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TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A SUNDAY 21ST JUNE 2020

Dear Parishioners,

It was with great joy this week that we were finally allowed to open the church doors at St Christopher's. After weeks of being locked, the church building was open for people to come and pray privately before the Blessed Sacrament. We now look forward to being able to gather, once more, for Holy Mass. We do not know when this will be, or indeed, what we will need to implement for this to happen. But we will work to be ready as soon as we need to be, whatever is asked of us. Please continue to pray for this.

I am aware that – as I mentioned last weekend – we are currently only able to reopen St Christopher's church. This certainly does not mean that St Thomas's is forgotten or being neglected! The amount of red tape (quite literally in many ways!) that we have had to overcome in order to reopen makes it difficult to open every church at the moment. We are also very limited to who is able to volunteer to help with stewarding.

The building works at St Thomas's – which are progressing well – are also preventing us from opening at the moment. The replacement of the roof is progressing, although the weather is proving problematic at the moment – all that sunny weather and now it decides to rain ☺! The electricians have begun replacing the delapidated and antiquated fuse-boards in the sacristy. Contractors will soon begin removing the ceiling in the church following the flooding, this will be re-plastered and then the church will need to be decorated. We will also have to remove the carpet to allow the parquet flooring to be mended and then new carpet will be laid. Much is happening...even if you can't see it!

A big "thank you" to those who have been helping with stewarding. Without them, we would not have been able to open! Finally, (but not forgotten!) we continue to pray for the children in our parish, particularly those who have returned to school in the last few days.

I will continue to keep you updated as things change.

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

God bless,

Our Lady of Lourdes...pray for us.

St Christopher...pray for us.

Fr Craig.

St Thomas of Canterbury...pray for us.

Merciful God, come to the help of your people. Be our shelter in this time of peril and strengthen the bonds of our communities. Bring healing to all who suffer the ravages of disease, and assist those whose skill can put an end to this affliction. Be with those whose special care is the health of mind and body. Fill their hearts with awe for the life which is your gift, and sustain them daily in your service. May their hands bring to others the comfort of your healing touch. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

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)

Please contact Fr Craig for more information.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Adoration will be live streamed at various times during the week

Please visit our Parish Website.

REOPENING FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

Due to social distancing, there is only currently space for 7 people in the church at a time, so please be prepared to wait if the church is 'full'. To begin with, St Christopher's will be open:

Tuesday – 11.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.

Thursday – 11.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.

Saturday – 4.30 p.m. – 6.30 p.m.

Sunday – 11.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.

Thank you to those who have volunteered to steward whilst our church is open for private prayer. Without them, it would not be able to happen!

STEWARDSHIP AT ST CHRISTOPHER'S

It is not too late to volunteer to help with stewarding. You need to be fit and healthy (not in the government's vulnerable list, over 70 and/or with medical conditions, and not self-isolating or shielding). Stewards will direct people and ensure that we do not allow more people into the church than our new capacity allows and...most importantly... to welcome people!

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.

CAFOD CORONAVIRUS APPEAL

These are difficult times. Many of us here in the UK have suffered terribly because of coronavirus, coping with grief, anxiety and hardship. In the world's poorest countries, health care systems are not coping with the coronavirus and families are going hungry because people cannot go out to earn money. CAFOD is helping protect and improve the lives of our sisters and brothers during this global emergency. If you are in a position to support our Coronavirus Appeal, you can donate at cafod.org.uk/coronavirus. Thank you.

PARISH NEWSLETTER

The SVP are also helping to distribute printed copies of our weekly parish newsletter to those who are unable to access it via the internet. If there is anyone you think who might benefit from a printed copy, please do contact Fr Craig and he will be happy arrange this. We also have a mailing list to receive the newsletter by e-mail each week – you can sign up for this on the newsletter page of our parish website.

ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY

As mentioned on the front of the newsletter, the works continue at St Thomas's! The replacement of the church roof continues and will hopefully be completed by the end of June. The replacement of the antiquated electrical fuse-boards in the church has begun this week. The work to mend the ceiling following the flood will begin in the coming days. Do continue to pray as these works progress. If you want to see what's been happening, Fr Craig is keeping a diary on our parish website.

PERMANENT CAMERA AT ST CHRISTOPHER'S

Thank you to those of you who have been in touch about the possibility of installing a permanent camera at St Christopher's. This would enable us to stream Holy Mass on a Sunday even when the lockdown is ended. Please do let him know your thoughts about this. There would, of course, be an ongoing financial aspect of this to the parish.

THE PARISH OFFICES – CODSALL & TETTENHALL

Both of our parish offices are currently closed. Both parish telephone numbers currently ring St Christopher's – so don't be confused. Please be aware that Fr Craig is busy between the two sites at the moment due to the building works at St Thomas's. If you ring, and he doesn't answer, please leave a message and your contact details, and he will get back to you as soon as he can.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES FOR TAX YEAR APRIL 2020/2021

These will be available in the porch of both churches when we are able to be together again in Church!

PARISH GIVING

A BIG "THANK YOU" to all who have signed up to new Standing Orders (Direct Debit), posted their envelopes through the Presbytery door, and to those who have sent in cheques. Please be aware, that following diocesan guidelines, cheques will be banked in batches to prevent unnecessary trips to the bank. So, please don't worry if your cheque has not yet been banked!

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

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.

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 Liguori

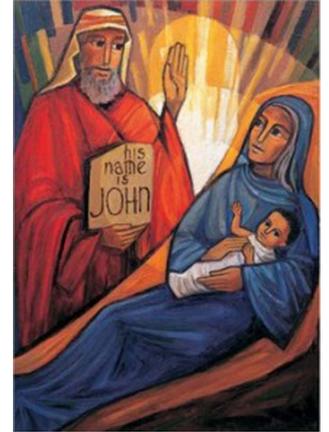


All Parish groups have stopped meeting until further notice due to government guidelines.

TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

21ST JUNE 2020

Saturday	20	Sheila & Tony Gallagher RIP
Sunday	21	May & Albert Birch RIP
Monday	22	Patrick & Baryl Rozario
Tuesday	23	Frank and Maureen Kelly RIP
Wednesday	24	Holy Souls (<i>not streamed</i>)
Thursday	25	Harold & Birkett RIP
Friday	26	Roy Poulton RIP (10 th Anniv.)
Saturday	27	Pro Populo



SOLEMNITY OF ST PETER & ST PAUL – YEAR A

28TH JUNE 2020

Saturday	27	Tony Gallagher RIP
Sunday	28	Mary Mason & Bidy Giamelle RIP

N.B. All Mass Intentions will continue to be celebrated on the date requested.

Whilst Fr Craig is now celebrating Holy Mass privately, you will be able to join him in prayer via our parish live stream. The times for all Live Streams can be found on our parish website.

LITURGICAL NOTE...

Monday	Feast – St John Fisher & St Thomas More
Tuesday	Feria
Wednesday	Solemnity – Nativity of St John the Baptist
Thursday	Feria
Friday	Feria
Saturday	Feria

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.

To add a name to the sick list, please contact the Parish Office.

St John Fisher & St Thomas More



PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY...

JOHN GALLAGHER

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

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

No financial information at the moment.

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