

THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF KING'S LYNN

The Church of Our Lady of the Annunciation

London Road, King's Lynn, Norfolk. PE30 5HQ.

and

Holy Family Church

Field Lane, Gaywood, King's Lynn, Norfolk. PE30 4AY



**KEEPING IN TOUCH
WITH
FR. GORDON ADAM**

Thursday May 20, 2021

Dear All

As always I hope this finds you well.

What strange weather we are having. Bright sunshine one moment then minutes later taking shelter from hail storms – in May! Not to mention yesterday's thunderstorm – that was something else. Queenie took to her crate in fear and trembling and it took a long time afterwards to coax her out and get her to go outside for walkies and the associated natural functions.



Queenie's crate is her "safe space" when there are scary noises about!

Nevertheless planting on the allotment and in the courtyard has been proceeding apace and the growing season (and the weeding season and the watering season) is well and truly upon us. Every year it fascinates me to watch these little seedlings grow and grow until they become masses of greenery producing new produce and flowers



Much planting has been done both at home in the courtyard and out on the allotment

Yesterday I had cause to drive over to March which is, of course, in Cambridgeshire. As I went over the County border I realised that this was the first time I had left Norfolk since March last year. What excitement ☐ More excitements await – a friend is staying for a couple of nights and it is his birthday today, so a meal out which will be eaten indoors (in the bar of the Stuart House Hotel) is scheduled for this evening. I am sure we are all praying and hoping that the relaxations of the Covid restrictions are indeed permanent and that they do not have to be reinstated. Daily there is more and more evidence emerging that the so called "Indian" variant is spreading mostly among the unvaccinated – evidence that the way out of

this crisis is indeed through vaccination. As things improve here in the UK, do please continue to hold in your prayers those many places in the world where vaccination roll out is much further behind and many are still suffering, or dying from, serious illness.

Turning now to parish matters:

T3 (The Thursday Talk) returns this evening, and the topic, as part of the series of talks on the history of our Parish, is “The Re-awakening” (after the penal years). You can watch it on our YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EjbXw8a6lys> . Mass this coming Sunday, which is Pentecost Sunday (and the conclusion of the Easter season) and Mass will be livestreamed from Our Lady’s at 11.30am. It can be watched at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vxJF1hQ8Tmg> . Unfortunately, this year the Paschal Candle in Our Lady’s which was blessed and lit at the Easter Vigil has not made it all the way through Eastertide to Pentecost. Clearly there was a manufacturing fault, and it all started to go wrong last Sunday. Then at Mass last Monday it made some strange noises and then it was gone – with a lot of candle wax all over the place.



*The remnants of the
2021 Paschal Candle in Our Lady’s*

If you are planning to attend Mass in person this Sunday, please tell us which Mass you intend to assist at. As usual, please send an e-mail to parishpriest763@gmail.com , copied to gordonadam1962@btinternet.com stating whether you intend to assist at Mass on Saturday at 6pm, Sunday 9.30am, or Sunday 11.30am, and tell us how many people there will be in your household group / bubble. It is very helpful if you give us notice by Saturday lunchtime - Please note that you are advising us of your intentions, you are NOT BOOKING PLACES OR TICKETS.

The latest relaxation of Covid restrictions means we also have new guidelines from the Conference of Bishops for managing public worship. This means that we can make a bit of an increase in the number of people allowed to attend any particular Mass, and this weekend you will see the return of the offertory procession. From this Sunday both Fr Peter and I will be making a return to the door at the end of Mass to greet you and keep up with all your news about what is happening in your lives. Although we will be at the door we will not be shaking hands, so please do not try!

The first Holy Communion class has now grown to 33 children and the children are participating with enthusiasm and diligent work. Last week we were very impressed with how many children had made a good effort with the suggested “homework” for the week. After this weekend we will have to firmly say that no more children can join the class - there are 10 teaching sessions planned and anyone joining after this weekend will have missed out on a third on the teaching, so would not be adequately prepared when the first Holy Communion Mass takes place on 5th September. However it is hoped that in the autumn we will be able to enrol a new class to follow the “usual” pattern of classes over the winter in preparation for first Holy Communion in Eastertide 2022.

Last week I offered a reminder of how you can financially support the King’s Lynn foodbank and / or the Purfleet Trust, which works with homelessness in West Norfolk. It has been

suggested to me that some of you might also like to consider offering financial support to the King's Lynn Winter Night Shelter. I am very glad to do so – you can make a one off donation, or set up regular giving at <https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/10347#!/DonationDetails>

And finally, for this week:



As ever, carry on taking good care of yourselves and those you live with.

May Our Lady pray for you, and may God bless you

Fr Gordon.

Fr Gordon Adam

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