



St Christopher
Wolverhampton Road
Codsall
WV8 1PF

St Thomas of Canterbury
Haywood Drive
Tettenhall
WV6 8RF

01902 842891
stchristopher.codsall@rcaob.org.uk
www.catholicparishes.org.uk

TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A SUNDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER 2020

Dear Parishioners,

I would like to begin by thanking Fr Andrew Robinson from St Mary's College, Oscott, Fr Craig Fullard from the St Newman Cluster, and Canon Richard Walker who is the Vicar General for helping with supply over the past two weekends. I know that they enjoyed meeting people from Codsall and Tettenhall. A particular thanks to Fr Brendan Carrick for celebrating Holy Mass on the weekdays.

It was good to get a few days away and to recharge my batteries a bit after the past few months of uncertainty and change. We now begin looking forward to reopening St Thomas's in the coming weeks and a return to something of 'normal'.

As we hear constantly on the news, we need to continue to be cautious in what we do during the current pandemic. It looks as though the restrictions in the church will be in place for some time yet, and some of these may change. I will endeavour to keep you posted.

We have been asked by the Wolverhampton Director of Public Health to emphasise the need to maintain social distancing and the wearing of face coverings (which should cover the nose and mouth at all times). The director has also insisted that social distancing is essential on the carparks of our churches. Please continue to be conscious of this when entering and leaving the church. We don't want St Christopher's to be the centre of a new outbreak!

The priests of the deanery have also decided that it would make sense for us to have a toilet available in the church for those who need it. This will need to be cleaned each time it has been used, and I am thankful to those who are helping to steward and clean at each Mass.

These are uncertain times, and, I realise that as local lockdowns are reintroduced, we perhaps find ourselves becoming anxious or fearful. In these moments, I encourage us all to keep praying to Our Lady for strength and courage.

Let's continue to pray for each other, and please be assured of my ongoing prayers for you, and your families.

With every blessing, 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.codsall@rcaob.org.uk

PERMANENT DEACON

Rev Mr Steve Walters

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR:

Linda Allen

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)

Available after Holy Mass on Sunday,
and 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

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. We continue to follow government guidelines on Track and Trace. More information is available on our website and on the noticeboard in church.

STEWARDED FOR HOLY MASS

We continue to thank the stewards for their invaluable help. Without them, we wouldn't be able to open for Holy Mass. You can still volunteer to help with stewarding at Mass – please speak to one of the stewards, or contact Fr Craig, for more information!

READERS FOR HOLY MASS

I am thankful to those who have already volunteered to read at Holy Mass. If you were on the rota and would like to read again at Mass, please do get in touch. If you've not been on the rota before, and would like to help, please think about it. Proclaiming the Word of God at Holy Mass is such an important ministry.

ALTAR SERVERS

I would like to begin exploring the possibility of reintroducing Altar Servers at Holy Mass. There will only be space for one server (or two if they are siblings) and jobs will be limited...but we miss you! If you would be interested in joining a rota for this, please get in touch with Fr Craig.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Following strict government guidelines about visiting other people's homes, the Bishops' Conference has issued instructions on Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion taking Holy Communion to the sick and housebound. The Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion mustn't be in a vulnerable category, shielding or self-isolating. Please speak to Fr Craig for more information before arranging a visit.

CHANGES TO OUR PARISH OFFICE

At the beginning of this year, parishes were asked to look at how they might run more efficiently. So, when Fr Craig met with the members of the Archdiocese to ensure the future of St Thomas's, he was instructed that it was now time to streamline how our two parish offices are run. There is a lot of duplication of work between our two parishes and there are many ways in which things could be done jointly. We were, therefore instructed to work towards having one parish office and one Parish Administrator. This has now happened, and I ask for your patience as things settle down. I am thankful to Mrs Anne Shipley for her many years as Parish Secretary of St Christopher's. Sadly, she has decided that it is time to step aside from this new role within our two parishes. I am personally very thankful to Anne for her support and help when I arrived last August. We continue to keep Anne, and her family in our prayers.

Mrs Linda Allen will become the new Parish Administrator for both parishes and will take up this role from Monday 21st September. She will be based at St Christopher's, but will spend a morning a week at St Thomas's. We keep her in our prayers as she takes up this new position.

GOOD SHEPHERD RELIEF IN NEED

People are still getting in touch to ask about donations for the Good Shepherd Relief appeals. Due to the restrictions in place at the moment, we are unable to have collections, and they are currently inundated with donations. They will keep us posted when they are ready to receive new donations. They are still doing house clearances and interested parties should ring Peter Hughes on 07889 786687. For more information, visit gsrin.co.uk

ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY...AN UPDATE...

Work continues to progress well. The parquet has now been re-laid, sanded and resealed. It looks beautiful! The Organ is being serviced and reinstalled this week. The Crucifix and Tabernacle are being reinstated this week too! We are now waiting for the new carpet to be laid and for the sound system to be reinstalled. It's getting very exciting!

PARISH GIVING

It is difficult to talk about money when things are so uncertain, but your parishes are struggling financially too. The usual expenditures (utility bills, building and liability insurance, etc) continue and we are still required to pay our levies to the Archdiocese. I was hoping to speak about this at Holy Mass, but then the Coronavirus came along! I will speak about this in the New Year, as I think it is important that you have an understanding of where money is spent. We are very thankful for your ongoing financial support! There is a donation box at the entrance to the church for your weekly offerings. And it is not too late to sign up to pay by Standing Order rather than by cash each week. For more information, please do speak to Fr Craig, or Margaret Gallagher.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

At the moment, much of their work is unseen by many of us, but they are helping lots of our more vulnerable parishioners. We continue to thank them (and their team of helpers) for all of their hard help and support of parishioners during the pandemic! A special thank you also to the team who deliver printed newsletters each week to parishioners in our parishes.

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 Eliz Hopkins 07752 380833 or Jo Stewart 01902 845027 for shopping.

SVP Christmas cards

The SVP are, once again, selling Christmas cards to raise money for their work locally. There will be information on the Parish Website in due course and on our Parish Facebook Page. For more information, or to place your order, please contact Jo Stewart.

LUNCHTIME SUPERVISOR

Our parish school is looking to appoint a casual lunchtime supervisor. The hours are: Monday to Friday 11:45-13:15 Salary: £2624 Closing Date: Friday 25th September 2020. For more information, please contact the school.

LAY CHAPLAIN

Cardinal Griffin Catholic College, Cannock, is seeking to appoint a Lay Chaplain. For more information, please visit their college website: www.cardinalgriffin.org.uk

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.

TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

20TH SEPTEMBER 2020

Saturday	19	St C	5.30 p.m.	Leslie White RIP
Sunday	20	St C	9.15 a.m.	Marie & Denis Howard RIP
<i>For the time being, there will be no 11.15 a.m. Mass on a Sunday</i>				
Monday	21	St C	9.30 a.m.	Carol Whittingham RIP
Tuesday	22	St C	9.30 a.m.	Margaret Waleczek RIP
Wednesday	23	--	-- --	<i>Mass in local churches</i>
Thursday	24	St C	7.00 p.m.	Pro Populo
Friday	25	St C	9.30 a.m.	Domingo Fernandes
Saturday	26	<i>No Saturday morning Mass for the time being.</i>		



TWENTY SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

27TH SEPTEMBER 2020

Saturday	26	St C	5.30 p.m.	Paul Stephenson
Sunday	27	St C	9.15 a.m.	John & Freda Beswick RIP
<i>For the time being, there will be no 11.15 a.m. Mass on a Sunday</i>				

MASS INTENTIONS

Due to the temporary suspension of the 11.15 a.m. Mass on a Sunday morning, any Mass Intentions that have been booked for that time will be celebrated at St Christopher's. This will, where possible, be on the same weekend as requested. Thank you for your understanding.

LITURGICAL NOTE...

Monday Feast – St Matthew
 Tuesday Feria
 Wednesday Memorial – St Pio of Pietrelcina
 Thursday Memorial – Our Lady of Walsingham
 Friday Feria
 Saturday Memorial – Ss Cosmos & Damian

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY...

JUNE RANGLES – *private funeral Mass on Tuesday 29th September.*

ROGER JOHNSON – *private funeral service on Friday 16th October at Telford Crematorium.*

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

Please be aware that in line with current government guidelines, only a limited number of people can be present for funerals at the moment, and, therefore, only family members and invited guests can attend. We pray for those who have died and their families.

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 Bogue, 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, Shirley Brookman.

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

FINANCIAL MATTERS... FOR SEPTEMBER 2020

Financial information for September will be published next weekend.

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

