

Weekly Message from Fr William for Thirteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time 2021

Dear People of St Mary's, this Sunday is being kept in the Diocese of Leeds as the Feast of our Lady of Perpetual Help. I'll be saying a bit about this in my homily.

Thank you for the increasing uptake of Text Giving for the offertory collection, whether you are celebrating mass in church or from home. Your continued financial support for the parish is greatly appreciated and valued. As you know Text Giving is something I've been promoting in recent weeks. This is part of our future-proofing of the parish for any future lockdown. Standing Orders and Text Giving are two key ways we can maintain the parish's main source of income, if for some reason it becomes necessary to close our churches in the future. We all hope this won't be necessary ever again, but with the uncertainties of the coronavirus and its variants we have to plan and prepare for this possibility. Our livestream capability means we can continue to celebrate mass as a parish in any future closure of churches. Standing Orders and Text Giving mean people will be able to continue to contribute to the offertory collection, even when celebrating mass from home. The remaining few weeks of the current restrictions provide a good opportunity of getting used to donating in this safe and simple way.

I'm also planning for the reintroduction of cash giving once restrictions are lifted, for anybody that may want to return to this way of giving. In the meantime, please do give Text Giving a go if you haven't already tried it. It's a safe and simple way of contributing to the offertory collection each Sunday, and to the Building Loan Fund on the first Sunday of each month.

text CHURCH SMK to 70500 to donate £5 to the Offertory Collection

text CHURCH BLF to 70500 to donate £5 to the Building Loan Fund

I will continue to project the details onto the wall during Mass, and please don't be shy about getting your mobile phone out for this at the offertory collection, whether you're celebrating Mass from home or in church.

Establishing robust donation mechanisms is one of several things I've brought up with the PPC to help future-proof the parish for any other period of church closures that we may have to face.

Please keep fellow parishioners informed about what's happening in the parish in case they may not have been able to keep in touch, eg with these weekly messages, with the weekly bulletin, and with other information and opportunities detailed on the website.

Thank you!



Thirteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time, 27<sup>th</sup> June 2021