

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

Dear People of St Mary's

Thank you to our Eucharistic Ministers who have been taking Holy Communion to our housebound parishioners on a Sunday for so many weeks during the pandemic. It's a ministry that has been so appreciated. We've been calling it 'doorstep communion', reflecting measures we've put in place to keep everyone safe.

Thank you also to our SVP who are continuing to give support to our housebound parishioners during the pandemic, and to others needing their support, and to all those in the parish giving support on an individual basis, some of whom I know about and many of whom I don't.

I mentioned in my message last Sunday and at Mass our new(ish) text giving facility. Many people now donate to the parish by Standing Order. But for those who haven't set up a Standing Order, text giving provides a way of donating to the parish at the offertory. We're not passing the plate round at this time during in-church masses for obvious reasons. Text giving provides a safe, contact-free alternative to passing round the plate. And if you're celebrating mass by livestream we're not planning on knocking on your door.

Here's correcting a detail. I said last Sunday that 4% of your text donation goes to the diocese on admin. Actually the 4% doesn't go to the diocese. This was my misunderstanding. It's the commission charged by the company operating this text giving service on behalf of the diocese. What is correct is that 96% of your text donation comes to the parish.

Don't be surprised if you get a text back saying 'thank you for your £5 donation to the Diocese of Leeds'. This has been set up for us by the diocese, but the diocese then pay it over into our parish account.

As mentioned last Sunday, we need more volunteers for cleaning, particularly as we begin to prepare for the fuller re-opening of the church. If this is something you'd be willing and able to take on, please get in touch, eg by phoning me 01423 862388 or emailing me: [pp.stmary.knaresborough@dioceseofleeds.org.uk](mailto:pp.stmary.knaresborough@dioceseofleeds.org.uk)

Wishing you a wonderful Easter Season



Third Sunday of Easter, 18<sup>th</sup> April 2021