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Sacred Heart Presbytery Edge Hill, Wimbledon London, SW19 4LU

NEWS and VIEWS 4 - 18/19th April 2020

IN NEED OF PRAYERS

We have been asked to include each week our list of those who need our prayers especially the sick and those recently dead. If you are aware of other names, please let me know and I will include them next week.

Please pray for those who are sick; We pray for all affected by the Coronavirus and Mary Connellan, Charlie Chan, Samar Staussi, Lisa and Moses Mendoza, Harriett Cahill, Olga Herbert, Catherine Gapp, Margaret Tolmie, Peter Kosciolek, Pauline Hearn, Brendan Hollingsworth, Ian Parr, David Carrier, Colin Sims, Mary Ann Williams, Maria Keaveney-Jessiman, Annette Wheatley, Paul Jong, Sheila Soodin, Maureen Searle, Kieran Walsh, Paul Saunders, Carol Donnelly, Damji Vadhia, Manjula Topno, Alina Hancock, Lalita Nagar, Cath O'Neill, Andrew Tan, Tom Searle, Donald Derx, Electa Almeida, and Brian Sewell.

We pray for those who have died: Margaret Lumley, Hargarent Nolan, Iluminada Garcia, Richard Conceicao, Elizabeth Thomson, Evelyn Allen, Brian Snalune and all those killed by the Coronavirus.

STREAMED SERVICES THIS EASTER:

I am pleased to say that the streaming of Masses over the Easter week has been of real value to many of you. It has enabled us to celebrate the Easter liturgies despite the severe restrictions imposed on us. Even though the church was empty there was a sense of presence as we celebrated together. This has been a significant addition to the life of the parish, helping us through this sad time. We will look again at how we might make greater use of this facility when the lockdown is over and we are on the road to normality.

DONATION BUTTONS:

There have been discussions about how we can continue to support the parish when there are now no offertory collections. The Finance Committee has come up with the possibility of contributing through the use of Donate Buttons. At the head of the opening page of the parish web page there are two buttons one marked Easter Offerings the other Donations. Monies collected through the first button will go towards your traditional collection for the priests of the Parish. The monies collected through the second button will be used for the general upkeep of the parish. I know the Finance Committee will be in touch to give a more detailed explanation. Thank you as always for your continued generous support of the parish.

HOSPITAL CONTACTS

If you or a member of your family are admitted to one of the local hospitals do please let the hospital catholic chaplain know. He will then minister to you. This is especially so now when most of the sacraments are no longer available to us. In most cases we are not able to administer the sacrament of the sick, or reconciliation or holy communion. The chaplaincy team in hospital have the necessary permissions to administer all the necessary sacraments, as well as offering support to those seriously affected by the virus. Our main hospital dealing with victims of the Coronavirus is St Georges and the chaplain Fr Mark Higgins can be contacted on 020 8725 3069.

I have also had contact with one of the local doctors of a local surgery who has asked that we let our people know that surgeries are open and ready to deal with medical issues other than those linked to the Coronavirus. Consultations now are initially by either telephone or video consultation. If the doctor feels further investigation would be necessary, then a visit to the surgery can be arranged. We also spoke of the dangers of administering the sacrament of the sick outside of the hospital context. As with the sacrament of reconciliation neither of these sacraments are available until the restrictions imposed by the government are removed.

PARISH CAR PARK:

You may have noticed that the car park is surprisingly full these days despite the fact that the church and the halls are empty! We were approached by the London Ambulance Service for permission to use the car park to give additional parking for their crews from the Wimbledon Station. They are expecting upwards of 20 new ambulances for service in the area and were in need of the extra parking facilities. We were happy to oblige.

KEEPING IN TOUCH:

One of the advantages of modern technology is that it allows us to stay in contact with our family and friends, enabling us to speak to them and also to see them, and other members of a group who may have joined in the conversation. The youth group have been experimenting with this and will be arranging some meetings using the new methods. If any of the young people would like to take part in these online conversations contact Guido on

078 9031 4044

Every Blessing for the coming week.

Keep Safe,

Fr John