

## THE PARISHES OF ST ETHELBERT LEOMINSTER and ST JOSEPH BROMYARD

Websites: [www.st-ethelberts.org.uk](http://www.st-ethelberts.org.uk) and [www.catholicchurchbromyard.org.uk](http://www.catholicchurchbromyard.org.uk)

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### Parish Update: 28<sup>th</sup> March 2020

We have come to the end of a rather extraordinary week. Our country, like many others has 'locked down' in order to reduce the spread of the coronavirus and life as we knew it has come to an abrupt halt. Furthermore our churches have had to close their doors and I am sure that there are many who mourn the fact that they can no longer attend Mass or spend a few moments in quiet prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. We are indeed living in difficult times and need to storm heaven with our prayers.

Last night (Friday) Pope Francis lead a very moving prayer service in from of St Peter's Square during which he reflected of the Gospel story of Jesus calming the storm on the Sea of Galilee. (Mk: 35-41) The text of the Pope's meditation can be found on the Vatican website and the link is:

[http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/homilies/2020/documents/papa-francesco\\_20200327\\_omelia-epidemia.html](http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/homilies/2020/documents/papa-francesco_20200327_omelia-epidemia.html)

The popes message is certainly worth reflecting on during these troubled times.

Although our church doors are closed at the present time, we priests have been asked to continue to celebrate Mass in private so that the saving action of Jesus through his suffering death and resurrection continue to be made present in our word. I must admit that I find it a very strange experience celebrating Mass in an empty Church, but as I celebrate the Mass I unite myself spiritually with each one of you and pray that the Lord will protect you. This coming week I will celebrate mass at 12 noon each day. Please let me know of anyone you think is need of special prayers at the moment and I will place their names on the altar as I celebrate the Mass.

May God's blessing be with you and may he grant all of us the faith and hope we need at present.

Fr Paul

Here is a link to a website that lists lots of streamed services:

<https://www.churchservices.tv/>

This link is to services in Walsingham: <https://www.walsingham.org.uk/live-stream/>

You can watch the Pope's daily Mass by Googling "YouTube Pope Francis Mass"