



St Christopher
Wolverhampton Road
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St Thomas of Canterbury
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Tettenhall
WV6 8RF

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www.catholicparishes.org.uk

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT – LAETARE SUNDAY – YEAR B 14TH MARCH 2021

Dear Parishioners,

“WE ARE GOD’S WORK OF ART, CREATED IN CHRIST JESUS.” (EPHESIANS 2:10)

During this past week we took the first step in the easing of the national lockdown. On Monday, the schools began to reopen, and children began returning to the classroom. We continue to keep our parish school, and the young people of our parishes, in our prayers during the term ahead.

I realise that the easing of the lockdown has different emotions for different people. For some, it is a release from the burden of the restrictions that have changed our lives for the past few months. For others, it is perhaps a worrying time. Let’s be conscious of each other and pray for those who are continuing to struggle at the moment.

We also need to be conscious of not running before we can walk! The Prime Minister – and his scientific advisers – are constantly reminding us of the need to continue to be sensible and to keep ourselves, and those around us, safe. I would, therefore, encourage us all to stick to the guidelines for the time being.

As I mentioned last weekend in the newsletter, the guidelines for churches remain unchanged for the coming months. We must continue to maintain social distancing at all times – both inside the church on our carparks. The stewards will continue to show you to a seat, and we will take your contact details when you enter the church for the NHS Track and Trace.

I realise that this has been an incredible difficult twelve months, but the light is finally shining at the end of the tunnel. But we still need to be careful. I am still worried for you all, and I want everyone to be safe when they enter our churches and buildings. So, for now, we need to keep working together to keep everyone safe!

I am immensely thankful to our wonderful team of stewards who have worked incredibly hard to ensure that our churches can remain open.

This Sunday is Laetare Sunday and, as we also celebrate Mother’s Day, we seek the intercession of Mary, the Mother of God, for all mothers today and always.

*With my best wishes and prayers as always.
God bless, Fr Craig.*

PRAYER FOR A SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in this Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love You above all things and I passionately desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul so that I may unite myself wholly to You now and forever. Amen.

based on a prayer of St Alphonsus De’Liguori

KEY CONTACTS

PARISH PRIEST

Rev Fr Craig Szmidt BA STB
The Presbytery
115 Wolverhampton Road
Codsall, WV8 1PF
01902 842891
pp.stchristopher.codrill@rcaob.org.uk

PERMANENT DEACON

Rev Mr Steve Walters

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

Linda Allen
The Parish office is currently closed due to the National Lockdown.

PARISH SISTERS

Sisters of Saint Joseph of Tarbes
33 Alameda Gardens
01902 751614

SAFEGUARDING

Codsall: Jo Stewart
01902 845027
Tettenhall: Angela Walker
01902 751197

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

After Holy Mass at the weekend.
Also available by appointment.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Every Friday 6.00 p.m. until
Stations of the Cross at 6.30 p.m.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Friday at 6.30 p.m.
at St Christopher’s

WE ARE STILL ABLE TO OPEN FOR HOLY MASS!

COME: If you have no flu-like symptoms / not shielding

LIVESTREAM: Will continue – now in both churches

HOLY MASS: Prayerful, simple, brief

WELCOME: Track and Trace to keep everyone safe

CHANGES TO HOLY MASS TIMES FROM EASTER SUNDAY

We will reintroduce the second morning Mass on a Sunday from Easter Sunday. But to remind you that when the morning Mass at St Christopher's is reintroduced, we will be altering the times slightly.

So, the times for Holy Mass **FROM EASTER SUNDAY** will be:

AT ST CHRISTOPHER

Saturday: 5.30 p.m. (Vigil Mass)

Sunday: 9.00 a.m.

AT ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY

Sunday: 11.00 a.m.

PRAYING TOGETHER IN LENT

We continue to meet each Monday – it's not too late to join our weekly Lent Zoom gathering. We will meet at 7.00 p.m. each Monday for an opportunity to be together and pray during the season of Lent. It is also a way to see each other without masks for the first time for months! The gathering will be a gentle time of prayer together.

If you would like to take part, please e-mail Fr Craig (stchristopher.codsall@rcaob.org.uk) for the link to Zoom.

LENTEN SERVICE OF READINGS AND HYMNS

We are planning a service (a bit like the Advent Carol Service in December) to help us to enter into Holy Week. This will take place on Monday 29th March at 7.00 p.m. It will be livestreamed only, so that we can sing! A sheet to help you to join in with the singing will be available on our parish website in time for the service.

TRACK AND TRACE

The information we gather as you enter the church for Holy Mass is essential for keeping everyone updated and safe. You can also use the NHS Track and Trace App – there is a QR code at both of our churches.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

The SVP at our two parishes have been supporting many in our parishes and surrounding community in various ways, including keeping them connected via phone calls, newsletter deliveries, and recordings of Mass. They have also been providing food parcels to those in need in the area.

- Are you, or someone you know, in need of support from the SVP at this time?
- Could you help with financial or food donations to help with our ongoing work?
- Would you consider joining the SVP and volunteer your time to help those in need?

If 'Yes' to any of these questions, please contact Jo Stewart 01902 845027 or Eliz Hopkins 07752380833. Alternatively, you can email SecretaryF021402@svp.org.uk

Do visit the SVP page of our website to find out more information about their work and meet some of the members of our SVP conference.

DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

There will be Adoration to pray for an increase of Vocations within our Archdiocese from 10.00 a.m. until 11.00 a.m. **THIS FRIDAY (19th March)** at St Christopher's. **N.B.** This is a change from the announcement earlier in the week!

A GENTLE REMINDER...

Despite the gradual easing of lockdown measures in the coming weeks, our churches still have to abide by the current guidelines from the government. In our churches we need to ensure that we adhere to strict social distancing measures. This means that you will continue to be **SHOWN TO YOUR SEAT** by a steward. It may not be the seat you usually sit in, but please follow the stewards' directions. **FACE MASKS** are still compulsory in Public Buildings. Please also avoid standing around on **THE CARPARKS** – we've had remarks from passers-by that it looks as though we're not keeping to the rules! It would be awful for us to be closed down at this point when we've gotten this far! We look forward to the day when all of these restrictions are finally lifted.

CONTACTLESS GIVING

You can now donate using our contactless machine located at the entrance to both of our churches. You can, of course, continue using your Weekly Envelopes, Standing Orders, or the collection bags at the end of Holy Mass. If you are joining us from home you can also donate online, visit our parish website, or click the link below the YouTube video.

GIFT AID

The new boxes of Gift Aid envelopes for the coming year are now available to collect - please speak to one of the Stewards. There is also a letter for everyone who donates by Envelopes or Standing Orders which you will need to sign and return to the Parish Office – this confirms we have your correct address on file and that you are still a UK Taxpayer.

THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU...

Confession will be available in a number of churches around the deanery on Tuesday 30th March from 6.30-8.00 p.m. Please see the poster for more details.

The churches where Confession will be available are: St. Michael's (Penn), St. Anthony's (Fordhouses), St. Christopher's, (Codsall), St. Joseph's (Wolverhampton), Our Lady's (Cannock Road), Ss. Mary & John's (Snow Hill), & St. Patrick's (Heath Town).

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER 2021

Due to the continued restricted numbers in our churches, and to ensure everyone's safety, we will need to use tickets again. If you would like to attend **The Mass of the Lord's Supper** (Holy Thursday), **The Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Passion** (Good Friday) or **The Easter Vigil** (Holy Saturday) then you will require a free ticket. No tickets are required for either Mass on Easter Sunday.

Tickets can be booked by calling: **CAROL RODRIGUES** on **07810 333057** during daytime hours. Ticket lines will open at **10.00 a.m. THIS MONDAY (15th MARCH)**. To avoid disappointment or lost messages, bookings are not available by e-mail or text message.

HOLY THURSDAY

7.00 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper at St Thomas's

GOOD FRIDAY

3.00 p.m. Solemn Liturgy of the Passion at St Thomas's

6.30 p.m. Stations of the Cross at St Christopher's

HOLY SATURDAY

8.00 p.m. Easter Vigil at St Christopher's

EASTER SUNDAY

9.00 a.m. at St Christopher's

11.00 a.m. at St Thomas's

LIVE STREAM CAMERA

Our two churches livestream Holy Mass and other liturgies. Please see notices in the church for more detail.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT – LAETARE SUNDAY – YEAR B
14TH MARCH 2021

Saturday	13	St C	5.30 p.m.	Patrick Murphy
Sunday	14	N.B. There is no 9.15 a.m. Mass for the time being.		
		St T	11.15 a.m.	Special Intention (S&M)
Monday	15	St C	9.30 a.m.	Michael Wolverson RIP (B'day)
Tuesday	16	St C	9.30 a.m.	Albert Birch RIP (Anniv.)
Wednesday	17	--	-- --	<i>Mass in local churches</i>
Thursday	18	St C	7.00 p.m.	Pro Populo
Friday	19	St C	9.30 a.m.	John and Betty Cotter RIP (Wedding Anniv.)
		St C	6.30 p.m.	<i>Stations of the Cross</i>
Saturday	20	--	-- --	<i>There is no Saturday morning Mass for the time being.</i>



FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT – YEAR B
21ST MARCH 2021

Saturday	20	St C	5.30 p.m.	Pro Populo
Sunday	21	N.B. There is no 9.15 a.m. Mass for the time being.		
		St T	11.15 a.m.	John Joyce RIP

MASS INTENTIONS

Due to the temporary suspension of the 9.15 a.m. Mass on a Sunday morning, any Mass Intentions that have been booked for that time will be still be celebrated where possible, on the same weekend as requested. Thank you for your understanding.

LITURGICAL NOTE...

Monday Lent Feria
 Tuesday Lent Feria
 Wednesday Feast – St Patrick
 Thursday Lent Feria
 Friday Solemnity – St Joseph, Husband of Mary
 Saturday Lent Feria

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY...

DAVID LEWIS BISHOP – *Funeral service 16th March 2021*
 GRAZIA TROIA – *Funeral service 23rd March 2021*
 MOLLY HARRISON
 CAROL JOHNSON

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

In line with government regulations, a maximum of thirty people are currently allowed to attend a funeral Mass / funeral service. Therefore, for the time being, attendance at funerals is by invitation only. We continue to pray for those who are mourning the death of a loved one at this time.

PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISHES...

Antonina Alaimo, Giuseppe Alaimo, Liliana Alaimo, Marian Allen, Dee Allsopp, PWB, Kathy Barnwell, Mrs JT Begue, Julian Chalmers, Margaret Davies, Mary Doherty, Maureen Everitt, Clare Fish, Sister Genevieve, Jeff Gibbs, Nicholas Graham, Maisie Hargreaves, MK, T Hill, Emily Jarvis, Anthony Jones, Chris Kennedy, John Lewis, Mr & Alexandra Marshall, Ian Morris, Bernadette Peers, Mary Rock, Maura Smith, Mary Spratt, Zofia Stanislawska, Jane Taylor, Leon Thompson, Jayne Wiggins, CHY.

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

FINANCIAL MATTERS... FOR FEBRUARY 2021

	Gift Aid	Non -Gift Aid	Total
St Christopher	£2041.10	£155.61	£2196.71
St Thomas	£1466.70	£247.30	£1714.00

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