

Parishes of Newent and the Forest
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Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time
18th October 2020

Sunday Mass available from 3pm)

Friday Talk available from 9am)

<https://vimeo.com/forestrcchurch>

The bigger picture

I've heard of individuals who are praying and fasting about this pandemic. Some who are praying for the Pope's intentions. Two who are praying for Our Lady's intentions. Looking at the bigger picture is good. Reflection so that we can learn is good.

These are the questions that have been put to the Gloucester Deanery. The area of the three Gloucester parishes, plus Churchdown and Brockworth plus ourselves in Newent and the Forest.

1. What have we learnt as a Church since the start of Lockdown? What has worked and what has not?
2. How has the Deanery, Diocese helped us? In parallel with the COVID directives for Churches, would a simplified version have been helpful?
3. In the light of the Pope's Encyclical Fratelli tutti, how could we encourage one another to grow in fraternity towards others especially the poor?
4. Where do we go from here? We don't know what lies ahead but even now are there gaps that need to be filled? i.e in our Parish we had the need to enable lay Ministers to take a Communion Service and also learning how to do things online. Can experience be shared within the Deanery?

I've always found reflection helpful. When faced with a crisis I've drawn strength from the bigger picture. For me the phrase 'We are all in this together' includes the Communion of Saints. Saints to be, here on earth, and the Saints who have already arrived in heaven.

'Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit.' Zechariah 4:6

Bless you all.

Barnabas

Second collection this weekend for World Mission Sunday

This charity continues the mission of Jesus by sending missionaries throughout the world to support the most vulnerable in our society and to share God's love with all people. (*'Here I am, send me!'* Isaiah 6:8)

For more information and to allow children to follow the Gospel there are free activity sheets at

<https://missiontogether.org.uk/calendar/home-and-parish-resources/>

COVID Track and Trace

'QR Posters' are in the progress of being put up in all churches. Once you have downloaded the NHS COVID-19 APP from the Apple 'App Store' or 'Google Play' you can then scan the QR Code with your phone, which is on the poster when you enter a Church. This is to help trace and stop the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID 19).

Saturday Vigil Masses to be resumed

Saturday Vigil Masses will resume as 'normal' on alternate Saturdays starting on Saturday 31st October at St Margaret Mary in Coleford at 6pm. The following week on Saturday 7th November at St Joseph in Lydney at 6pm. Details for booking will be in the newsletter.

Masses

Please book a place by phoning the following contacts for each Church, thank you.

Sunday 18 th	9am Cinderford	To book phone Fiona 01594 516175
	11am Newent	To book phone Mary 01531 822 156
Tuesday 20 th	10am Coleford	To book phone Beverley 01594 861345
Wednesday 21 st	12noon Newent	To book phone Mary 01531 822 156
Thursday 22 nd	10am Lydney	To book phone Dot and Brian 01594 560054