

St Teresa & St John Southworth Churches, Cleveleys

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ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE BISHOPS OF ENGLAND AND WALES

The Bishops of England and Wales have announced that there will be no celebration of public Mass in our churches, nor any other public Church service, or church meetings, after this Friday, 20 March until further notice.

However, St Teresa's church will be open each day for private prayer and visits, with some prayer sheets available as you come into church. (Please take them home with you if you use these.) Mass will still be celebrated by Fr Chris in private, and Mass Intentions already handed in will be said, as will any future intentions.

We will continue to post on here regularly to keep you up to date with any developments, but we encourage everyone to follow public health advice. Currently this is - If you or anyone in your household has any symptoms (new persistent cough or high temperature), you must self isolate for 14 days. Anyone over 70 with one of the listed health conditions should put in place social distancing and only leave the house if absolutely necessary.

If any of our community cannot get out and has no help to get supplies in, contact us and we will see what we can do to help. We call on all those who are able to, to love your neighbour, and check on those who live alone, and who are vulnerable.

Prayer is very important at this time. It is prayer and the presence of Christ in our community as 'the body of Christ' that binds us together, whether we can physically get together or not. We are never alone when Christ is present with us.

"In a Christian Community everything depends upon whether each individual is an indispensable link in a chain. Only when even the smallest link is securely interlocked is the chain unbreakable...Every Christian community must realise that not only do the weak need the strong, but also that the strong cannot exist without the weak." D Bonhoeffer.

God Bless, and stay safe,

Fr Chris

"Tonight before falling asleep think about when we will return to the street, when we hug again, when all the shopping together will seem like a party. Let's think about when coffees will return to the bar, the small talk, the photos close to each other. We think about when it will all be a memory but normalcy will seem an unexpected and beautiful gift. We will love everything that has so far seemed futile to us. Every second will be precious - swims at the sea, the sun until late, sunsets, toasts, laughter. We will go back to laughing together. Strength and courage. See you soon."

Pope Francis