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## FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A SUNDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2020

Dear Parishioners,

*We're open! They're words I've not been able to say for a long time. But it was with great joy (and emotion!) that we opened the doors of St Christopher's on Monday morning for the first Public Mass since the middle of March.*

*It has been lovely to see so many of you again, and to welcome you back home to Holy Mass. It has also been lovely to hear from so many of you over the past week – either by e-mail, telephone or letter. I completely understand, that for a lot of parishioners, now is not the right time for you to return to Mass – and I think we must take things slowly to begin with. I would imagine that we're going to be living this 'new normal' for some time yet. We continue to pray for each other, looking forward in hope to the day when we can all be reunited together.*

*A big "THANK YOU" to those who have volunteered to act as stewards at Holy Mass. Without them, we wouldn't be able to be open. It isn't too late to volunteer. The only requirements are that you are fit and healthy, and not shielding or self-isolating. It is lovely that we have stewarding teams made up of both of our parishes.*

*The building works are progressing well at St Thomas's. The ceiling has now been taken down in the church following the flooding, and roof timbers can now dry out after the years of water ingress. The roofers have battled with rain, soaring temperatures and are finally nearing the end of their part of what has become a major building project! All of the carpets were removed this week to allow the soaked floor beneath to dry out, and the repairs to the damaged Parquet flooring have begun. I don't know when we will be able to reopen St Thomas's, but I will keep you posted. It will definitely be worth the wait – there'll be no buckets to fall over to start with! Do watch the parish website to see how things are progressing!*

*We pray for the school community at Christopher's as they begin the final week of the school year. Congratulations again to Mr Babarczy, and all of the staff, for enabling every child to be in school for the last couple of weeks. This has taken a tremendous amount of organisation and effort!*

*Following a number of requests for an evening Mass mid-week, we are going to try having Holy Mass at 7.00 p.m. on a Thursday evening (rather than a Monday). I know this is not what we had before the lockdown, but I think that it is worth trying as it will also mean that we can provide an evening Mass within the Deanery on a Thursday. We will – also following requests – try having Holy [Half-]Hour and Evening Prayer on a Monday evening, something myself and Gerard have been streaming throughout the lockdown.*

*Please, let's keep praying for each other and stay safe!*

*God bless, Fr Craig.*

### KEY CONTACTS

#### PARISH PRIEST

Rev Fr Craig Szmidt BA STB

The Presbytery

115 Wolverhampton Road  
Codsall, WV8 1PF

01902 842891

pp.stchristopher.codsall@rcaob.org.uk

#### PERMANENT DEACON

Rev Mr Steve Walters

#### PARISH SISTERS

Sisters of Saint Joseph of Tarbes

33 Alameda Gardens

01902 751614

#### PARISH SECRETARIES

**Codsall:** Anne Shipley

**Tettenhall:** Linda Allen

#### SAFEGUARDING

**Codsall:** Jo Stewart

01902 845027

**Tettenhall:** Angela Walker

01902 751197

### THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

Available by appointment. Please contact Fr Craig for more information.

### ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday 6.30 p.m. concluding with evening Prayer at 7.00 p.m.

This will also be live streamed for those at home.

## **PUBLIC CELEBRATION OF HOLY MASS**

A reminder that there is no obligation to attend Holy Mass at the moment, and please do not feel pressurised if you feel the time is not yet right for you.

For anyone coming, here are a few things to note, in line with diocesan/government guidelines:

1. Everyone (unless under the age of 5, or with a serious medical condition) attending Holy Mass is required by law to wear a face covering or mask.
2. The church will be opened 15 minutes before each Mass, to allow for cleaning and preparations to take place.
3. Entrance is through the rear doors from the car park only, this will allow for socially distanced queuing.
4. We are required, by the government, to take the names and contact details of every person who attends Holy Mass. This is for the purposes of Track and Trace.
5. In line with the guidelines, you will be directed to your seat by one of the stewards. The church looks very different, and you won't be able to sit in your 'usual' seat.
6. Once you are seated, it won't be possible to keep moving around the church due to social distancing.
7. The toilets are locked, and access to the sacristies and kitchen are restricted for the time being.
8. Holy Communion will be brought to you in your place by the priest. The priest will wear a face mask for this part of Mass.
9. There will be no congregational singing, sign of peace or offertory procession at Mass.
10. The congregation will be dismissed row by row at the end of Mass, starting at the back.
11. Please use hand sanitiser as you enter and leave the church.

This is going to be steep learning curve for all of us, and we will need to be patient with each other as we get used to the new way of gathering for Holy Mass.

### **TRACK AND TRACE**

For the safety of all who attend Mass, the government has advised that contact details be kept for everyone who comes to Mass, for a period of 21 days. That information will be destroyed after 21 days. It will be made available to the Track and Trace Service if they contact the parish to request that information. It will only be made available to any third party if that is required by law.

The parish is committed to ensuring that information we hold about you is properly and securely held in accordance with the law. You can find out more from our Privacy Notice, which is at [birminghamdiocese.org.uk/privacy-policy](http://birminghamdiocese.org.uk/privacy-policy). It is in the legitimate interests of the parish to hold this information about you.

If you have a smart phone, there is a QR code to scan as you enter the church, this directs you to a page on our website to complete your details. If not, please bring your details (Full Name, Address and Telephone number) on a piece of paper and hand this to the steward at the door as you enter.

### **STEWARDSHIP FOR HOLY MASS**

We desperately need help with stewarding at Mass and for cleaning the Church each time we have celebrated Mass. Some of the duties of stewards are: directing people and ensuring that we do not allow more people into the church than our new capacity allows and...most importantly... to welcome people!

### **TABERNACLE AT ST CHRISTOPHER'S**

During the past week, the lock on the Tabernacle was replaced as we have been having some issues with it over the past few months.

## **PERMANENT CAMERA AT ST CHRISTOPHER'S**

We are just awaiting the installation of a permanent ethernet cable to the church, so that there is a stable internet connection for the new camera. Apologies for the occasional breaks in the livestream at the moment – this is due to our temperamental internet connection. Hopefully the new cable will help to fix this.

A number of parishioners have already offered to 'sponsor' the new camera, please think about whether you are support this project. The cost for the camera (including installation (the camera and internet), license etc) is approximately £2,000. Thank you for the £400.00 received this week!

### **PARISH NEWSLETTER**

Due to government guidelines on only using single-use paper, we will not be producing printed newsletters for Mass at the moment, to reduce the amount of wasted paper. You can still read it on our website. Alternatively, you can sign up on the website to receive it by e-mail each week. Printed copies will still be distributed to parishioners at home, thanks to the work of our SVP. A sheet with Mass Times and Intentions will be displayed on the doors at both Churches.

### **THE PARISH OFFICES – CODSALL & TETTENHALL**

Both of our parish offices remain closed for the time being. Both parish telephone numbers currently ring St Christopher's – so don't be confused. Fr Craig is backwards and forwards to St Thomas's throughout the week, so please leave a message and he will get back to you as soon as he can.

### **ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY**

Thank you to the SVP who continue to do tremendous work within our parishes as they offer support to our housebound and isolated parishioners. If you, or if you know of anyone who would like some assistance from our SVP, then please do get in touch! An important task they are undertaking it to offer support to parishioners including shopping for those who are self-isolating or struggling to buy food due to current circumstances arising from the Coronavirus.

The SVP are currently providing food parcels for individuals and families in financial difficulties. If anyone is able to donate dried or tinned food, there is a blue box outside of the Presbytery for donations. Thank you for your support! Ring Tess Fitzsimons 01902 262004/07842 383689 or Jo Stewart 01902 845027 for shopping.

### **PARISH GIVING**

1. You can now donate online to either of our two parishes through the Archdiocesan Website. Select either "Codsall" or "Wolverhampton: Tettenhall" on the dropdown menu. [www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/support-our-work](http://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/support-our-work)
2. Use your Offertory Envelopes each week (maybe as you watch the live stream Mass for the full Sunday experience!) and save them until we can come back to Holy Mass.
3. If you would like to sign up for Standing Order, forms for this can be downloaded from the diocesan website above and then posted to Fr Craig Szmidt, The Presbytery, 115 Wolverhampton Road, Codsall, WV8 1PF.
3. Post a cheque - please make sure you include a name and address on the back of the cheque and if you are able to Gift Aid by writing GA. Cheques can be posted to the Presbytery.

All Parish groups are still suspended for the time being. This is in line with current government guidelines.

### **LIVE STREAM CAMERA**

St Christopher's church live streams Mass and other liturgies. Please see notices in the church for more detail.

# FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

## 12<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2020

Saturday	11	<b>St C</b>	5.30 p.m.	Murphy & Baker Families	<p style="text-align: center;">THE PARABLE</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">OF THE SOWER</p> 
Sunday	12	<b>St C</b>	9.15 a.m.	Fr Gerry Fitzsimons RIP	
		<b>St C</b>	11.15 a.m.	Pro Populo	
Monday	13	<b>St C</b>	9.30 p.m.	Benefactors of the SVP	
Tuesday	14	<b>St C</b>	9.30 a.m.	Mary Roland	
Wednesday	15	--	-- --	<i>Mass in local churches</i>	
Thursday	16	<b>St C</b>	<b>*7.00 p.m.</b>	Fr Simon Baker	
Friday	17	<b>St C</b>	9.30 a.m.	Rose & Lawrence Sweeney	
Saturday	18	<i>No Saturday morning Mass for the time being.</i>			

## SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

19<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2020

Saturday	18	<b>St C</b>	5.30 p.m.	Frank Fowell RIP
Sunday	19	<b>St C</b>	9.15 a.m.	Henry Soulsby (Snr), Patsy Soulsby & Henry Soulsby (Jnr)
		<b>St C</b>	11.15 a.m.	Pro Populo

### LITURGICAL NOTE...

Monday	Feria
Tuesday	Feria
Wednesday	Memorial - St Bonaventure
Thursday	Memorial - Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Friday	Memorial - Blessed John Sugar & Robert Grissold
Saturday	Feria

### PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY...

TIMOTHY WATTEN - Private Funeral Service on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July.

*Eternal Rest grant unto them O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them.  
May they rest in peace. Amen.*

PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISHES... Zofia Stanislawska, Dee Allsopp, PWB, Mary Doherty, Ian Morris, Leon Thompson, Maureen Everitt, MK, T Hill, John Lewis, Mr & Mrs JT Begue, Margaret Waleczek, Alexandra Marshall, Anthony Jones, Marian Allen, Jayne Wiggins, Julian Chalmers, Jane Taylor, Sister Genevieve, Jeff Gibbs, Mary Spratt, Emily Jarvis, Chris Kennedy, Antonina Alaimo, Liliana Alaimo, Giuseppe Alaimo, Joy Westley, CHY, Eutemia Fernandes, Maisie Hargreaves, Mary Rock, Margaret Davies, Brian Barnwell, Clare Fish, Bernadette Peers.

*If you would like a name added to our Parish Sick List, please contact the Parish Office.*

### DIARY DATES... Something for us all to look forward to...!

Sat 17 Oct	Holy Mass to celebrate the Opening (20 years) and Consecration of St Christopher's (10 years)	St C	5.30 pm
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### FINANCIAL MATTERS... FOR JUNE 2020

	Non-Gift Aid	Gift Aid	Total
St Christopher	£157.00	£2119.00	£2276.00
St Thomas	£75.00	£1143.00	£1218.00

*Thank you for your ongoing support particularly in these difficult times!*

