At 9pm the Rosary Rally will end with a Rosary being led by Bishop John Keenan from St. Mirin's Cathedral in Paisley.

**Come Holy Spirit & Renew the Face of the Earth**  
**Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary, pray for us.**

