

## **ST EDMUND'S PARISH BUNGAY AND HARLESTON**

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### **EMERGENCY NEWSLETTER No 34** for 17 JANUARY 2021

*Today is the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)*

## **NO MASS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

**Please note that there will be no Mass until further notice. Regulations by both Government and Church seem to change at very short notice. I have permission from Bishop Alan to suspend Mass for the time being, mainly because I am in the top risk group for self-isolating. For latest news, please see our website or newsletters (these are published and posted on the website each week on Friday evenings).**

### **EXTRACT FROM THE BISHOP'S LETTER**

Dear Abbot Charles,

Thank you for your email and I quite understand why the Chair of your parish Council has requested that you should not be celebrating public Mass in the parish and I concur with her request.

I am advising priests that ... our sacred spaces, together with the offering of Mass, contribute greatly to the personal resilience and inner strength of people and assist in the mental and spiritual health of many. Until we are told otherwise by the Government, we should try to remain open as far as possible ... it does not matter how many people come (either one or the legal number for the size of the church) – at least Mass is available for those who still wish to attend. It is an important principle.

I must say again that, as a very vulnerable adult, you yourself should not be entering the church at all but should be self isolating in the presbytery.

Please remain safe in these troubling times and be assured of my good wishes and prayers for you and your parish community.

In Christ, +Alan, Bishop of East Anglia.

### **OUR ANNUAL CALAIS APPEAL**

Over the past few years parishioners have been extraordinarily generous in donation material goods and money to help the plight of refugees in Calais.

According to figures from Human Rights Observers (HRO), a non-profit organisation that monitors police evictions in northern France, there were 973 evictions in Calais in 2020 – nearly three a day, and more than double the 452 recorded in 2018. In December alone, 526 tents were seized and 41 arrests were made. The authorities are felling woods round

Calais so there is no shelter, and distribution points for food and wood provided by the charities have been reduced. In cold and relentless wet weather the situation is dire.

You can read more details here: <https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2021/jan/13/like-torture-calais-police-accused-of-continued-migrant-rights-abuses> (see under 'Latest News' for more).

We cannot now have a second collection as there is no Mass. Please can you give generously online, or - if this is not possible - through Father Charles at the Presbytery (please use the letterbox but do not ring the bell.) <http://www.laubergedesmigrants.fr/en/donate-2/>

## **NEXT PARISH ON-LINE COFFEE ZOOM**

Friday 22<sup>th</sup> January at 11am. E-mail Shirley Kalinauckas ([shirleykalinauckas@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:shirleykalinauckas@yahoo.co.uk) or 01379 586884) for the code.

## **RE-INTRODUCTION OF PRAYER TIME**

Now that Mass is again suspended, we are re-establishing two slots for prayer each week: They will be on **SUNDAYS from 10.30 – 11.00 am (Eucharistic adoration)** and on **Thursdays from 12.00 -12.30 pm (prayer before the tabernacle)**. Please sit where indicated by the steward.

## **FRANCES DURACK RIP**

Pray for the Repose of the Soul of Frances Durack, a parishioner who died recently age 94. Fr Martin will conduct her Requiem Mass and funeral at St Edmund's Church prior to her burial with her husband in our cemetery.

## **NEW PARISH INTERVIEW**

There is a new parish interview on our website with Sue Allen from Bungay. Sue was received into the Church at St Edmund's in June 2019, and is a regular attender at our parish discussion group, and Zoom coffee breaks. To read it visit <https://www.stedmundsrcbungay.org.uk/sue-allen/>.