

Dear Parishioner,

As you know, the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales have taken the decision to suspend public masses and granted a dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and holydays. In these difficult times, we will do our best to minister to you in any way we can.

Following the Prime Minister's address on 23rd March, Holy Cross church, St Patrick church and St Patrick Chapel will be **CLOSED** until further notice.

Fr Auson will continue to celebrate Mass in private for requested intentions. New intention requests can be sent to the Presbytery.

Mass will be live-streamed from St Peter's church, on Sky Freeview channel 588 – the Catholic channel and from Walsingham (please check their websites for times).

Confessions will not be heard until further notice.

Let us not forget the power of prayer. Please continue to pray with your families at the time you would normally attend Mass. Use this opportunity to read daily from the Holy Scriptures. Create a shrine in your homes with a crucifix, a holy image, a bible and candle.

We urge you to continue to care for others: if you know of anyone, in particular the elderly or vulnerable, who needs pastoral or practical support in the parish, or if you are in any need, please contact the Presbytery on 0203 722 7573 or plumstead@rcaos.org.uk.

If you are able to help, for example with delivering shopping, please let us know.

If possible, we would ask you to remember those who rely on the Foodbank. Tinned or packet foods can be left at the Presbytery and would be greatly appreciated.

Unfortunately, the decision to suspend masses will have a financial impact on the parish. As we are not a business, we cannot make any claims for loss of earnings, so we will rely on your generosity. We suggest the following alternatives if you wish to continue your offertory:

1. Drop a cash or cheque contribution in an envelope at the Presbytery or Holy Cross church. Gift Aid members, please use your numbered envelope as normal.
2. Send a cheque, payable to 'St Patrick's Church', to: The Presbytery, 1a Conway Road, Plumstead, SE18 1AQ
3. Set up a standing order: NAT WEST Account number 79136796
Sort code 60-50-01 RCAS ST PATRICK PLUMSTEAD

Thank you for taking the time to read this and for your continued support.

May God bless you and keep you safe.

Fr Auson