



# Weekly News SHEET

## COVID 19 - The Old Rectory - Letter Fr John

### COVID - 19

The restrictions associated with COVID - 19 march on. Your safety and that of our fellow parishioners are at the forefront of all the actions that are taken in church. So please support, by following instructions, the volunteers who, by their work, allow our churches to remain open.

### Communication

Weekly News Sheet.

.New Web Site ([HYPERLINK](http://www.form) "<http://www.form>" <https://www.formbycatholiccommunity.org.uk>)

Web Streaming YouTube using the Formby Catholic Community Channel.

FACEBOOK Page of Formby Catholic Community.

email: [HYPERLINK](mailto:fcc@rcaol.org.uk) "<mailto:fcc@rcaol.org.uk>" [fcc@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:fcc@rcaol.org.uk)

### Weekly Giving

St Anne's.	£88.00
St Jerome's.	£153.00
Our Lady's	£626.05

### Mass Timings

#### St Jerome's:

Saturday: 6pm

#### Our Lady of Compassion

Wednesday: 12 noon

Sunday: 9am and 11 am

### The Old Rectory

Work has now started on the renovation of the four 'Retired Priests' Flats in the Old Rectory. The renovation will ensure the continued safety and comfort of the 'Retired Priests' and two of the flats is where Fr Bernard and Fr John Bradley will retire into. The work is due to be completed by the end of the month, so there will be frantic comings and goings during the next weeks in order to complete the work on time.

Please keep Fr Bernard and Fr John in your prayers as they move to their new home especially after they have lived in their current homes for so long. Moving anytime is difficult but moving in the Autumn of your years is more traumatic and requires support and understanding from us all.

Let us ask Our Lady and Mother to intercede to her Son for them; that they may have a peaceful and long retirement in their new homes.

### Cleaning /Flower Team

This week has seen the Prime Minister outlining his current analysis of the COVID - 19 situation in the UK. He has tightened the number of restrictions, especially those associated with gatherings of people. As a result the volunteers, who provide the flower arrangements for Our Lady's church have decided not to come into the church to provide this service until the social gathering rules are relaxed again. In the same way other volunteers who provide services have been advised not to come in, for their safety, until the situation becomes clearer and safer. Fr John will offer a Mass for the intentions of all volunteers at Next Sunday's 11 o'clock Mass. Thank you for your continued service and we all hope that you will be back carrying out your essential work for the Glory of the Lord.

### Pray for All at this time

CAFOD has funded the Handmaid Sisters of the Holy Child Jesus to provide PPE for doctors and nurses at the Handmaids Catholic Health Clinic & Maternity Unit, in Pendembu, Sierra Leone.

"My name is Sister Gertrude. I'm washing my hands because this has always been part of hospital practice but we're now protecting ourselves from COVID-19. We're wearing face masks to protect ourselves, and we keep social distance. We're not sure of our environment anymore. We don't know who is infected and who is not. Some show symptoms, some do not. So, you wear your mask to put a barrier between yourself and others. Being a private hospital, the government has not really intervened with PPE, so we thank God that CAFOD has stepped in and provided PPE for us – face masks, gloves, hand sanitiser, liquid hand-washing soap, boots. So we thank God for them. They are giving us confidence to go on. We beg by the grace of God, if you are able to remember us in this fight, we can save lives.

We are advising patients about symptoms of COVID – tiredness, dry cough, fever. So when they see those symptoms, they should know it's not ordinary malaria.

***"I want to thank CAFOD***

Dear Parishioners

Every day, I have reason to be thankful for so many good people in our three parishes who work hard for our communities. As I have mentioned before, much of this work is carried on quietly and out of sight. Whether stewards, counters, florists, cleaners or others, the list is long. Many of these tasks are menial and require a rolling up of the sleeves. But I have been so encouraged by this spirit of service. Many of our people, of course, have not been able to return to their works of service because of the pandemic, and are very keen to do so. But to those who have been able to carry on with their work safely, I extend a very sincere 'thank you'.

'Safely' is a word that is becoming more important again. I have been wondering how the rather basic church life we have at the moment is going to look in the coming weeks in the face of further restrictions. The flower ladies at Our Lady's, who have been doing a magnificent job in embellishing the church in these difficult times, have decided to withdraw for the time being, to shield during the new restrictions. Thank you ladies for all you have done! It is likely that other helpers will have to do the same. My thanks to each one of them!

Whilst we all carry the responsibility to take proper care of ourselves at this time, we are also responsible for each other. We all know the practical things we can do, especially for those who need us most. But the focus now is on our electronic and printed modes of outreach, to develop them further and provide greater support. More news about this work in the coming weeks.

Above all, let us keep our eyes on the Lord. Finding time each day for a little quiet and prayer will bring peace and light to our lives. So much appears uncertain at the moment, but the Lord is our rock and he is always with us.

Please stay safe in these days.  
God bless you and your loved ones.

Father John

This is an occasion for all of us – especially in families – to

FR JOHN

pray more intensely for each illness. We should pray also for nurses and medical staff and them as they place their own

other and especially for those who have succumbed to the those at the frontlines – especially volunteers, doctors, other carers, including clergy – that the Lord will protect wellbeing at risk in the service of all.