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## TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A SUNDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2020

Dear Parishioners,

*It's strange to think that the school summer holidays are almost over. We look forward to welcoming the staff from our parish school to Holy Mass on Tuesday morning. We pray for the school community as they prepare to begin a new academic year. We keep in our prayers all of the young people of our parish – whether they are starting school for the very first time, or preparing to move away to university, (and everything in between!)- that God may bless them abundantly in the academic year ahead.*

*On Monday, Gerard Bowen will be leaving us to return to St Mary's College, Oscott. As he begins his second year of Formation for the Sacred Priesthood, we assure him of our prayers. It is strange to think that he has been with us since March! I know that you he appreciates the welcome that he has received. I am personally thankful for his support and help during the past few months! It has certainly been a very different pastoral experience for him.*

*It is strange to think that things are beginning to return to normal. I am aware how the road outside of the church is becoming increasingly busy as the days pass – it is far from the deserted streets of a few months ago! Things are strangely familiar, yet at the same different.*

*Hopefully coming to Holy Mass is becoming more 'normal' too, and I continue to be thankful to our dedicated team of stewards who help us to open for Holy Mass. The restrictions continue to be in place for everyone's safety, and I will keep you updated whenever these change.*

*The works continue at St Thomas of Canterbury, and as I have said on a number of occasions, the Parquet floor is what is holding up the project. But, inside of the church continues to be dry...despite all of the rain!*

*We 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 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 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.

A reminder for anyone coming to Holy Mass:

1. Everyone (unless **under the age of 11**, or with a serious medical condition) attending Holy Mass is required by law to wear a face covering or mask.
2. Entrance is through the rear door from the car park only,
3. We are required, by the government, to take the names and telephone number of every person who attends Holy Mass. This is for the purposes of Track and Trace.
4. 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.
5. Once you are seated, it won't be possible to keep moving around the church due to social distancing.
6. The toilets are locked, and access to the sacristies and kitchen are restricted for the time being.
7. 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.
8. There will be no congregational singing, sign of peace or offertory procession at Mass.
9. The congregation will be dismissed row by row at the end of Mass, starting at the back.
10. Please use hand sanitiser as you enter and leave the church.
11. We are following government guidelines on Track and Trace. More information is available on our website and on the noticeboard in church.

Thank you for your ongoing patience and support!

## STEWARDSHIP FOR HOLY MASS

We continue to thank our wonderful! You can still volunteer to help with stewarding at Mass – please speak to one of the stewards, or contact Fr Craig, for more information!

## 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.

## PARISH GIVING

There are still a number of Gift Aid envelopes awaiting collection. If you ask the steward at Holy Mass and they will happily find them for you – both Parish's Gift Aid envelopes are at St Christopher's at the moment. There is a donation box at the entrance to the church for your weekly offerings. 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.

You can still donate online through the Archdiocesan Website. Select either "Codsall" or "Wolverhampton: Tettenhall". [birminghamdiocese.org.uk/support-our-work](http://birminghamdiocese.org.uk/support-our-work)

## GOOD SHEPHERD RELIEF IN NEED

A number of people have been 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](http://gsrin.co.uk)

## ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

We continue to offer our thanks to the parish SVP (and their many helpers) for all of their hard help and support of parishioners during the pandemic! Thank you also to the team who deliver printed newsletters each week to parishioners in our parishes. It is very much appreciated.

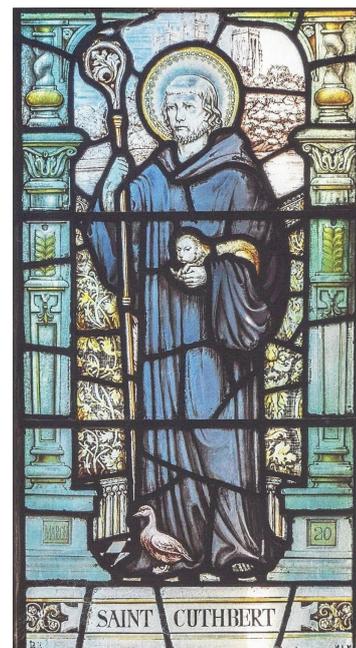
If you, or if you know of anyone who would like some assistance from our SVP, then please do get in touch! An important task they are undertaking it to offer support to parishioners including shopping for those who are self-isolating or struggling to buy food due to current circumstances arising from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

## A MESSAGE FROM GERARD BOWEN...

*"On Monday, I return to St Mary's College, Oscott to begin my second year of Seminary Formation. I'd like to thank everyone in the parishes of Saint Christopher and St Thomas of Canterbury for the prayers, kindness and welcome that you have given me. I'd like to especially thank Fr Craig for looking after me and putting up with me over the last five months. I'm sure that he and Oskar will miss the many puns that they've been accustomed to hearing. I shall miss you all but once normality returns I hope to come back and visit. Please continue to keep me in your prayers and I shall keep you all in mine.*

*Much love and prayers Gerard Bowen."*



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 SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

## 30<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2020

Saturday	29	<b>St C</b>	5.30 p.m.	Joan & Jimmy Mullen RIP
Sunday	30	<b>St C</b>	9.15 a.m.	Pat Lennon RIP
<b><i>For the time being, there will be no 11.15 a.m. Mass on a Sunday</i></b>				
Monday	31	<b>St C</b>	9.30 a.m.	Albert Birch RIP
Tuesday	01	<b>St C</b>	9.30 a.m.	For St Christopher's Catholic Primary School
Wednesday	02	--	-- --	<i>Mass in local churches</i>
Thursday	03	<b>St C</b>	7.00 p.m.	Anne Picken & Vicky Brown (Benefactors)
Friday	04	<b>St C</b>	9.30 a.m.	Pro Populo
Saturday	05	<i>No Saturday morning Mass for the time being.</i>		

## TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

### 6<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2020

Saturday	05	<b>St C</b>	5.30 p.m.	Hilary Rodrigues RIP
Sunday	06	<b>St C</b>	9.15 a.m.	Patrick Gallagher RIP
<b><i>For the time being, there will be no 11.15 a.m. Mass on a Sunday</i></b>				

### 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	Memorial – St Aiden
Tuesday	Feria
Wednesday	Feria
Thursday	Feast – St Gregory the Great
Friday	Memorial – St Cuthbert
Saturday	Feria

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

**MARGARETA WALECZECK** – *private funeral service at Bushbury Crematorium on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September.*

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 Begue, 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 AUGUST 2020

	Gift Aid	Non -Gift Aid	Total
St Christopher	£1983.00	£417.00	£2400.00
St Thomas	£1433.00	£88.85	£1521.85

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

