



St Christopher
Wolverhampton Road
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WV8 1PF

St Thomas of Canterbury
Haywood Drive
Tettenhall
WV6 8RF

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www.catholicparishes.org.uk

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY – YEAR B 3RD JANUARY 2021

Dear parishioners,

“THE WORD WAS MADE FLESH, AND LIVED AMONG US”

I would like to begin this week by wishing you a very Happy New Year! We pray that 2021 will be one filled with many blessings, and renewed hope. In the coming months, the Government has promised mass vaccinations and, that in time, things will slowly begin returning to something more familiar. As I said at Holy Mass on Friday, let's seek the intercession of Mary, the Mother of God, for each other in the coming months.

In the Gospel this Sunday we hear the beginning of St John's Gospel – also known as The Prologue. It is a beautiful passage which reminds us of what we are celebrating in these days of the Christmas Season, when the Word [Jesus] took on our human flesh and lived with us. God – even today – is with us. He is with us wherever we find ourselves at this moment.

As we did last year, the Nativity Scenes in our churches will remain until the Feast of the Presentation on 2nd February. During this time, I would encourage us all to continue to allow ourselves to become lost in wonder at the birth of Jesus.

Thank you for all of the beautiful photographs that so many of you have shared on Facebook of your own Nativity scenes in your homes. It isn't too late to post a photograph on our Facebook Page!

A big thank you to everyone who worked incredibly hard behind the scenes to ensure that our two churches were ready for the celebration of Christmas. And to the stewards for their hard work guiding people to their seats and cleaning thoroughly after each Mass.

Please keep the pupils and staff in our schools in our prayers as they prepare to return for a new school term in the coming weeks. May God continue to bless them in their learning.

Finally, a personal thank you for all of your Christmas Cards, thoughtful gifts and generous Christmas offering. They are all greatly appreciated! As we celebrate these days after Christmas, let's continue to pray for one another.

*Keep safe! With my best wishes and prayers as always,
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.codrill@rcaob.org.uk

PERMANENT DEACON

Rev Mr Steve Walters

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

Linda Allen
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
10.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.

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 by appointment.
Please contact
Fr Craig for more information.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

There is no Adoration this week.

WE MAY NOW BE IN TIER 4...

...but thankfully we are still able to open our churches for the celebration of Holy Mass. We have been reminded of the importance of maintaining good practice within our church buildings and on our carparks. Please continue to maintain social distancing at all times to prevent the spread of Covid-19. Once again, we remind you of the need to wrap up warm when you come to Holy Mass – we are required to keep some windows open to ensure adequate ventilation. If it is cold outside, it will certainly be cold in the church!



SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY

This Wednesday we will celebrate the Solemnity of the Epiphany – this would *usually* be a Holy Day of Obligation. There will be Holy Mass at 9.30 a.m. at St Christopher's, and 7.00 p.m. at St Thomas of Canterbury. Please do come along to celebrate this wonderful feast.

HELP URGENTLY REQUIRED...

Wolverhampton City Council are planning to open a Rapid Covid-19 Test Centre in the Parish Centre at St Joseph's Catholic Church, Willenhall Road WV1 2QN on Thursday 7th January and they need volunteers to help run the centre. The centre will be initially be open for two weeks. Training will be provided to anyone who is able to help. For more information, or to volunteer, please contact Fr Craig Fullard: 01902 452841 or stnewmancluster.wmids@rcaob.org.uk

TYPING ERRORS...

Well done to those who spotted the typing mistakes in the newsletter last weekend (and for a few weeks, I gather!). I'd like to suggest it was to see if anyone was reading the newsletter...but alas, it wasn't. ☺ Fr Craig.

CAMERA AT ST THOMAS'S

Thank you for the very varied about the possibility of installing a Livestream Camera at St Thomas's – like the one at St Christopher's. One issue we have is the internet connection at St Thomas's isn't too good, but we would be interested in your thoughts. If you think it is a good idea (or even a bad one!) to install a Camera, please let Fr Craig or Linda know. The cost would be approximately £2000.

RIGHT TO LIFE – OPPOSE ASSISTED SUICIDE BILL

Right To Life UK have set up an easy to use tool which will enable you to email your MP asking them to make it clear to the Government that it should not give into demands from the assisted suicide lobby to reconsider the legalisation of assisted suicide. righttolife.org.uk/StopAssistedSuicide

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

The SVP at our two parishes have been supporting many in our parishes and surrounding community in various ways, including keeping them connected via phone calls, newsletter deliveries, and recordings of Mass. They have also been providing food parcels to those in need in the area.



- Are you, or someone you know, in need of support from the SVP at this time?
- Could you help with financial or food donations to help with our ongoing work?
- Would you consider joining the SVP and volunteer your time to help those in need?

If 'Yes' to any of these questions, please contact Jo Stewart 01902 845027 or Eliz Hopkins 07752380833. Alternatively, you can email SecretaryF021402@svp.org.uk

OFFICIAL PRAYER FOR THE YEAR OF ST JOSEPH

To you, O blessed Joseph, do we come in our afflictions, and having implored the help of your most holy Spouse, we confidently invoke your patronage also.

Through that charity which bound you to the Immaculate Virgin Mother of God and through the paternal love with which you embraced the Child Jesus, we humbly beg you graciously to regard the inheritance which Jesus Christ has purchased by His Blood, and with your power and strength to aid us in our necessities.

O most watchful guardian of the Holy Family, defend the chosen children of Jesus Christ; O most loving father, ward off from us every contagion of error and corrupting influence; O our most mighty protector, be kind to us and from heaven assist us in our struggle with the power of darkness.

As once you rescued the Child Jesus from deadly peril, so now protect God's Holy Church from the snares of the enemy and from all adversity; shield, too, each one of us by your constant protection, so that, supported by your example and your aid, we may be able to live piously, to die in holiness, and to obtain eternal happiness in heaven.

Amen.



LIVE STREAM CAMERA

St Christopher's church live streams Mass and other liturgies. Please see notices in the church for more detail.

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY – YEAR B

3RD JANUARY 2021

Saturday	02	St C	5.30 p.m.	Pro Populo
Sunday	03	St C	9.15 a.m.	Mary Wolverson RIP (Birthday)
		St T	11.15 a.m.	Jimmy & Joan Mullen RIP
Monday	04	St C	9.30 a.m.	Vicky Brown & Anne Picken RIP
Tuesday	05	--	-- --	<i>Mass in local parishes</i>
SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY				
Wednesday	06	St C	9.30 a.m.	Rose and Lawrence Sweeney RIP
		St T	7.00 p.m.	For the healing of the Fernandes Family
Thursday	07	--	7.00 p.m.	George O'Malley RIP
Friday	08	St C	9.30 a.m.	Holy Souls
Saturday	09	--	-- --	<i>There is no Saturday morning Mass for the time being.</i>

FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD – YEAR B

10TH JANUARY 2021

Saturday	09	St C	5.30 p.m.	John Clifford RIP
Sunday	10	St C	9.15 a.m.	Pro Populo
		St T	11.15 a.m.	John & Freda Beswick RIP



LITURGICAL NOTE...

Monday	Christmas Feria
Tuesday	Memorial – St Charles of St Andrew
Wednesday	Solemnity of the Epiphany
Thursday	Christmas Feria
Friday	Christmas Feria
Saturday	Christmas Feria

PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISHES...

Antonina Alaimo, Giuseppe Alaimo, Liliana Alaimo, Marian Allen, Dee Allsopp, PWB, Kathy Barnwell, Mrs JT Begue, Shirley Brookman, Julian Chalmers, Margaret Davies, Mary Doherty, Maureen Everitt, Eutemia Fernandes, Clare Fish, Sister Genevieve, Jeff Gibbs, Maisie Hargreaves, MK, T Hill, Emily Jarvis, Anthony Jones, Chris Kennedy, John Lewis, Mr & Alexandra Marshall, Ian Morris, Bernadette Peers, Mary Rock, Mary Spratt, Zofia Stanislawski, Jane Taylor, Leon Thompson, Jayne Wiggins, CHY.

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

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY...

JOY WESTLEY *Funeral Service – 12th January 2021*

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

In line with government regulations, a maximum of thirty people are currently allowed to attend a funeral Mass / funeral service. Therefore, for the time being, attendance at funerals is by invitation only. We continue to pray for those who are mourning the death of a loved one at this time.

FINANCIAL MATTERS... FOR DECEMBER 2020

	Gift Aid	Non-Gift Aid	Total
St Christopher	£2237.00	£120.54	£2357.54
St Thomas	£2458.00	£57.18	£2515.18

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