



Parish of St Cuthbert Egham

One Parish Family ~ Two Places for Worship

OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION
91 Harvest Road, Englefield
Green, Egham TW20 0QR

ST JOHN OF ROCHESTER
Rochester Road, Egham Hythe
TW18 3HN

PARISH PRIEST Canon Chris Spain

Fr Chris writes:

Our celebration of Palm Sunday, the Triduum and Easter can be described by four adjectives. 1. It was **Spiritual**. There was, I felt, a real spirit of prayer and reflection as we journeyed together. 2. There was a true spirit of **Service**. There were no feet to wash in love and charity (this year), but plenty of tasks were lovingly carried out to enhance our celebrations. 3. In a strange kind of way it was **Social**, with creative communication bringing together our livestream and in-person congregations (united in mind and heart and care for each other at this time). 4. Following all the rules and guidelines we were **Safe**. Everyone must feel safe in Church which is why we take such care of *health and safety* and our COVID regulations. Thank you to everyone who enabled this by prayer, service, outreach and participation on whatever level. Many new parishioners were involved. Most of our Masses and liturgies were full to our COVID capacity, which was great.

“The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul; no one claimed for his own use anything that he had, as everything they owned was held in common.” Acts 4:33. Our membership of the Parish and Christ’s Body the Church brings together many different people into a *great Communion of Love*. We give thanks to God for His goodness and his everlasting love and care for us. We, like the disciples, are called and sent - *“As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.”* We need listen to our Lord and God, experiencing His peace, so that we can be effective witnesses.

For some people Easter is merely the end of Lent, and the moment they go back to what they gave up for six weeks! For us (like the disciples), I hope, it is more about *new life* and not going back to *an old life*. We should be encouraged and enlivened to face challenge and change, to examine our lives with humility and simplicity and see how we can truly live the gospel in a more authentic way in the circumstance of ‘today’. The sacraments are about change and transformation, wonderful outward signs, bringing about an inner grace and responsibility.

Thomas wanted ‘faith’; but he was looking for *absolute certainty*. He wanted things to be *clear* and *literally true*, therefore he found Jesus’ gentle and subtle ways of unlocking the faith hard to bear! Sometimes people search for “absolutes” because it is easier, and the answers are simple. But this can deprive faith of its richness, it can make life one-dimensional. I like to see a parish not as a herd of people all following exactly the same path, but many unique individuals each with a unique story to tell and unfolding their own individual story. We, like a family, are all different, but each on a journey, liberated by the Easter Message we have received.

MASSES & LITURGIES THIS WEEK

Sat 10 th	6.00pm (SJR)	People of the Parish
Sun 11 th	*9.30am (SJR) 11.00am (SJR)	Mary Ellen Thomas RIP Josie & Dan Gronow RIP
Mon 12 th	9.30am (SJR)	Claudio De Paolis RIP
Tues 13 th	9.30am (LS)	John McCorkell RIP
Thurs 15 th	9.30am (LS)	Krishnama Bernadette Durasamy RIP
Fri 16 th	9.30am (LS)	Len & Moira Burton RIP
Sat 17 th	6.00pm (SJR)	People of the Parish
Sun 18 th	*9.30am (SJR) 11.00am (SJR)	Sarah Harding Charles Bauchot RIP

(SJR) – Mass in Church. (LS) Livestream only.

* These Masses will be livestreamed from SJR.

+++++

PARISH LIVESTREAM

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Cuthbert-Egham-108622160776448>

//////////

MONDAY 12TH - WHERE ARE WE NOW?

Monday is here but don’t just gaup,
yes, great attractions at *Legoland* and *Thorpe*?

What is this new Monday all about -
my haircut, shopping or a workout?

Outdoor pubs, and restaurants, resume they can,
‘The Beehive’, ‘Barley Mow’ or ‘Happy Man’?

But don’t forget all who suffer in mind and heart,
the pains of loneliness, separation or being apart!

Many things being questioned, debates still open –
we await more news when agencies have spoken.

For now, the Church remains in its ‘current state’
further news and instructions we must *all await...*

Remember to pray for those worse off than us –
and please be patient, and don’t make a fuss!

Fr Chris

COVID RESTRICTIONS

“ My four sisters loved berating their four brothers with the saying – ‘Patience is a virtue, possess it if you can, it’s seldom found in women, but never in a man’!

To all parishioners, male or female, can we urge your continued patience. Although we are still able to offer a simplified Mass, for a limited congregation, following strict guidelines; no further restrictions (for our churches or halls) have been lifted yet. Although I will be getting a haircut tomorrow and I can visit non-essential shops, there is (as we go to print) no further changes on the roadmap for our churches or Jurgens Centre, or any of those covered by the Bishop’s Conference of England and Wales. Questions like “When do you think...?” or “Can I book a provisional date...?” do not help, because there is so much to be sorted – there are many backlogs as outlined in last week’s newsletter. Please be assured, that we will keep you updated via the newsletter each week. For any sacrament, including the four families seeking baptism or reception into the church, the most important starting point is practice of the faith and prayer. For **Baptism of babies (or children under 5)** there are resource packs for those who have not yet attended a preparation. These are at the back of St John of Rochester Church. “**COMMUNICATION IS THE KEY!**”

FR CHRIS

SAFEGUARDING

We are truly grateful to all who have undertaken a Disclosure and Barring Service Check **and** have registered through the diocese for their training which should happen at least every three years. Some have not renewed their training, and this will leave us with a shortage of volunteers. We are pleased to have a new team who will be developing the role of Parish Safeguarding Reps and will be supporting catechists and co-ordinators. We hope to provide details shortly. For now, if you have any questions, please contact Eamonn Priestly 01344 844731 - thank you. Visit <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/safeguarding/home>

EDUCATION NEWS

If, during these strange times, you, or a family you know from our parish (or school), are in any kind of need for support with the cost of shopping, Fr Chris has access to some vouchers from a charitable trust to assist. Anonymity is assured and no data or information is shared. These may be especially helpful in the Easter Holidays.

Mass will be offered for **Sarah Harding** (from the St Cuthbert’s Class of 1993), next Sunday (18th April) at 9.30am. Sarah was a vocalist in the pop group ‘Girls Aloud’ and is very sick at this time. We pray for her, her family and friends who hope to join us on livestream (or in person) for Mass.

Please pray for the **Repose of Soul of Christopher Briddick** (son of Jackie Briddick who died in 2018 and who taught for many years at St Cuthbert’s Primary). Christopher died recently – may he rest in peace.

Fr Vladimir (former Royal Holloway Chaplain) celebrates his Ruby Jubilee of Ordination on St George’s Day; he was ordained on 23rd April 1981.

We wish a continued Happy Easter Break to all our young people, teachers, staff and families, and a safe return.

More ‘Education News’ can be found in Last week’s newsletter.

FOUNDATION GOVERNORS ST CUTHBERT’S SCHOOL

The school’s Governing Body is currently looking for new Foundation Governors to join their team of volunteers. Foundation Governors are practising Catholics, appointed by the Bishop specifically to preserve and develop the Catholic ethos of the school. The Governing Body needs people with a mixture of skills and experience. Foundation Governors do not need to be education experts! To find out more about the role contact Claire McAdam or Canon Chris Spain. For more details on what a Foundation Governor is, and their role and responsibilities, visit <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/education/governance>

ST JOHN OF ROCHESTER SANCTUARY

Thank you to all who helped behind the scenes with our Triduum and Easter liturgies and Masses. We are so blessed with the beautiful ‘Easter Sanctuary’ with the hand painted Paschal Candle, the bright floral displays, the beautifully polished and cleaned sanctuary and furnishings, and now the newly painted font – thank you Aneta and team! Thank you to all who have given of their time and energy to beautify our worship and liturgy

RUNNYMEDE FOODBANK UPDATE Gifts of love, serving the community and remembering the needy was the message at Maundy Thursday mass. Thank you for all your donations; it weighed almost 95 kilos when the items were taken to the foodbank! For the month of April, items really needed are: **long life milk, long life juice, coffee, hot chocolate, instant mash, custard, sponge pudding, dog food, washing powder, paper towels, toilet rolls, shaving foam/razors, shower gel (female) and deodorant (female), nappies (size 5 & 6).**

Please continue to leave items in the boxes at the back of St John of Rochester church. Thank you.

We pray for all who care for the sick and for those who are sick and have asked for our prayers:

Rene Dent, Ray Davis, Edith Jedla, Margaret Price, Pam Anderson, Maria Walsh, Bella Pozella, Geoffrey and Josephine Gibson, Patrick McGarvey, Ian Robertson, Florence Goonetilake, James Corrigan, Ida Blower, Bernard Horton, Chris, Louise & Helen Michael, James Clubley, Whinghnoi Chan, Sandy Xavier Francis, Thomas Ogorman, Alan Diver.

We pray for all who have died recently, including Christopher Briddick and HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh.

We pray too for all our loved ones who have died recently or whose anniversaries occur about now, and those who mourn their passing.

+ Grant them Eternal Rest +

Parish Priest

01784 434280

chris.spain65@yahoo.com

Parish Website :

www.poegham.wordpress.com

Facebook: **St Cuthbert, Egham**

Diocesan Website:

www.abdiocese.org.uk

Parish Office

parishofegham@yahoo.co.uk

01784 477620

St Cuthbert’s School

01784 434128

www.stcuthberts.surrey.sch.uk

Gift Aid Organiser

David Keel: 01784 459495

dkeel1@sky.com

Sick Visits/Holy Communion

Liz Kirk – 01784 453210

Safeguarding Representative

Eamonn Priestley: 01344 844371

Newsletter Editor

Julia Rowe: 07836 661283
edit.news100@yahoo.co.uk

Website Editor

John Connors: 07785 298743
john@connorsfamily.plus.com

Cheques payable to: ‘Parish of Egham’

Registered Charity No. 252878