

Dear parishioners,

Following the latest update from the PM, we now know that we will probably have to wait till after 4th July to reopen our church, most likely with restrictions.

12/05/2020 - **Bishop Mark**: "I write to you this morning following governmental announcements in the past 24 hours. Sadly, the first stage of the re-opening of the churches may be delayed for at least two months. This is the statement issued by the Bishops of England and Wales last night in response to the Government's statements and the document "Our Plan to Rebuild" on society re-emerging from the national lockdown: The timing and the manner of the opening of churches touches profound sensitivities and spiritual needs. The Government's document and statements fail to recognise this. The Government's position, established today, includes these steps aimed at opening churches as soon as possible: the establishment of a task force for places of worship, to work closely with 'stakeholders' in ensuring that premises are COVID-19 secure; and heeding the experience of other countries in which churches are already open for worship. In dialogue with the Government, the Catholic Church will continue its engagement in this process and has already submitted a detailed plan, in full accordance with public health guidelines, for churches to be opened for private prayer. The Church is ready to play its full part in the task force, understanding that this includes the possible earlier use of churches for private prayer, as a first safe step towards their use for public worship".

- In the light of this expected delay in getting back into church, about 14 of us were privileged to meet virtually last Sunday, **via Zoom**, for our coffee morning in the Parish Hall. Our host, Shelagh Humphries, had a few problems with echos..echos at the beginning. At the outset we remembered **Vivienne Bradley**, who died on the Feast of St George. Vivienne catered for us in the Parish Hall over a number of years and organised our pilgrimages to Walsingham. RIP
- Shelagh informed the group that she and her brother had been working on a **Website for the Parish**. She has purchased a year worth of web hosting services and a domain name. The site has been activated and the basic site is up and running. Please see details in her email to me below on 09/05/2020.

The majority of you took part in the Virtual coffee morning on Sunday and may already have the domain name in writing.

I hereby invite you to pass on this email to others and thereby advertise the details of the Website and **Virtual Coffee morning this coming Sunday**.

Please liase with Shelagh and let her know if, and how, you can help us to continue building our website.

We live in unprecedented times. We are having to change our way of living. We are having to reach out to people, to humanity via modern technology.

God bless you all and thank you for reaching out to others.

Jim