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## FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – YEAR A SUNDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> MAY 2020

Dear Parishioners,

*I don't know about you, but I've begun making a conscious effort this week not to keep watching the news. It feels that there are only bad things happening in the world at the moment. Don't get me wrong, I'm not ignoring the news completely – I make sure that I update myself each day – but we also need some good news! There are good things happening!*

*The courageous people who work in our NHS. The key workers who are making sure that there is food available and that bins are emptied. Staff in our schools. Funeral Directors who are burying those who have died with care and dignity. All those who are raising money for charity. And parishioners who are making sure that the elderly and vulnerable are cared for at this time. The list could go on and on.*

*Today, I also ask you to pray for your priests. This Sunday is Vocations Sunday, and we are asked to pray particularly for an increase in Vocations to the Priesthood, the Diaconate and the Religious Life. There are four men due to be Ordained for our Archdiocese this summer, we keep them in our prayers: Alex, Benedict, Sean and Clive. As you will see in the list of those who have died recently, four priests from our Archdiocese have died in the past couple of weeks – we pray for the repose of their souls. May they, and all who have died recently, rest in peace.*

*Being Parish Priest at this time is very strange. It is a time like no other. As I said a few weeks ago, I really do miss you all. Earlier this week, the priests of the Wolverhampton Deanery had a virtual deanery meeting. We, your priests, are very aware of how much you are missing the Sacraments and coming to Church. Be assured of our prayers for you all!*

*We all look forward with great hope to the day when we can be reunited once more. The day will come. We will be reunited. But, for now, we rely on modern technology to keep us united virtually at Mass!*

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

*God bless,*

*Our Lady of Lourdes...pray for us.*

*Fr Craig.*

*St Christopher...pray for us.*

*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.

## THE MONTH OF MAY

Amazingly, we have begun the month of May. It is traditionally a month when we honour Our Lady as the "Queen of the May". Perhaps we could all make a special effort to pray the Holy Rosary each day. We are hoping to stream the Rosary on Sunday evenings during the Month of May. We were hoping to have a Marian Procession this year, but alas, we will need to look forward to this next year!

### ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Ring Tess Fitzsimons 01902 262004/07842 383689 or Jo Stewart 01902 842027 for shopping. The SVP are continuing to be of great help within our parishes as they offer support to our housebound and isolated parishioners. We thank them for this important task!

### PARISH WEBSITE

The Parish Website is frequently being updated with lots of new information. New resources for prayer along with links are also being added regularly to help with the current lockdown. Please do pay it a visit. Also, the Archdiocesan Website is regularly updated with resources to help.

### CHILDREN'S LITURGY RESOURCES

The CAFOD website has some great resources to help children during these difficult days. They even have a Virtual Children's Liturgy on a Sunday. Do visit their website for the more information! [cafod.org.uk/Education/Children-s-liturgy](http://cafod.org.uk/Education/Children-s-liturgy)

### PARISH GIVING

Thank you to parishioners who have signed up to Standing Order (Direct Debit), posted their envelopes through the presbytery door, and to those who have sent in cheques. Below are some suggestions given the circumstances:

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](http://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.

### 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.

### 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*



### EASTER DUTIES 2020 - from the Bishops' Conference

"Many of you will be aware of performing your "Easter Duties"; that is, to receive Holy Communion during the Easter Season and by custom, to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation beforehand. Since it is not possible for the faithful to receive Holy Communion at this time, and into the future, the Bishops of England and Wales have dispensed the Easter Duties for the year 2020.

The Bishops have asked that all should make a Perfect Act of Contrition at this time. Perfect contrition (or a Contrition of Charity) is true and real sorrow for our sins which is created when we realise the immense love of God for each one of us. We express this contrition when we realise how we offend God by our sinful words, deeds and omissions in contrast to the immeasurable love and mercy that He continually shows us.

This requires us to be contrite of heart for what we have done, know and be overwhelmed by the love and mercy of God for His children, and to approach this grace with humility and resolution not to sin again."

### AN ACT OF CONTRITION

*My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Saviour Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In his name, my God, have mercy.*

*During the Easter Season we don't recite The Angelus, but instead we sing the Easter Marian Anthem, the Regina Caeli. Hopefully, you're beginning to pick it up - it is very easy ... I promise you!*

Ant.  
6.  
R E-gi-na cæli \* læ-tá-re, alle-lú-ia: Qui-a  
quem me-ru-ísti portá-re, alle-lú-ia: Re-surréx-it,  
si-cut dix-it, alle-lú-ia: Ora pro no-bis De-um,  
alle-lú-ia.

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.

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

# FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – YEAR A

3<sup>RD</sup> MAY 2020

Saturday	02			Peter Donnelly RIP
Sunday	03			Pro Populo
				John Joyce RIP
Monday	04			Mary Hogan RIP
Tuesday	05			Celebrant's Intention – for those who have died
Wednesday	06			Sr Olga Mercedes Zubillaga Oropeza RIP ( <i>not streamed</i> )
Thursday	07			Nigel Preston RIP
Friday	08			Rose & Lawrence Sweeney RIP
Saturday	09			Celebrant's Intention (Walsingham)

## FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – YEAR A

10<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2020

Saturday	09			Quinn & Bayley Families RIP
Sunday	10			Frank & Carolina Lewis RIP
				Pro Populo

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

Whilst Fr Craig is now celebrate 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 – The English Martyrs
Tuesday	Easter Feria
Wednesday	Easter Feria
Thursday	Easter Feria
Friday	Easter Feria
Saturday	Easter 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, Fr David Duggan, Chris Kennedy, Antonina Alaimo, Liliana Alaimo, Giuseppe Alaimo, Joy Westley, CHY, Eutemia Fernandes, Maisie Hargreaves, Mary Rock.

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

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

NANCY SWANN

funeral service at Bushbury Crematorium

CLARE HALLETT, EMILY O'BYRNE

BISHOP LEO McCARTIE – former Auxiliary Bishop of Birmingham and tenth Bishop of Northampton.

FR BERNARD O'CONNOR OSA, FR ANDREW KELLY, FR FRANCIS CONLON, FR TIMOTHY BURKE,

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



### FINANCIAL MATTERS... FOR APRIL 2020

November	Loose	Gift Aid	Standing Orders	Total
St Christopher	£10.00	£244.00	£2323.00	£2577.00
St Thomas	--	£60.00	£1053.00	£1113.00

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

DIARY DATES... *Something for us all to look forward to...*

Sat 17 October	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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