

Weekly Message from Fr William for the Sixth Sunday of Easter 2021

Dear People of St Mary's

Text-Giving at the Offertory. You donated £245 by text-giving during the month of April. This is almost double from the previous month (£125 for March). This is really appreciated. Donations for the Offertory collection at Mass have always been the main source of income for the parish. So it's a tremendous help that this is picking up so spectacularly.

If you haven't yet tried text giving, please do consider it. Simply use your mobile phone to text CHURCH SMK to 70500. £5 will be added to your phone bill, and the £5 will be paid into the parish account as your offertory donation. It's a simple and covid safe way of donating to the offertory collection.

You may get a message back saying that £5 has been paid to the Diocese of Leeds. Your donation does go to the diocese first but is then paid over into our parish account. We pay a tiny 4% for admin to a text-giving facility.

This Sunday we will be celebrating two in-church masses per Sunday. We had 23 parishioners in-church last Sunday at the Saturday 6pm Mass. This is a big jump from the previous week. Wonderful to see people back in church after so long! I know in-church mass feels constrained with the current restrictions. The social distancing, the face covering, no singing. Only another few weeks now and we can look forward to all of these restrictions being lifted.

I'll be meeting with the Parish Pastoral Council on Monday this week. The main item on the agenda is to plan for our post pandemic resurgence as a parish when we all come back together again in just a few weeks' time.

Talking of which, one of the most helpful things that people say to me from time to time is – 'If there's anything I can help with in the parish, please give me a try.' Or 'I have this particular skill set. Happy to make this available to the parish.' There's been additional tasks I've been covering during the pandemic and it's always good to know that there are people I can turn to for help.

In case you missed it, the 200 club is now fully up and running. Huge thank you to Sarah for taking this on. Everything you need to know, including recent results and how to join, can be found on the new 200 club page on the website under Parish Life. Next Sunday – NEW - you'll be able to watch the draw taking place online from the parish website.

Sixth week of Easter!
Hope you're still celebrating.



Sixth Sunday of Easter, 9th May 2021