



Parish of Ramsgate and Minster
Second Sunday of Easter (A) – 19th April 2020
Divine Mercy Sunday

Dear Parishioners of Ramsgate & Minster,

My Dear People!

How are you coping with imprisonment ☺ ?

Last week after one year of being in solitary confinement Cardinal Pell won his appeal. People from all over the world were appalled at the trumped-up ridiculous charges. Many feel he is the victim of bitter anti-Catholicism due to his constant defence of the rights of the unborn and vulnerable elderly and also the traditional understanding of Marriage. (Today the United Nations and even the World Health Organisation promote Abortion and Euthanasia etc. as a sort of inherent right.) In 1948 the same UN decried these actions in the wake of the Nazi Holocaust of Jews and millions of others which had begun with what today they would now call “reproductive rights”.

Cardinal Pell gave a particularly good interview last week (YouTube) and reflected on his imprisonment which barred him even from saying Mass. Like him we can learn how to cope with this confinement by simply being faithful to a daily timetable. First of all, we should get up on time and generously do our prayers, Rosary, Gospel reading, physical exercise, cleaning of our room, writing letters and reading good books. This stops us from going mad or getting depressed and helps us not to waste this providential opportunity!

Today was always called ‘Low Sunday’ (probably with relief after the high solemnity of the week before!) or ‘Quasimodo Sunday’ (from the first words of the Mass in the Introit). Today it is often referred to as ‘Divine Mercy Sunday’ because of the Gospel of the day “.... eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them.” This Gospel has been read on the Sunday after Easter from the very beginning. In this beautiful encounter with the Risen Lord he gives the Church (and to the Apostles specifically) the authority to declare the Lords Forgiveness. From here develops the wonderful Ministry of the Sacrament of Penance commonly called Confession.

The remarkable Pope John Paul II rescued the writings of Sister Faustina on the Divine Mercy and promulgated them for our times. Modern man can be so distracted and lost in the forest of created things he disastrously forgets to seek the Mercy of God. The central message of the Lord Jesus is simply, “Repent!” If we cannot acknowledge our human weakness, negligence, pride, vanity, selfishness, laziness and all the other self-centred passions then we are destined to be imprisoned in the confinement of self-absorption. This is a horrible cul-de-sac from which there is no exit save in repentance. In other words, admitting our utter inadequacy before The Mystery of God is crucial for any type of interior freedom. How fortunate we Catholics are in being able to go to Confession! The modern secular psychologist Carl Jung and many other professional psychiatrists etc. acknowledge the human value of going to Confession. How tragic, that in the modern Western Church, this has been largely ignored. What a victory for the forces of darkness! Are we going to allow this victory for the Kingdom of Satan? We do not need to have the gift of Faith to recognise that we are sinners nor do we have to be believers to realise the value of

confessing our transgressions. However, when we look at the inspired parable of the Prodigal Son, we see that the loving Father does not demand perfect contrition. “When he was still a long way off . . . the father ran to meet him!” The Prodigal was not sorry that he had broken his father’s (mother’s?) hearts; he was simply desperate and sorry for himself because he had nothing to eat! Before he could even get his rehearsed Act of Contrition out of his mouth he was enveloped by the Father’s merciful love and forgiveness!

So, what is stopping you and me from going to Confession regularly? Admittedly it is never exactly pleasurable but then it is always a relief to step forward after we receive absolution. Are we fussy about which Priest we would rather go to? We are going primarily to receive the Grace of God in Sacramental Absolution so any personal additions like a compassionate ear or wise counsel are simply bonuses! I often describe the reluctance to go to Confession to people who set out to go swimming but remain on the beach or on the side of the pool because they know the water will be cold. They deprive themselves of the wonder of invigorative and life-giving water for the fear of a momentary discomfort! The Saints went to Confession often; probably that helped them to divest themselves from the ‘stickiness’ of sin! Let us now resolve to make the most of this beautiful Sacrament. If we do, we will then be able to receive mercy and become more able in sharing the Love of God with all those He sends into the peripheries of our lives. Receiving this Sacrament often makes us more supple in the hands of our all provident Father allowing us to “have life and have it to the full”.

At the moment this confinement certainly makes ordinary life challenging and especially in the public worship of God. For those who have the internet or Sky TV streaming has been a real bonus. Confession has not stopped in Ramsgate. As long as you do not have a temperature or the symptoms you are welcome to phone us up and go to Confession normally by making an appointment. When we come out of lockdown, regular ‘anonymous’ Confessions at the usual times will resume. Wishing you, all in spite of your Claustrophobia,☺ every Blessing and the experience of God’s Mercy in this unique Eastertide!

God Bless you all.

Fr. Christopher and on behalf of Fr. Simon & Fr. Leszek

Prayer Candles for the week 19th April 20: Elvira Lind.

Mass Intentions for the week: 19th April 2020

	St. Ethelbert’s	St. Augustine’s
Sunday	1. Jenaiah Searchfield 2. For the People of the Parish	Jadzia & Steve – For Liliana’s Healing
Monday	Holy Souls of Our Lady of Montligeon	Jadzia & Steve – For Robert whose wife died recently.
Tuesday	Holy Souls of Our Lady of Montligeon	Jadzia & Steve – For Robert’s 3 children whose mother died.
Wednesday	Holy Souls of Our Lady of Montligeon	Holy Souls of Our Lady of Montligeon
Thursday	Edward & Barbara Hardwick RIP (Edward’s Anniversary)	Holy Souls of Our Lady of Montligeon
Friday	Holy Souls of Our Lady of Montligeon	-
Saturday	1. For Przemek’s Intentions 2. For People of the Parish-	Holy Souls of Our Lady of Montligeon

FROM OUR SISTERS AT MINSTER -We are now live-streaming Midday Office (at 12.20) and Compline (at 7.45pm except for Thursday when it is at 7.30pm). **We now have a separate email for prayer requests, prayerneededminsterabbey@gmail.com**

Fr. Christopher is saying Mass each week day at 7.45am (and available after) on Facebook: www.facebook.com/stethelbertsramsgate (scroll down to see recorded Masses).

Sunday at Noon (and available after), St Augustine's will stream Mass in Latin on YouTube. Please subscribe to our channel using the following link: https://youtu.be/IOUP_POi7BU

Fr. Leszek will celebrate Mass in Polish on Sunday at 10.30am (and available after) on Facebook.

Divine Retreat Centre: www.youtube.com/user/ukdivine www.facebook.com/drcuk

To follow Sunday (or daily) Mass using the following options:

EWTN – TV Channel or online.

YouTube: [livemass.net](https://www.livemass.net) (traditional Latin Mass) [churchservices.tv](https://www.churchservices.tv)

Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham: www.walsingham.org.uk for daily Mass and Services.

Polish – tv-trwam.pl - (Catholic channel).

CAFOD – Streaming Children's Liturgy for families on Sundays at 10.00am.

URGENT MESSAGE for GIFT AID members.... If your tax status changes due to Coronavirus, do **NOT** use your Gift Aid envelopes for donations, **AND** contact Paul Knell for confidential advice - either by email, paulknell5709@gmail.com or tel. 07724188416.

WHAT DO WE DO ABOUT COLLECTIONS!

(Easter and Christmas Collections are traditionally for your Priests).

Your Parish depends upon your weekly collection. Now that there is no public Mass we are threatened with serious financial disaster. We now depend even more on your generosity so how is it possible to support our Church financially during this lockdown?

- 1) Send a cheque through the post, written out to Parish of Ramsgate & Minster or St. Ethelbert's Church.
- 2) Arrange a direct debit (Paul Knell on Tel: 07724188416 will help you).
- 3) PayPal – [paypal.me/augustineramsgate](https://www.paypal.me/augustineramsgate)
- 4) On your daily permitted exercise, pop cash through Presbytery door, using an envelope marked 'collection' or else your Gift Aid envelope.

Confessions:

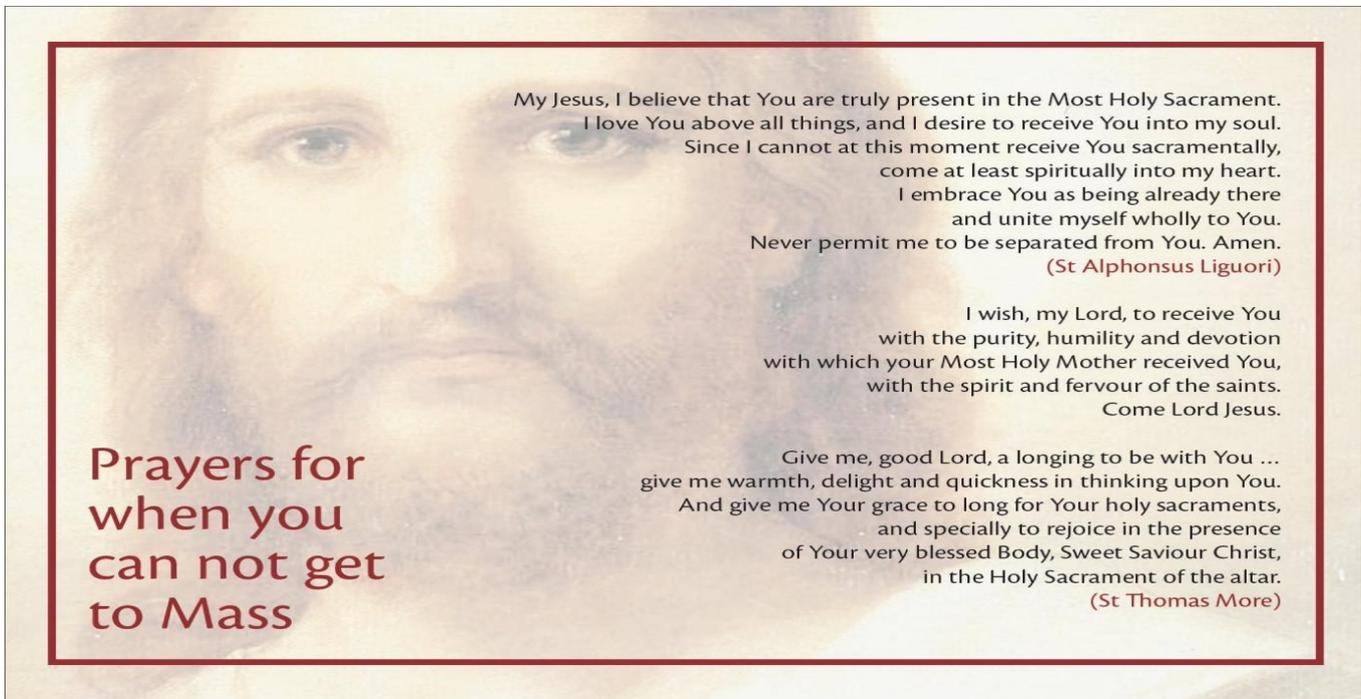
On request – please contact the Priest (if you have a temperature or a cough please make a perfect Act of Contrition and wait.)

All Masses/services/events/meetings are cancelled in the Parish.

Parents requiring Baptism for their child to contact Fr. Christopher, Fr. Simon, or Fr. Leszek and discuss Baptismal Preparation in the current situation.

EASTER DUTIES we ordinarily, as Catholics, have the duty to go to Confession and Communion in the Easter Season. This obligation has been dispensed for 2020 by our Bishops.

Please remember in your prayers Lorraine Mulverhill, Mary Sinclair, Shelia Popple of Dover, Winifred Alltoft, Cesarina Ward & Johanna Reeves, all who have died recently and for their dear families and friends who mourn them.



Prayers for when you can not get to Mass

My Jesus, I believe that You are truly present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as being already there
and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.
(St Alphonsus Liguori)

I wish, my Lord, to receive You
with the purity, humility and devotion
with which your Most Holy Mother received You,
with the spirit and fervour of the saints.
Come Lord Jesus.

Give me, good Lord, a longing to be with You ...
give me warmth, delight and quickness in thinking upon You.
And give me Your grace to long for Your holy sacraments,
and specially to rejoice in the presence
of Your very blessed Body, Sweet Saviour Christ,
in the Holy Sacrament of the altar.
(St Thomas More)

We pray for the sick: N. Wall, Kathy Carr, M. Marjoam, A. Fell, E. Finn, A. Larks, Mary O'Neill, E. Smalley, Clem O'Brien, D. Hall, T. Webster, M. Clark, M. DuFau, E. Evans, H. Russell, M. Walley, J. Hall, B. Mallon, Denis McClosky, G. Gabbett, A. Gosling, Mary Austen, Kathy Knobbs, Olive & Tom Carney, Valerie & Malvern Owen, V. Grilli, Marguite Byers, Yan Kelly, Frank Tierney, A. Lucas, Elvira Lind, Bridget Davis, Vicky & Kevin Nicholas, Josephine Calway, Sylvia Quinn, Susanna King, Rose Coldwell, Pat Vanscalina, Lydia Horneff, Christine Lathen, Adrienne Taylor, Doreen Browning, Sr. Aelred, Valerie & Michael Godden, Mary Dowd, Eileen McCaughan, Jef Silva, Joe Pheby, Jane Sellon, Kathleen Freeman, Derek Richmond, Alex Jordan, Eva Szyszko.

Message from the Southwark Archdiocese Safeguarding Team:

The NCSC have released their explicit policy position on reporting concerns and allegations. The statement should be placed on all parish websites under the safeguarding heading and put into all parish newsletters. It has automatically been placed as a disclaimer on all rcaos safeguarding emails.

"If you are concerned about the welfare of a child or adult at risk, do not delay in contacting the police, using 999 if a child or adult is believed to be in immediate danger.

It is the policy of the Catholic Church in England and Wales to report all allegations of abuse to statutory authorities, regardless of whether the abuse occurred recently or in the past, or whether the accused person is living or deceased.

If you are in any role within the Catholic Church in England and Wales, you must refer allegations directly to the safeguarding office for your diocese or religious congregation, or directly to the Police.

If you are a member of the public, please refer allegations directly to the police and also to the safeguarding office in your diocese. You can contact the Archdiocese of Southwark Safeguarding Office by telephoning 0207 261 1606 or via email at safeguardingoffice@rcaos.org.uk"

Priests: Fr. Christopher Basden (P.P), Fr Simon Heans (Shrine Administrator), Fr Leszek Klos (Chaplain to Polish Community), **Deacon:** Rev. Peter Brown. **Safeguarding:** Kate Morgan. **Office & Presbytery:** 72 Hereson Rd, Ramsgate CT11 7DS, Tel: 01843 592071 (Polish 07468570445). **Email:** ramsgate@rcaos.org.uk. **St. Mildred's Priory,** Minster Abbey, Minster, Ramsgate CT12 4HF, Tel: 01843 821254. **Website:** www.saintethelberts.com. **St. Ethelbert's School:** Dane Park Road, Ramsgate. CT11 7LS, Tel: 01843 585555. **The Divine Retreat Centre,** St. Augustine's Abbey, St.

Augustine's Road, Ramsgate CT11 9PA, Tel: 01843 586904.

Parish emails: ramsgate@rcaos.org.uk.

To contact Fr. Simon: office@augustineshrine.co.uk

Follow the Parish on Facebook: @stethelbertsramsgate

Follow the Parish on Twitter: @catholicramsmin

Follow St Augustine's Shrine on Facebook, Twitter & Instagram: @AugustinePugin