**ST PETER APOSTLE CHURCH, RUSHDEN**

Parish Priest: Rev Joe Walsh

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Facebook: [www.facebook.com/StPeterApostleRCChurchRushden](http://www.facebook.com/StPeterApostleRCChurchRushden)

**EIGHTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR C**

**27th February 2022**

**PREFACE:**  Number 4

**EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**: Number 3

**MYSTERY OF FAITH:** We proclaim your death, O Lord …

**Sat:** 6:30pm - Michele Campanaro

**Sun:** 10:00am - The People of St Peter’s

 living & deceased

**Tue:** 9:30am - Healing Intention

**Wed:** 9:30am - Holy Souls

 7:30pm - J. Carter

**Thu:** 9:30am - The Kuk family

**Fri:** 7:30pm - Mary Ellen & John Healy

**Sat:** 6:30pm - Fedele Girardi

**Sun:** 10:00am - The People of St Peter’s

 living & deceased

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 11am - 11:30am

Sunday School: 11:15 -12 noon in the Parish Hall Lounge

Rosary: Wednesday at 7:10pm

**Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Antonina Gudz, Michele Campanaro, Elizabeth Butler, Daniel Byrne, Ann Sloan, Andrew McGhee, Peverell, Patrick Murray, Ethel Murray, James Metcalf, Silvestro Leone, Bridget Thornbury, John Hennessy, Sean Mullan, Robert Bannan, Maher, Berrill and Catherine Rice.

**REMEMBERING IN PRAYER**

Mike, Anna, Alex, Fr Phillip, Marie, Claire & family, Christine Kimpton, Teresa Horsler, Roberto, Linda, Mark & Maria and family, Pauline Pearson, Betty, Emily and Sylvia.

If you have a particular intention that you would like us to pray for, please contact the Parish Office and it will be included here.

**OFFERTORY:** Last week’s collection amounted to £683.65. Thank you very much.

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION:** If you wish to contribute financially, please consider making either a one-off donation or setting up a regular payment. This can be done using the following details:

Account name:  R.C.D.N. St Peter’s Rushden

Bank name:  NatWest; Sort Code: 60-06-11

Account Number:  91052432

**ASH WEDNESDAY:** Begins the Holy season of Lent this week on March 2nd. Blessing and imposition of ashes will take place at both Masses. Ash Wednesday is a day of Fasting and Abstinence.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** Will take place at 7pm on Fridays during Lent.

**YOUR SYMPATHY:** Is requested for the family and friends of Joyce Betts of Thrapston who died last Monday. May she rest in peace.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE - NEW**

With the lifting of all legally required Coronavirus restrictions by the government, Fr Joe and Deacon Peter ask that you continue to wear face coverings when coming to Mass and in all our church buildings please, unless for medical reasons you are unable to do so. The measures that are now in place within the church will remain in place for now, so please continue to act carefully and exercise personal judgement to manage your own risk and be sensitive to the concerns of others.

**UCM NEWS:** The newspaper for Spring 2022 has just arrived and is available in church.

**GIVING:** Thank you to all those that have made donations by BACS, we really do appreciate it as well as donations through the donation station.

**CONFIRMATION 2022:** As a candidate for the sacrament and in Year 7 or over, please fill in the slip and put it in the Confirmation box.

**FOODBANK DONATIONS:** There is a comprehensive list of requested items at the back of church for example tinned meat & fish, peas and carrots, jam, coffee, shampoo please see list. **No other items** please are at present required. Thank you for your kind donations.

**WOMEN’S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER:** This year’s service will be on Friday March 4th at 2pm at St Mary's Anglican Church, Rushden.

**SYNOD NEWS**

“Synods are an ancient form of church gatherings, stretching back to the Acts of the Apostles. Now Pope Francis is asking us to gather in the same way. This synodal process is about graceful listening and graceful speaking, in which each person’s contribution is valued”. Bishop David

The church has been seen as going through the motions of listening, but without hearing and as a result people have become disillusioned, but now with Pope Francis’s intervention we have the chance to change that. The Church that preaches inclusion has failed to recognise that all people are made in the image of likeness of God and as a result people feel alienated. But we now have the chance to extend our arms in compassion and break the mould of exclusion.

The Church has lost touch with people’s lives and this is our opportunity to re-connect remembering that the Catholic experience extends beyond the pews of our churches and should reach into every corner of our community. It’s easy for those of us who care to be impatient and for some to say that the shifts may be small and will take time to evolve but no matter how small the shifts may be at this time, they are better than no shift at all.

We are facing into unknown territory. We don’t know what will unfold over the next 10 to 20 years or what the Church will look like. What we do know is that God remains unchanged. He is always the same - past, present and future. What we do know is that God will be with us. As Jesus reassured his disciples: “I will be with you always, yes, to the end of time”.

Pope Francis tells us that our journey together will require that we change not just our way of thinking but our structures in order to live out God’s call for the Church - that in the words of the Second Vatican Council), we should read ‘the signs of the times’. This is not about producing more documents but to inspire people to dream about the kind of church we are called to be, to make people’s hopes flourish, to bind up wounds, to build bridges, to learn from one another and to warm hearts.

The theme of journey at this time allows us to envisage moving from where we are to where we hope to be. The conversations and the experiences along the way make the journey what it is. To those who do not believe in the process, who feel that it is useless, who feel disillusioned enough not to participate, who feel too tired or overwhelmed to take part I would ask, please do nothing to hinder it but instead pray for renewal and for God’s will to become clear on our path.