



# STONYHURST COLLEGE

3<sup>rd</sup> February 2021

Dear Retreatant,

We are delighted to invite you to the 2021 Virtual Holy Week Retreat, from Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April to Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> April.

As you will appreciate, Covid-19 restrictions mean that we sadly cannot welcome any Retreatants to join us on-site for the Retreat this year. We are therefore offering a fully on-line programme for the weekend. Though we are greatly disappointed not to be able to welcome you in person, the Retreat is a vital component of the College's annual calendar and we were determined to see it go ahead this year, despite the challenges.

## Virtual Holy Week Retreat 2021

Through our new Holy Week Retreat webpages on the Stonyhurst Enterprises website, we intend to deliver as similar a programme as possible to our normal offering. As usual, we will have Jesuit and lay speakers helping us to reflect on Easter themes and the Catholic mission in our world today; individual Spiritual Direction will be offered on a limited basis; young people and children will be able to access activity sessions and times of prayer, and our Triduum will be streamed live from St Peter's Church, with musical offerings from the Stonyhurst student choir (in line with government guidelines).

We are of course conscious that the social element of the Retreat is a core aspect that draws many to join us over the Easter weekend and this is something that will be greatly missed from the virtual weekend. We very much hope that Retreatants will make arrangements to meet virtually with their friends and family in the break-times of the programme, and particular time has been allotted for this on Holy Saturday.

Given its virtual nature, there will be no set charge for attending the Retreat this year. As you will appreciate, however, moving the Retreat online is not without its costs. We would be very grateful therefore for any donation you feel able to make. We appreciate that for many, this has been a year of unique financial pressures. We would like to emphasise that anyone who wishes to is able to access this Retreat, regardless of whether they are able to make a donation or not. If you do feel able to make a contribution, please email Beverley Sillitoe, Association Office Manager, who will send you a WorldPay payment link that will enable you to make your donation to the retreat online. Please email: [b.sillitoe@stonyhurst.ac.uk](mailto:b.sillitoe@stonyhurst.ac.uk)

There are no limitations in terms of numbers accessing the Holy Week Retreat online. However, to give us an indication of numbers, we would be grateful if you could register in advance.

**You can access the Holy Week Retreat Virtual Programme and register your place [here](#).**

## Spiritual Direction

Spiritual Direction is an important part of the Retreat programme and will be offered on a first come, first served basis. As part of the registration process, please indicate if you wish to receive more information regarding Spiritual Direction. Availability is limited and therefore registrations for Spiritual Direction will be taken up until 1<sup>st</sup> March.



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For all of us this has been a year of unique challenges, so perhaps it is more important than ever to touch base with the spiritual roots that sustain us every day. As we contemplate the passion of the Lord and relive the joy of the resurrection we can look for echoes in our own lives and celebrate them with the wider Stonyhurst community.

With warmest regards,

Catherine Hanley

College Lay Chaplain

Fr Tim Curtis SJ

Jesuit Chaplain

Rebecca Cowley

Director of Enterprises

Beverley Sillitoe

Association Office Manager



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