



Marple Bridge  
(Hollins Lane)

The Catholic Community Newsletter  
for the parish of  
**St Mary** and **The Annunciation**  
Marple Bridge New Mills



New Mills  
(St Mary's Road)

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www.stmarysmarplebridge.org.uk

www.stmarysnewmills.org.uk

SUNDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2021

SECOND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

**Guidance for attending Mass:**

Because of limited capacity, anyone wishing to attend Mass on **weekends and holy days** will have to pre-book their place. If people arrive without having pre-booked and the church is, or likely to be, at capacity, unfortunately they will not be allowed in.

**To book a place, please telephone between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday**

**NEW MILLS**

**07561 699278**

**MARPLE BRIDGE**

**07723 381589**

Please arrive at the service in time for the stewards to show you to your allocated space. Social distancing continues to operate in the church, always keeping a distance of 2 metres.

**QR Codes for the NHS tracing App are available in both churches**

Times of Holy Mass and Other Services

Sat 16	1830	MB	Vigil Mass	Kate Beighton RIP
Sun 17 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in O.T.	0930	NM	Mass	People of the Parish
Thu 21 St Agnes	1030	NM	Mass	Peter Kane RIP
Sat 23	1830	MB	Vigil Mass	Margaret Helliwell
Sun 24 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in O.T.	0930	NM	Mass	People of the Parish

**THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS (YEAR B)**

First Reading 1 Samuel 3: 3-10, 19  
Psalm Response: **Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.**  
Second Reading 1 Corinth. 6: 13-15, 17-20  
Gospel John 1: 35-42

**There is a second collection** this weekend for the Sick and Retired Priests' fund.

**NRCDDT** (Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust)  
Registered Charity Company No: 7151646 Charity No: 1134449  
Registered Office:  
Willson House, 25 Derby Road, Nottingham NG1 5AW

**Safeguarding Representative:**

Mrs Jo Barber (NM)  
Kate Hunt (Contact on 07790 102011 or via the Presbytery)

**An excellent short mini series** (five 14 minute segments) which has been aired recently on BBC Radio 4 is available still to hear via BBC Sounds. In each segment Hugh Bonneville reads John Barton's 'Story of the Bible'. The link to access is: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/series/m000qlrx>

**Churches Together Service** You are invited to a scheduled Zoom meeting. Time: 4.00pm Sunday 24th January 2021. For the details of how to access this, please contact the presbytery.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Kevin Gover and Mark Whelan. We also pray for Jani Abbs-Brown who is ill. May the Lord support their families and friends at this time.

**LENT COURSE 2021** For a number of years during Lent we have run a weekly activity where we meet to pray together, explore our faith and have some social contact. In the circumstances this year we are going to try to provide something by making use of modern technology. We are very sorry that this year internet access will be needed to join the course but that is unavoidable.

We will use a course produced by the Sycamore team for all who wish to renew their faith in the Season of Lent. Sycamore began at Newman House University Chaplaincy run by Westminster diocese and is now a resource used all round the world. The focus of these sessions is on knowing God and the salvation offered in Jesus Christ and on our response to this offer of salvation in faith, freedom and love.

The course is run by watching a short film, reading some scripture and then having some discussions and prayers. The discussions would be held using Microsoft Teams, which is rather like Zoom, and we will invite participants by sending them an email. The email includes a link allowing you to download Teams if you do not already have it.

Traditionally we have run Lent courses on Tuesday evenings beginning at seven and lasting an hour. We therefore offer this a suggested time but would ask interested people let us know their own best time if Tuesday is not good for them.

You do not have to attend all the sessions and the link to the video will be separate from that to the meeting so you can watch the video and do the readings even if you can't make the meeting.

Wishing you a very holy and peaceful Lent.

This notice will also be sent out through Whatsapp and email. We would be grateful if you could get back to us by email or Whatsapp before the end of January with the following information:

1. I / we are interested in joining the Lent course.
2. We will be able to join the meetings using Microsoft Teams
3. We are free on some or all Tuesday evenings between 17<sup>th</sup> February and 30<sup>th</sup> March 2021
4. We would like to attend the course but are not free on Tuesday evenings and would prefer another time. Please indicate your best time.
5. We cannot attend the discussions but would like to watch the films.

**WAYS TO DONATE** The Diocese has set up a system of online donations, whereby payments can be made to various funds, including individual parishes. Go to <https://www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/> and click on the relevant link at the top of the page. If you are interested in setting up a standing order, contact Jim Howell on 07775602258 or email [jim@bleakhouse.org.uk](mailto:jim@bleakhouse.org.uk) and he will be happy to supply this information.

**TO HAVE THE NEWSLETTER E-MAILED:** contact [news@stmarysmarplebridge.org.uk](mailto:news@stmarysmarplebridge.org.uk)

## Important Coronavirus Notices

*We must not allow our determination and compliance to slacken now that a more infectious variant of the virus is present in the country. It's useful to remind ourselves of the most important of our protective measures.*

**Wrap up warm.** *Latest research indicates that good ventilation can reduce the infection rate indoors by seventy percent. Seventy! So we will continue to keep church well ventilated for Holy Mass. We are pre-heating the venues before Holy Mass begins, but there's no escaping that at this time of year once they are opened for people to enter they will become cold and draughty. In addition to wearing your warmest clothes, you could bring a rug for your knees and a shawl for your shoulders! Nobody wants to avoid Covid only to suffer from hypothermia.*

**Don't mingle.** *During this present lockdown, we are not permitted to use our attendance at church as an occasion for relaxed socialising. The stewards will help us to keep our two metre spacing during Holy Mass, Afterwards, once we are outside the church, we must not linger to mingle with people outside our household or social bubble.*

**Symptoms.** *Nobody should turn up for Holy Mass if they experience a new persistent cough, a high temperature, or a change in their sense of smell or taste.*

**Hand sanitising is not just a gesture.** *Remember that hand sanitiser should be used liberally, and rubbed into all parts of the hands thoroughly.*

**Your nose is part of your face.** *We should take care to wear our face coverings properly at Holy Mass, making sure that mouth and nose remain covered. Face coverings are compulsory at Holy Mass, apart from individuals who are legitimately exempt. A three-layer face covering (single use or washable) should be used if at all possible, and many of our local shops sell three-layer face coverings.*

**Two metres.** *The seating for Holy Mass is arranged to keep individuals or household groups two metres from others. While queuing to enter, and when moving around, we should take care to maintain that two metre spacing.*

**Being allowed to go to Holy Mass doesn't mean we have to.** *Anybody who feels anxious about taking part in Holy Mass should be reassured that we don't have to take part. Our bishops have suspended the Mass Obligation, so nobody is obliged to attend, and the bishops hope that people who are at special risk, especially people subject to shielding, will choose to stay at home. You are not being disloyal, you are not a bad Catholic, if you decide that instead of going to Holy Mass you will stay at home because, acting on your own judgement, you decide that's how you are going to protect your health, protect the health of others, and safeguard the NHS.*

**Thank you** *to everyone whose generosity with their time and talents has made it possible, and continues to make it possible, to achieve Covid Secure certification so we can celebrate Holy Mass with a congregation.*

**Let's continue to pray** *for all those suffering from Covid, the medical staff who care for them, the scientists working to eliminate the disease and advise the government, and those in government and the civil service who are charged with the responsibility of keeping us all safe.*