



CATHOLIC LIFE NEWSLETTER



St. Edmund Campion Pray for Us

Dear Parents and Carers

The prayer of the Church never ceases. As the day ends in one part of the world it is beginning in another. The monastic tradition of the Church ensures that prayer, praise and thanks to God never ends. It is comforting for all of us to know that women and men who have answered God's call to live this life of prayer and contemplation are praying every day for each one of us and the world in which we live.

There are many people at the moment trying to give us information on how to live each day in our current circumstances. Advice and tips on activities that we can engage in to fill our days. These are all well intentioned and have their place. However perhaps we already have the blueprint in front of us already. The day of a monk or a nun living a contemplative life is based around prayer and work – all of which is done to praise and thank God – from the beautiful Gregorian Chant to the mundane act of washing up after dinner. In short everything we do in our daily lives can be offered to God in prayer and thanksgiving.

The link below shows you an example of this. It is an excerpt from a BBC series **Retreat: Meditations from a Monastery**. They were first broadcast in 2017 and are available again to watch on the BBC iplayer. These are the monks at Pluscarden Abbey in Scotland praying Compline – Night Prayer. It may inspire you to watch them in full:

https://youtu.be/g_M6cF4Y1TI

The month of May dedicated to Mary continues. Attached to this email are resources to help you pray the rosary. This week Ms .Egan our Lead Practitioner in Modern Foreign Languages has produced material to pray the rosary in French to promote 'One World Together in Prayer'.

The Masses for the sick on Thursday evenings at 7pm continue this Thursday 14th May from St. Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle. The celebrant this week will be Bishop Robert Byrne and can be found on the link below:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC12EvW0Egq-cFTh5i2y_EQw



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As a reminder Mass each day and every Sunday can be live streamed from St. Chad's Cathedral at:

www.stchadscathedral.org.uk

For information on what's going on in our local parish community in Erdington here is a link to the Erdington Abbey newsletter:

<http://www.erdingtonabbey.co.uk/eacontent/uploads/2020/05/Bulletin-5th-Sunday-of-Easter-10-May-2020.pdf>

Gospel Reflection – Sixth Sunday of Easter – John 14:15-21



The disciples are no different to ourselves. They wondered – as we do – what comes next? How will they manage without Jesus amongst them? How will we cope with uncertainty?

As human beings we are looking for a route – a map to guide us on our journey through life. We all probably thought we were safely on that road but life has taken an unexpected turn. The route has changed. We have to find a new way to be with ourselves and those around us.

Jesus tells his disciples that he will ask the Father to give them another Advocate, 'to be with you for ever, that Spirit of truth.' Let us recognise that Spirit of truth within us and pray for the strength to follow the route to life promised to us by the Father through his Son.

We pray to Mary our Mother asking for her intercession:



*Remember O most gracious Virgin Mary,
that never was it known,
that anyone who fled to thy protection,
implored thy help or sought thy intercession was left unaided.*

Inspired by this confidence I fly unto thee O Virgin of Virgins my Mother.

To thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful.

O Mother of the Word Incarnate despise not my petitions,

but in thy mercy here and answer me. Amen.