



St Christopher  
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## SOLEMNITY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD – YEAR B 4<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2021

Dear Parishioners,

### THE LORD HAS TRULY RISEN! ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

*As I sit down to write my weekly letter to you, we are in the midst of the busy preparations for the Easter Triduum. So, it seems a bit odd to be wishing you a Blessed Easter when I haven't even celebrated the Mass of the Lord's Supper yet...but here goes! ☺*

*The Season of Easter – when we rejoice in the Resurrection of Jesus – is a truly wonderful season in the life of the Church and one which can – hopefully – bring all of us new hope. The clocks changing last Sunday now means that the nights are lighter. The garden is springing into life, and the daffodils are beginning to flower. There are signs of new life all around us.*

*This week has also marked another easing of the restrictions imposed to reduce the spread of the Coronavirus. It was lovely to see my parents this week for the first time since Christmas, and I know that other families have also enjoyed being able to see each other this week. I am also aware of how eager people are for the next easing, when hairdressers and barbers are able to finally reopen!*

*The restrictions for churches remained unchanged for the time being, and we continue to ensure that everyone is kept safe whenever they enter our buildings. I am, however, very conscious of the sadness that so many feel as they are still unable to come to Holy Mass at the moment. It has, however, been lovely to hear from many of you in the past few days. Please be encouraged that we are still united together in prayer and we continue to look forward to the day when we can all be reunited together in church!*

*It is hard to believe that I have been Parish Priest here for almost two years, and yet this is my first 'proper' Easter with you. Last year it was only me, Gerard and a camera in the church for the Easter liturgies! I am immensely grateful to everyone who has worked incredibly hard to ensure that our churches are ready for the Easter celebrations – stewards, cleaners, readers, musicians, florists, sacristans, servers and ticket organisers.*

*As we begin the Season of Easter, I wish you and your families a Blessed and Holy Easter. Let's keep praying for each other!*

*With my best wishes and prayers as always.*

*God bless,  
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 ADMINISTRATOR

Linda Allen

*The Parish office is currently closed due to the National Lockdown.*

#### 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)

After Holy Mass at the weekend.

Also available by appointment.

### DONATE ONLINE

Scan this QR code to donate to our parishes online



## WE ARE OPEN FOR HOLY MASS!

**COME:** If you have no flu-like symptoms / not shielding

**LIVESTREAM:** Will continue – now in both churches

**HOLY MASS:** Prayerful, simple, brief

**WELCOME:** Track and Trace to keep everyone safe

### EASTER OFFERING

The collection at each of the Easter Masses is your traditional offering for your Parish Priest. Envelopes are available for you to use for this, but as we are being encouraged to become a little more cashless, there is also an option to make your Easter Offering online, or by using our contactless machine. Please note: no Gift Aid will be collected for this.

### DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Next Sunday (11<sup>th</sup> April) is *Divine Mercy Sunday* and St Joseph's, Wolverhampton are hosting devotions at 3.00 p.m. During this time of prayer, there will be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Divine Mercy Chaplet will be prayed. Confession will also be available. All are welcome to attend and there is no need to book.

### A GENTLE REMINDER

All churches still need to follow government guidelines and adhere to strict social distancing measures. This means that you will continue to be **SHOWN TO YOUR SEAT** by a steward. It may not be the seat you usually sit in, but please follow the stewards' directions. **FACE MASKS** are still compulsory in Public Buildings. Please also avoid standing around on **THE CARPARKS**. It would be awful for us to be closed down at this point when we've gotten this far!

### TRACK AND TRACE

The information we gather as you enter the church for Holy Mass is essential for keeping everyone updated and safe. You can also use the NHS Track and Trace App – there is a QR code at both of our churches.

### PREPARING FOR THE SACRAMENTS

The children at school are now beginning their preparation again, and we are looking at how we can continue preparing any children not in a Catholic School. Unfortunately, the government restrictions mean that this is not possible at the moment, but we are now looking to restart the preparation classes in September. If your child was taking part in the preparation classes (in either parish) please do get in touch with the parish office to let us know that you would like them to continue with their preparation. We keep them all in our prayers at this time.

### 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](mailto:SecretaryF021402@svp.org.uk)

Do visit the SVP page of our website to find out more information about their work and meet some of the members of our SVP conference.



### CONTACTLESS GIVING

You can now donate using our contactless machines located at the entrance to both of our churches. You can, of course, continue using your Weekly Envelopes, Standing Orders, or the collection bags at the end of Holy Mass. If you are joining us from home you can also donate online, visit our parish website, or click the link below the YouTube video.

### NOVENA TO THE DIVINE MERCY

Many parishioners will recall the Novena to the Divine Mercy commencing on Good Friday until the first Sunday after Easter, the actual Feast itself. The leaflets containing the Novena cannot yet be distributed because of regulations surrounding the Coronavirus. They will be available for distribution at each Mass on 18 April, too late for the Novena but containing the famous Chaplet given to St Faustina by Jesus, a prayer of immense spiritual value. There is a limited stock. It is available on [www.divinemercy.org](http://www.divinemercy.org)

### YOUR EXPERIENCE OF FAITH DURING THE PANDEMIC

The Archdiocese is taking part in a survey to reflect on your recent experiences during this Coronavirus pandemic by engaging with a survey which seeks to learn from those experiences of living out your Catholic faith in such challenging, and frequently tragic, circumstances. Your responses will help us to discover what effect the pandemic has had on local Catholics, and how the Church has responded with the light of Christ to so many in difficult situations. This will also help us to see the bigger picture of your faith in action, when communication with one another has been limited. For more information, and to take part in the survey, please visit the Archdiocesan website: [birminghamdiocese.org.uk/news/share-your-experience-of-faith-during-the-pandemic](http://birminghamdiocese.org.uk/news/share-your-experience-of-faith-during-the-pandemic)

*During the Easter Season we don't recite The Angelus, but instead we (would usually!) sing the Easter Marian Anthem, the Regina Caeli. We might not know it at the moment, but it is very easy to pick up...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.

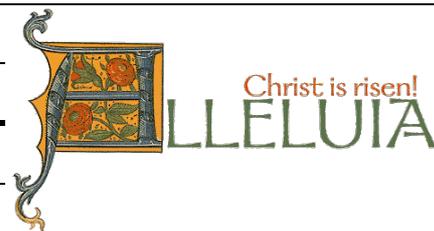
Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia.  
For He whom you did merit to bear, alleluia.  
Has risen, as he said, alleluia.  
Pray for us to God, alleluia.



# SOLEMNITY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD – YEAR B

4<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2021

Holy Sat.	03	St C	8.00 p.m.	Easter Vigil – Pro Populo (TICKET ONLY)
Easter Sunday	04	St C	9.00 a.m.	Monica Stark RIP
		St T	11.00 a.m.	Irene Hughes RIP
Easter Mon.	05	--	-- --	Mass in local churches
Easter Tues.	06	St C	9.30 a.m.	Albert Birch RIP (B'day)
Easter Wed.	07	St T	9.30 a.m.	Anne Patricia Fitzgerald RIP
Easter Thurs.	08	St C	9.30 a.m.	Mary Wolverson RIP (Anniv.)
Easter Fri.	09	St C	9.30 a.m.	Lily Young RIP



## SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY) – YEAR B

11<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2021

Saturday	10	St C	5.30 p.m.	Thomas Toal
Sunday	11	St C	9.00 a.m.	Pro Populo
		St T	11.00 a.m.	In Thanksgiving of 25 years of Religious Life

### LITURGICAL NOTE...

Monday	Easter Octave
Tuesday	Easter Octave
Wednesday	Easter Octave
Thursday	Easter Octave
Friday	Easter Octave
Saturday	Easter Octave

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

CAROL JOHNSON

ISTVAN LABRICZ *Funeral Service 30<sup>th</sup> April 2021*

JAMES CONNOLLY *Funeral Service 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021*

*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...

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

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

*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 MARCH 2021

	Gift Aid	Non -Gift Aid	Total
St Christopher	£2158.00	£230.80	£2388.80
St Thomas	£1448.00	£247.60	£1695.60

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

### LIVE STREAM CAMERA

Our two churches livestream Holy Mass and other liturgies. Please see notices in the church for more detail.

