

St. Joseph's Helensburgh

Parish Priest: Mgr. John A. Hughes

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****Masses: All Public Masses remain suspended.****

Fourteenth Sunday of the Year, 5th July 2020

CHURCH RE-OPENING

Over the past weeks, a great deal of work and preparation has taken place. Our Covid-19 Co-ordinator, Mr. Alan Morris, has along the Parish Priest been carefully studying the very considerable amount of material coming to us from the Archdiocese and the National Working Group for Re-opening. Alan (and family members) have also put in many hours starting the process of making our church building safe for the first steps in a very gradual journey which lies before us. **To continue this process, we need more volunteers**, (preferably under the age of 70, as a precaution).

Following the experience of the initial opening last Sunday, we will open the Church this **Sunday, 5th July from 3pm till 4pm**. If you wish to make a short visit during that time, **you must wear a face-mask, sanitize**, and follow the directions of those supervising visits. It will not be possible to light candles, or access any cards or books in the church. As you may know, restrictions on those of 70+ have been lifted for visiting and volunteering, but great caution must be exercised. **Anyone with health issues should not take any risk**. Similarly, because of scaffolding around the side-door, wheelchair or disabled access might be dangerous. Visits **MUST BE LESS THAN 15 MINUTES**. Toilets / drinking water will not be available. Genuflection is not necessary. Try not to touch hard surfaces, e.g. door-handles, or benches, as you are directed to your place.

Current Funeral Practice will remain in force for some time yet. Legislation / regulation is very complicated and varies depending on location. We must respect and comply with protocols.

PASTORAL CARE FOR OUR PARISHIONERS

We wish to assure parishioners - who have to stay at home for health reasons, or who are self-isolating due to the Corona Virus, and have no family, neighbours or friends to provide support – that they can access our pastoral resources in the parish. For this crisis, the Pastoral Care Group and the St. Vincent de Paul Society and Parish Volunteers have combined their energies to try to meet any gap in provision of food items, collection of essential medicines and maintain contact by telephone. If any parishioner would like support, please phone **07954 163267**. This is the contact number for SVDP.

COLLECTIONS

During these weeks without Sunday Mass, if you would like to contribute to the support of the parish, you can set up a Standing Order or give a cheque made out to the Parish. The Parish account is held in the Bank of Scotland; A/C no. 00821691; Sort Code: 80 08 31; St Joseph's RC Church, Helensburgh, Archdiocese of Glasgow. It goes without saying that parish overheads continue, even during a period such as this. Your generosity is as always most appreciated.

Our Prayers are Requested

For Parishioners who are Sick.

We pray each week for all who are sick or housebound in our parish community, and all who are affected in any way by the Corona Virus, as well as all professionals working so hard at this time to deal with Covid-19.

For all who have Died Recently: Muriel Cudby, Bill Sawyer

For all whose Month's Mind occurs about now: Anne and Pete Shortt

Anniversaries: Ailie Scullion, Elizabeth MacDonald

Eternal Rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

Items for the Bulletin should be emailed to: sjh41lom@gmail.com - by Thursday, at the latest.