



CORONAVIRUS: SUSPENSION OF PUBLIC WORSHIP

Dear Friends,

The Archbishops have today (17th March 2020) taken the decision to suspend public worship in our churches as a response to the threat of Coronavirus. This will mean that there will be **no services at St. Saviour's in which the public may participate.**

However, as the Archbishops also say, this does not mean that the Church – or indeed St. Saviour's – has “shut up shop”. St. Saviour's will remain **open as usual** from 8.30am to 5pm for prayer, reflection, contemplation and to light a candle. Morning and Evening Prayer will still be said at 8.30am and 5pm.

Masses will also continue to be celebrated on a daily basis at St. Saviour's, and on Sundays – and we are firmly of the view that it is vital that this happens - at the usual times during the week (and at 10.30am on Sunday), where the clergy will offer the Holy Sacrifice on behalf of all the people of God and for the intention of the entire parish. Given the Archbishops' directions, **please do not attend these Masses.**

Whilst you may not be able to participate directly by attending, you are able to **participate spiritually** by praying at the times the clergy are offering Mass and by using the Act of Spiritual Communion, the use of which I strongly commend to all of you (copies of which are available on the table inside church and on Facebook). We will ensure that the Collect for Sundays and the Gospel readings are uploaded on Facebook for this purpose.

We are giving further thought as to the ways in which you may be supported spiritually and pastorally and will provide further updates in the near future.

In the meantime, this comes with the assurance of our prayers.

May the good Lord deliver us.

Fr. Mark McAULAY SSC (Parish Priest & Vicar)