

Weekly Message from Fr William for the Second Week of Easter 2021

Dear People of St Mary's, Happy Easter ! Again !

During the Octave we've had three Easter masses with in-church participation with 28 of us in church on Easter morning (8.30am), 11 of us in church on Easter Wednesday, and we're expecting 12 in church for the Saturday 6pm of the Second Sunday.

It's my hope and intention that we continue to make the Saturday 6pm Mass a mass with in-church participation, with livestreaming, and that this remains the current provision for the parish until the developing coronavirus situation leads me to a re-tightening of restrictions (I think unlikely now) or a greater opening up.

As we begin to prepare for the fuller re-opening of the church we'll need to turn to our valiant cleaning team once again. Here's also putting out the call for more volunteers to join the cleaning team. This is due to the well-deserved retirement of some of our long serving volunteers. If this is something you'd be willing and able to take on, do get in touch. Eg [pp.stmary.knaresborough@dioceseofleeds.org.uk](mailto:pp.stmary.knaresborough@dioceseofleeds.org.uk)

You've been fantastic at continuing to support the parish financially during the pandemic. Many more people have been setting up Standing Orders eg via the DONATE button on the website homepage. This is especially helpful as it contributes to a regular income for the parish.

If you don't think you can manage the regular giving of a Standing Order, then a good alternative is text giving at the offertory. It's good because most people have a mobile phone, and it's dead easy to do. Just read the text off the wall that will be projected when we get to the offertory, and text it to the given number on the wall. I think it's something like CHURCH SMK to 70500, but have a look when it comes up at the offertory.      small print: 4% goes to the diocese for their admin ! 96% comes to the parish !

This text giving is also good because it's covid-safer than passing a plate round. In our in-church masses we are not yet passing the plate round for this very reason, but recommending the text giving method instead. It just means we'll have to get used to getting our phone out at the offertory instead of our cash. Starting this Sunday I'm going to start doing this myself to show the way! You'll see me text giving. Please feel free to do the same. It would be a great help.

Wishing you a wonderful Easter



Second Sunday of Easter, 11<sup>th</sup> April 2021