

**St Francis of Assisi
RC Church,**

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and

St Joseph's RC Church

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Holy Week / Easter 2020

News update 8th April

**Easter offering to our parish priest
here: josephfrancis.org/easter**

Fr Tom writes this slightly early this week so as to be able to focus on the second part of Holy Week.

Mass Times

12 Noon **everyday**
live streamed from
our website:

<https://www.josephfrancis.org/livestream>

Except Thursday 16th
at 10am.

After Mass tea/coffee meet up

<https://zoom.us/j/714130706>

Holy Week & Easter

Maundy Thursday - 7pm

Good Friday - 3pm

Easter Vigil (Sat) - 9pm

Easter Sunday - 12 Noon

Rosary

Tuesdays - 2pm

<https://zoom.us/j/376494958>

A reminder that you are warmly invited to join in any of our services, which are all listed at josephfrancis.org/holy-week. In particular if you've never been to our Maundy Thursday Mass, tomorrow evening might be a beautiful time to experience this, albeit in a very different way to the way we normally live this.

We are really excited to be launching an online Alpha programme next week. Alpha is a tool to help you introduce your friends and family to the Christian faith. It takes place over a series of sessions, with each session including a short talk and a discussion where they can share their thoughts. There's no pressure, no follow up and no charge. Please pray for this initiative, for those taking part and consider inviting anyone you think might be interested – josephfrancis.org/alpha

We're also launching a Youth Alpha programme for our teenagers, to allow them to grow in faith and fellowship at this time. Please also keep this in your prayers and let us know of anyone who might be interested in participating.

We continue to offer a daily assembly/prayer time for primary age children at 9.40 on weekdays and Childrens Liturgy at 10.30 on Sundays. Please note that this moves to a new zoom link from Monday onwards. Do contact me for the new zoom link.

Masses next week will continue to be at midday, except on Thursday 16 April, when this will exceptionally be at 10am.

There will be a daily meditation at 6pm from 13 to 19 April helping us enter into the Easter Octave, which can be watched at the same place as the Mass - josephfrancis.org/livestream

On Friday 17 April there will be a spiritual conference on Divine Mercy at 3pm. On 19 April we will be live streaming Divine Mercy

devotions at 3pm. Both of these can be followed at the same place as Mass – josephfrancis.org/livestream

The Christmas and Easter collections are for the priest of the parish, and constitute the bulk of our income. Some people have very generously asked if they can still make a contribution despite our current situation. If you would like to do so, there are three possibilities. I have set up a special online donation page – josephfrancis.org/easter. This is only for Easter offerings for me – please use the donation button on the main page for donations to the parish. A second possibility is to make a direct bank transfer – email me for bank details. Finally you can always push some cash through my letterbox! I'm enormously grateful for your generosity and support, but also very conscious of the challenging financial situation of many people at this time so not expecting people to contribute unless they really want to and can afford to.

The Meditation group next week on Easter Monday will have the last Lectio and Meditation. After that we will be back to our usual pattern of Chant, Teaching and Meditation each Monday 8-9 pm. Shelagh will continue to send out a transcript each week. If anyone else wants to join please contact shelagh.layet@gmail.com

The rosary group continues to meet on Zoom each Tuesday at 2pm. To access this, use this zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/376494958>

Please do reach out if you are experiencing any challenges at this time – whether practical, emotional, spiritual or financial, as there are a number of ways in which the parish can support you.

With special prayers for our celebration of the death and resurrection of Jesus

Fr Tom