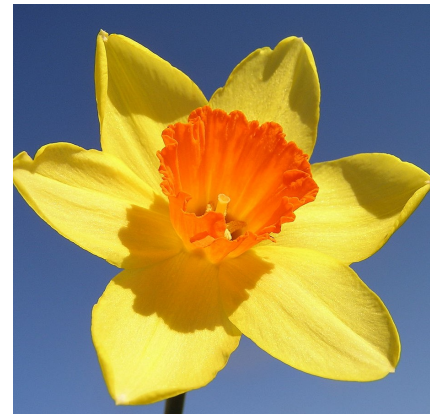


The Catholic Parishes of Borehamwood
 St Teresa of the Child Jesus 291 Shenley Road, WD6 1TG
 SS John Fisher & Thomas More 28 Rossington Ave, WD6 4LA
borehamwood@rcdow.org.uk www.catholicparishesofborehamwood.org

The Catholic Parish of Carpenders Park & South Oxhey
 St Joseph's Church, Oxhey Drove Watford WD19 7SW
carpenderspark@rcdow.org.uk www.carpenderspark.org.uk



Happy St David's Day - & Spring is on the way!

2nd Sunday of Lent : (Year B) 28th February 2021

Fr. Dominic McKenna Parish Priest (based at St Teresa's)	Tel: 020 8953 1294
Sue Partington Parish Admin (based at St Teresa's)	Tel: 020 8953 1294
<i>Monday to Thursday: 9.30am—4.30pm. suepartington@rcdow.org.uk</i>	
Fr John Warnaby Asst Priest (based at St Joseph's)	Tel: 0208 428 0088
Jackie Faria Parish Admin (based at St Joseph's)	Tel: 0208 428 0088

St Teresa's church is monitored by CCTV cameras 24 hours a day. Live streaming of all services takes place at St Teresa's and can be viewed at www.churchservices.tv/borehamwood or through the link on our website

FIRE SAFETY NOTICE: If anyone has difficulty in hearing, walking or anything else that may slow down safe exit in the event of a fire, please let us know before the service starts, so that we can arrange for assistance for you.

Saturday 27th February	Vigil: 2nd Sunday	6pm	Michael Brady RIP
Sunday 28th February	2nd Sunday of Lent	8.30am 10am	Mamie McHale RIP Albert Samaranayake RIP
Monday 1st March	St David	9.15am	Johnny Corry RIP (Ann)
Tuesday 2nd March	Lent Feria	9.15am	Art & Francis Wassam RIP (Ann)
Wednesday 3rd March	No Mass		
Thursday 4th March	Lent Feria	9.15am	John Mangan RIP (Ann)
Friday 5th March	Lent Feria	9.15am	Ann & Geraldine Murphy RIP (Ann)
Saturday 6th March	Vigil: 3rd Sunday	6pm	Anna & Val Kalnins RIP (Ann)

Liturgy of the Word: 28th February 2021

Entrance Antiphon: *Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face from me.*

Responsorial Psalm: *I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.*

Gospel Acclamation: *Glory and praise to you, O Christ! From the bright cloud the Father's voice was heard: "This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him." Glory and praise to you, O Christ!*

Next week's readings: *Exodus 20:1-17, Psalm 18:8-11 resp. John 6:68, 1Corinthians 1:22-25, John 2:13-25*

Fr. Dominic writes:

The Sacrifice of Isaac - this is a hard ask!

The story of God asking Abraham to sacrifice his son Isaac is a strange story. In truth, it is a shocking story. What is most disturbing is the image of God that comes across. We must try to understand what the story is meant to convey. It has something very important to teach us. As a story it is a very clever one. It sets out in the opposite direction to that in which it hopes to leave the listener. It starts out by seeming to say that God approves of human sacrifice and even, on occasion, demands it. But its object is to show the exact opposite. It tries to show us that human sacrifice is, in fact, abhorrent to God. What God appears to ask of Abraham is so cruel, and unjust it makes us want to cry out 'Stop! This is wrong. This is terrible!' we are revolted by the idea of the elderly Abraham being asked by God to sacrifice his son Isaac. Our sense of revulsion is heightened by the special burden of hope that rested on Isaac's youthful shoulders - the fulfilment of the promise that Abraham would have numerous descendants.

The aim of the story is to evoke horror at the idea of God demanding the sacrifice of human beings. Abraham lived among the Canaanites who practiced human sacrifice. He must have somehow got the idea that God was demanding this deed from him. But showed him otherwise. This was meant to put an end to human sacrifices to God. Why did God test Abraham? So that the world would know that if anyone tells us, 'I am committing murder in the name of God,' we'll know that he is a liar. That is the unanimous opinion of the Orthodox Jewish Tradition. Sadly, killing in the name of God has been widely practised down the ages. In our own day there are people who kill for religious beliefs and who think that by doing so they are honouring God. Sadly there are right-wing racists, Muslim terrorists, regimes who decide that particular groups are expendable and who think that God is with them in their desire to murder another human being who has been created by God in his image. Countries who put God into their manifestos and then have Capital punishment and don't see the irony are so misguided and wrong headed.

We must examine our consciences and see if we have any sympathy with those who murder supposedly in the name of God!

The Financials....

Monthly Standing Orders: £3,106

last two week's Offertory combined-

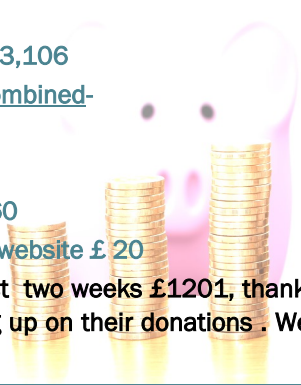
Envelopes £ 555

Loose Plate £266

Contactless donations £ 360

Virgin Money Donations via website £ 20

Total weekly income for last two weeks £1201, thank you to everyone who is catching up on their donations . We appreciate your generosity.



Funerals taking place, these are subject to restricted numbers, please keep them and their families in your prayers

Giovanna Diaferia 3rd March, 11am St Teresa's

Vincenzo Galdo 4th March, 11am, St Teresa's

May they rest in peace & rise in glory



Why not change the way you donate?

Thank you for all those of you who pay by envelopes and have been making up for weeks that they have missed. We are grateful for any donations that you make but were wondering if you had thought about donating regularly by way of a standing order. You won't need that Sunday scramble for cash for the plate or for the fiddly envelopes and once set up you can forget about it! All you need to do is fill in a form, return it to us & let us do the rest. Having less cash in the church is much safer for us all. Contact us if you would like to make the change!! Of course we have our **new contactless machine** at St Teresa's but there's only so much it can do - you have to be here in person! So please don't forget to use our **Virgin Money Giving**, which can be accessed via their site or by clicking on the button on our website.



Look at the "About us" page on the website & you will see



Please make sure that you book your spaces for week-end masses, before you attend. We have to keep to the maximum of 80 in the church & we can only do this if you pre-book. **Even if you use the QR code for the Government's track & trace, you still need to pre book your spaces .**

The pre book is to make sure that we do not exceed the maximum numbers in church & we keep you all safe. If you don't have access to the internet, please book through the parish office. **A large number of people just turned up to the 10am mass last week and we exceeded the capacity. If this happens again we will have no option but to cancel the Mass, we have to play by the rules.** Just turning up without booking is unfair to those who go to the trouble of pre booking and could be put at risk by overcrowding & unfair to the volunteers who steward the Masses. Please don't be selfish



Protecting your privacy: Any personal details that you provide to this parish, (name, address, email, telephone number etc.) will be held on file & stored on the parish computer securely. If applicable, your details will also

be entered into the appropriate Sacramental Register. For Volunteers groups, Readers, Eucharistic Ministers etc., your details will be shared with other group members in this parish to enable you to arrange cover etc. If you do not wish your details to be shared, please let the Parish Office know **You can read our full privacy policy on rcdow.org.uk/diocese/privacy-policy**



Confirmation 2021 :If you have missed the deadline for submitting your letter of application, you must get in touch immediately. The links for the programme will go out next week and if we haven't heard from you we will not send the link to you & you will be withdrawn from the programme. Dates have been sent out this week, please confirm safe receipt.



First Holy Communion 2021. Emails containing the link to the second session have now been sent out. If you have not yet replied to confirm session one has been completed then you have not been sent the second link. If we do not hear from you by the end of this weekend, your child will be withdrawn from the programme.



If you can help the Foodbank this week they are short of deodorant, shampoo, shower gel, toilet rolls & household cleaning products. Thank you as ever for your continuing generosity.



We have received a thank you from PACT, one of the organisations who run the presents for prisoners children. You may recall that this year they asked for you to send £10 book tokens instead due to the COVID restrictions in place. More than 600 prisoners' children received book tokens this time it was especially important last Christmas as it let the child know that their mum or dad hadn't forgotten about them, despite the fact that it had been months since they had last met face to face. We know you all have calls on your time & money, yet you still help out. Thank you!



Lent Resources. Please visit our website to view resources that we have gathered together that may be of help to you this year. These include a Stations of the Cross, Faith sharing & a Lent Calendar. If you are unable to visit the website, we can send the links across to you.



We are approaching the end of the 2020/2021 tax Year and a big thank you to all who Gift Aid their donations. Please can you let us know if your tax status has changed and you are no longer able to Gift Aid. You do not have to be a big UK tax payer to Gift Aid, but you only have to pay the same amount in tax as you allow the charity to claim, which is 25p for every £1. For example, if you donate £100 in total, we can claim an extra £25 and so you must pay at least £25 in tax that year. Interested? Please let us know & we can send you out a form to complete & we will do the rest!