



From your Parish Priest

The Rev'd Grant Naylor SSC
St Matthew's Vicarage
9 Ashdell Road
S10 3DA
0114 2665681
father.naylor@gmail.com

1 April, 2020

Dear Friends,

I hope and pray that this letter finds you well. Much has changed in the short time since I last wrote to you. I hope, even in the strange new circumstances we find ourselves in, that you are maintaining your joy.

We are about to enter into Holy Week, the greatest week in the Church's liturgical year. This week celebrates the triumph of Christ over sin and death. As we know from scripture, nothing can separate us from the Love of God. Let us therefore enter into this most sacred time with a renewed confidence in Him. For, if Christ has conquered death and Hell then he will surely bring us through this. I am sad that we will not be together to celebrate the beautiful liturgies of Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday & Holy Saturday. That said, I think that the greatest witness we can make before our friends and families is still to celebrate Easter at home – with as much style and joy as you can muster! Whilst St Matthew's Church is now physically closed that does not mean that the Church is closed. The Church of God is alive in you and in me!

I am saying Mass for you everyday and it is a great encouragement to me that many of you are also joining me virtually. Fr Watson is praying his office for us all, Fr Wastie is saying Mass at home for you and for me. Last Sunday's Mass has now been viewed by over 1200 people from around the world. Mass will continue to be live-streamed on our Facebook page (which you can access even if you don't have Facebook: just search for St Matthew's Church, Sheffield).

In this pack you will find: an Holy Week booklet with prayers for you to use at home, a poster of the Divine Mercy (Jesus I Trust in You) for you to affix in your window and thereby share you hope with others, and finally a blessed Palm Cross.

I hope you are receiving the email and a regular call by now. If you haven't received a call or an email please contact Lizzie at Elizabeth.lees@sheffield.anglican.org or 07387023808.

If you need anything please do not hesitate to give me a call or an email. If you would like to make a donation to our work please contact the treasurer, Caroline Fisher via: treasurer@carverstreet.co.uk

With my love and prayers

Fr Naylor