



# CATHOLIC LIFE NEWSLETTER



## St. Edmund Campion Pray for Us

Dear Parents and Carers

We have just celebrated Easter – the resurrection of Jesus – in the strangest of circumstances where we were unable to come together in our local parishes to share in the prayer of the Church through our participation in the Holy Eucharist. Many of you may have found ways to live stream the services of Holy Week and Mass on Easter Sunday on the internet. For those of you who may want help with this St. Chad's Cathedral are live streaming Mass each weekday and every Sunday. This can be accessed by logging on to:

[www.stchadscathedral.org.uk](http://www.stchadscathedral.org.uk)

For a more child friendly Sunday Mass please use this link to the CAFOD website where you can register for access to their Children's Liturgies each Sunday:

<https://cafodsouthwales.wordpress.com/2020/03/28/staying-connected-for-mass-and-childrens-liturgies-through-coronavirus-new-links-added/>

Cardinal Vincent Nichols, the head of the Catholic Church in England and Wales, has sent a message to the Catholic Community for Lent and the Easter. In his message he explains that the obligation for Catholics to receive Holy Communion and go to Confession during the Easter Season – known as 'Easter Duties' – has been removed from us this year. If this has worried any members of your families and friends please share this with them:

<https://youtu.be/jMqeXLKT8hE>

Our Holy Father Pope Francis has also sent out a message for each of in this time of uncertainty:

<https://youtu.be/xMJDCnmdhRg>



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

<http://www.erdingtonabbey.co.uk/eacontent/uploads/2020/04/Bulletin-Easter-Sunday-12-April-2020.pdf>

Please also find this link to prayer and worship from the Diocesan Education Service:

<https://youtu.be/c9oohwnp-tY>



## Gospel Reflection – Second Sunday of Easter – John 20:19-31

The disciples had just witnessed the savage death of their Master – Jesus. John tells us they were closed up in a room out of fear. What did the future hold for them? They had given over their lives to follow Jesus. Were they about to suffer the same fate because of their belief in Jesus as the Son of God?

These fears were put to rest when Jesus came and stood among them and gave them the direction they were looking for, 'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you'. This was the beginning of their mission to continue spreading the Good News of Salvation. However, Thomas was not there and would not believe that Jesus had risen unless he saw Jesus with his own eyes and touch him with his own hands. The message of this gospel is clearly for each one of us:

'Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe'

At this time of illness throughout world let us pray together:

**Christ be with me, Christ within me,  
Christ behind me, Christ to win me,  
Christ to comfort me and restore me,  
Christ beneath me, Christ above me,  
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,  
Christ in hearts of all that love me,  
Christ in mouth of friend and stranger. Amen**