



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

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 1AY

Thursday, January 07, 2021

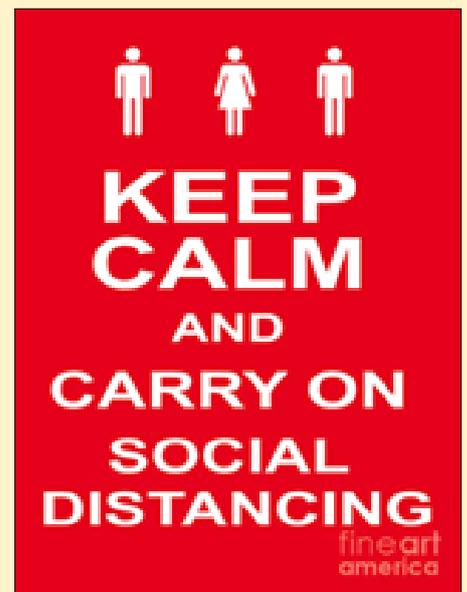
Dear All

As ever, I hope this finds you well and with sufficient to keep you occupied in the new lockdown.

The main thing today is to invite you to let us know your intentions for attending Mass this coming Sunday (Feast of the Baptism of the Lord).

As usual, e-mail to parishpriest763@gmail.com copied to gordonadam1962@btinternet.com, telling us which Mass you plan to attend and how many people in your household / bubble group. Please try to let us know by lunchtime on Saturday.

Since the news broke about the new variant of the virus it is clear from the numbers attending Mass that more people are choosing not to attend. Some of you have been in touch to say that you will not be returning until you have had your vaccination. We fully understand your caution and very much encourage you to do what you need to do to stay safe and protect yourselves and those you live with. The Sunday obligation continues to be suspended so there is no problem on that front. But be assured that we are missing you, and we very much look forward to the days when we can welcome you back as you choose to return. The Prime Minister has said that the path out of lockdown will be slow and gradual (for once he said something sensible!) and I am certain that the path back to "normal" in terms of our worship and celebrations of Mass will be the same. At this time we have no idea in what order things will be eased, but a day will come when the restrictions on numbers are eased, a day will come when we can sing together again, a day will come when we can come to Mass without needing a face covering, a day will come when once again all can receive from the Chalice, and a day will come when we can once more hang around, mingle, chat and socialise to our hearts content. Especially now that we are in the depths of winter with long dark evenings it is easy to let things get us down. Keep your hopes up – there IS light at the end of the tunnel – but, for now.....



One thing that is always certain is that there are people out there trying to take advantage of any situation to scam people out of their money – and the beginning of the roll out of Covid vaccinations is no different. If you get an e-mail asking you to “apply for your vaccine” be very careful. You can read more about it here:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-55563748>

Slightly belatedly, I am attaching the list of those who contributed to the monies for East Anglian Children's Hospice, in lieu of sending Christmas cards to each other – those on it may now consider themselves Christmas-greeted!

I am sure that many of you, like me, could hardly believe what you were seeing on the TV screen with the events in America last night. For many years the President of the United States has been referred to as “The Leader of the Free World”. But in recent weeks we have witnessed him deny reality, and deny the American peoples' democratic choice – even as he accused others of cheating and “stealing” the election, he has been doing that very thing himself in plain sight of the whole world. It all peaked with incitement of his supporters to overturn the election by violence, and thus he exposed himself as a nascent dictator. I mention this for a particular reason. That reason is that we are exceedingly fortunate to live in a democratic nation where human rights are respected, where we have a free press and freedom of speech, where we have freedom of religion, and where we elect those who exercise secular power over us. The events of yesterday and of recent weeks in the USA show us how easily that freedom can be threatened, and individuals seek to impose their own will on people against the peoples' will. This reminds us that among the many, many things we should be mindful of in prayer are all those people who have to live under dictatorships and oppressive regimes, and in particular people who are persecuted for practicing their Christian faith.

You have become used to occasional domestic news about Queenie the greyhound in these keeping-in-touch newsletters. But a complaint has been received – from Ben (short for Benedict), the Welsh Cardigan Corgi (The Queen's corgis are Pembrokes) – who wants to know why Queenie gets all the limelight. Ben is a genuine antique dog. He came to me from Chiltern dog recue when I lived in Hemel Hempstead, and they reckoned he was either 3 or 4 when he moved in with me. That was in May 2007! So, after nearly 14 years living with me he could well be heading for being 18. I have explained to him that he does not get much publicity because every time I try to take his photograph he puts his best grumpy face on. But the other day he did consent to a picture without putting his grumpy face on, so here he is:



Stay safe and take 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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Christmas wishes
&
All God's Blessing for 2021
from

Fr Gordon Adam,
Pat & David Athey,
Miriam & John Cairns,
Eamonn Campbell,
Pat & John Carney,
Lorraine & Richard Driscoll,
Maureen Feeney,
Sally Frost,
Janet Hardy,
Pat Jones,
Jean & Richard Kerkham,
Moya Lockett,
Dolores McKenna,
Cathie & George McNeil,
Jean Parkin,
Pauline & Stuart Russell,
Jenny & John Smith,
Louise & Jim Smith,
Renee Thomas,
Elizabeth & Michael Walker

A donation of £370 has been sent to “EACH” in lieu of Christmas cards.