

Weekly Message from Fr William for the Fourth Week of Ordinary Time

Dear People of St Mary's,

The Parish Finance Committee met on Monday, as we do four times each year. In accordance with Canon Law every parish has a finance committee to help the parish priest in the administration of the goods of the parish. I'm continually grateful for their expertise and experience and the time they dedicate as volunteers to the careful analysis and ongoing monitoring of our financial needs and the advice I need from them. Part of the remit is also to review all Health and Safety matters, which I think we know are superbly managed at St Mary's. Special thanks to Julie Burrell who manages our accounts, to Stephen Walker as chair of the FC, and to Vince McGurk our Health and Safety Officer. And thank you to everybody for your ongoing and generous financial support via Standing Orders and other cashless donation mechanisms.

Great news about the new vaccines coming forward ! More light at the end of the tunnel ! While we now go forward with this new hope on the horizon, let's continue to hold firm together for these remaining months on all the covid security measures – obligatory and voluntary – that we're taking. There's even more incentive now to hold firm, now that we can see the exit. This is where the lessons from history come in, like the story I told a few weeks ago. (website homepage weekly messages 13<sup>th</sup> December).

Remember our own SVP are here in Knaresborough to support anyone who needs befriending. You can call them on 07470 312709. And I know many individuals are supporting others in many individual ways.

Confirmation classes continue for our current 2021 group of candidates – 12 this year. We've just completed Module 6. Let's keep them in our prayers.

And we continue to celebrate Mass together as a parish community each Sunday by livestream at all our normal times, with the in-church option currently on hold, helping to keeping us together, and helping to keep us safe.

God bless you!



Fourth Sunday Ordinary Time 31<sup>st</sup> January 2021