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SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST – YEAR A SUNDAY 31ST MAY 2020

Dear Parishioners,

As we approach the end of the Season of Easter, it strikes me how long it is since things were normal. Perhaps before the Coronavirus Pandemic, we came to Holy Mass without a second thought that things would ever change. Maybe we even took our church buildings for granted. But, during these days of the lockdown, we have been given the wonderful opportunity to reflect upon the place that these things have in our lives.

Of course, the Church is so much more than just buildings – and I know how much we are all missing seeing each other for Holy Mass and parish social events – but I also know how much so many of you are missing praying in your church. We continue to pray for the day to come when our churches can reopen, and we can be reunited together at Holy Mass.

But, when we can return to a “new normal”, things will feel very different. Looking at other countries, and how they have been responding to reopening churches, I have been stocking up on cleaning materials, hand sanitiser and dispensers, tape, gloves and other bits and pieces. We have not had any official guidance but things like regular cleaning rotas, managing the number of people in the church, avoiding groups, only permitting certain age groups, one-way systems, set seating and much more, might be part of our first steps of a return. I mention this to plant the thought that this will be slow, it will feel odd, and it will need a lot of people to help to make it work, we are going need a lot of love!

With a ‘track and trace’ system, I would not like our churches to be places that cause a second peak. At the same time, I know how much it will mean to come and pray in the quiet and peace of the church, to sit before the Lord in Blessed Sacrament. I know we will be able to respond to whatever happens in the coming weeks. Let’s keep being ready to get going!

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.

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. This has been something that Fr Craig has been thinking about for a while, and he is currently looking at various possibilities. Please do let him know your thoughts about this. There would, of course, be an ongoing financial aspect of this to the parish.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

The SVP are continuing 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! They are currently offering support to a number of 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.

The SVP has been asked to help a single mum with 3 children. She is in need of a washing machine. Please contact Mary Jeffs-Watts on 07881 822 921 if you are able to help.

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

The works continue at St Thomas's! The replacement of the church roof has begun, and we are arranging works to fix the ceiling following the recent flood. 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.

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 Szmids, 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.

THE MONTH OF MAY

This Sunday, we celebrate that last day of May and there be Rosary and Benediction at 6.00 p.m. streamed from St Christopher's.

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!

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.

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

Throughout the Easter Season we have been singing the Easter Marian Anthem, the Regina Caeli. Today (Sunday) the Season of Easter ends and from tomorrow we resume praying The Angelus.

Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia.

For He whom you did merit to bear, alleluia.

Has risen, as he said, alleluia.

Pray for us to God, alleluia.

Ant.
6.
R

E-gi-na caeli * lae-ta-re, alle-lu-ia: Qui-a
quem me-ru-isti portá-re, alle-lu-ia: Re-surréx-it,
si-cut dix-it, alle-lu-ia: Ora pro no-bis De-um,
alle-lu-ia.



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

SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST – YEAR A

31ST MAY 2020

Saturday	30	Rufus and Mignone Fernando (Wedding Anniv.)
Sunday	31	Kelechi Oduoza RIP
ORDINARY TIME RESUMES – WEEK 9 – WEEKDAY CYCLE OF READINGS YEAR 2 – PSALTER WEEK 1		
Monday	01	Ann Picken and Vicky Brown RIP (Benefactors)
Tuesday	02	Beatrice McGrath RIP
Wednesday	03	Holy Souls (<i>not streamed</i>)
Thursday	04	Marcella & Thomas Toal RIP
Friday	05	Pro Populo
Saturday	06	Stefania Orszulan (Anniv.)

SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY – YEAR A

7TH JUNE 2020

Saturday	06	Michael & Peggy O'Shea RIP
Sunday	07	Ted Pinnington 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.

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY...

PAUL MACKERNAN

CLARA BRYAN

Funeral service at Telford Crematorium

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.

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

LITURGICAL NOTE...

Monday Memorial – Mary, Mother of the Church
 Tuesday Feria
 Wednesday Memorial – Charles Llwanga & Companions
 Thursday Feast – Our Lord Jesus Christ, Eternal high Priest
 Friday Memorial – St Boniface
 Saturday Feria

FINANCIAL MATTERS...

THERE IS NO FINANCIAL INFORMATION AT THE MOMENT.

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

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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