

**Front Page Update**

To help make access easier for people to see we have simplified the Website Front Page and put some of the links into this Bulletin.

**Contacts**

For Our Lady & St Bernard Parish & St Thomas Becket Parish, Tarporley	For St Saviour & St Mary of the Angels' Parish
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**January 2021 Lockdown**

With this first issue of the Online Newsletter for 2021 we have begun a new Lockdown and a new variant of COVID-19 spreading. It is a time when, more than ever, we need to be extra vigilant in caring for, and supporting one another. In all this concern we have the consolation that, for those who feel well enough and able to come, we are still able to open for Mass with the strict implementation of COVID-19 Protections measures.

This is a great gift, but also a great responsibility in ensuring that we remain careful and vigilant. Notes for each of our parishes are found below.

All that being said, a very Happy New Year to you all! Let's continue to pray for each other in these challenging days.

**Index** *Please scroll through, or to go directly to a section see below:*

- ! For **General Information** for us all, please click (or 'ctrl+click') the following blue highlighted link **General Information** or scroll down
- ! For **St Saviour & St Mary of the Angels' Parish**, please click (or 'ctrl+click') the following blue highlighted link **St Saviour & St Mary of the Angels' Information** or scroll down
- ! For **Our Lady & St Bernard's Parish**, please click (or 'ctrl+click') the following blue highlighted link **Our Lady & St Bernard's Information** or scroll down
- ! For **St Thomas Becket, Tarporley Parish**, please click (or 'ctrl+click') the following blue highlighted link **St Thomas Becket Tarporley Information** or scroll down

**General Information**

For the Prayers for making a Spiritual Communion Please Click:

[When Mass cannot be celebrated publicly](#)

**Pope Francis has prepared two prayers to add to the end of the Rosary for use during this time of pandemic.**

**Please Click:**

[Prayers of Pope Francis to follow the Rosary](#)

**Bishop Mark's Pastoral Letter for the Sunday of the Baptism of the Lord:** Bishop Mark has issued a Pastoral Letter for this weekend of the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, and this can be viewed by clicking on the Link Below:

**[Bishop Mark's Pastoral Letter for the Sunday of the Baptism of the Lord \(Public Worship and Responsibility\)](#)**

### **Repeated Items**

We do try to update and edit information and items as much as possible. However, during these demanding times it is necessary to repeat some items. Please do look at items that you are interested in as we do alter them as much as possible. Thank you for your understanding and patience at this time.

**Suspension of the Obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holydays still in place:** The Bishops wish to remind us that the Obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holydays is still suspended due to the extraordinary Circumstances we are still in. The Bishops state, that whilst some places may have Mass available, it is up to people themselves whether they feel comfortable coming at this stage. Please see the Bishops of England & Wales' Website: [www.cbcew.org.uk](http://www.cbcew.org.uk) explaining the situation.

**Funeral Services in Church:** You may be aware that some simple Funeral Services are happening in Church again. Due to the Virus Protection Measures these are capped at 30 people, so this is for immediate family only, or for those they have asked as part of their number. Please don't just turn up or we sadly will not be able to admit you.

**Weddings in Church:** During the present Lockdown these can only be celebrated in emergency situations.

**Baptisms in Church:** Again, during the present Lockdown these can only be celebrated in emergency situations.

### **Masses and Services can be viewed online, these are some links to help:**

Diocese of Shrewsbury (Shrewsbury Cathedral): [www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org](http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org)

Walsingham National RC Shrine of Our Lady: [www.walsingham.org.uk](http://www.walsingham.org.uk)

Catholic Television Channel: [www.ewtn.com](http://www.ewtn.com)

**Volunteers to help with reopening of Churches:** Many thanks to those who have offered already. Please see the notes below in the different Parishes' Sections.

**Lately Dead:** Please pray for the following who have died recently and for their families: Betty Jacobs, Doreen Adams, Imelda Curran, Eileen Jones, Maureen Maddocks-Wilby, Doris Arathoon, Elizabeth Allen, Gerard Marsden, Brian Doyle

**Year of St Joseph:** In his recent Pastoral Letter Bishop Mark dedicated the recovery of our Diocese, after the COVID-19 Measures, to the intercession of St Joseph, and Pope Francis has also entrusted the whole Universal Church to the Prayer of St Joseph. There are now Prayer Cards available for us to ask the intercession of St Joseph, and these should be available in our Churches.

**Prayers for the Sick:** Please pray for Celia Pearson, Doreen Scouler, Nora Williams, Marion Fletcher, Terry Gorman and Mark Wilson for whom our prayers have been asked

**Diocesan Mission for Catechesis:** A few Parishioners from our Pastoral Area were working with Mr Rueben Purchase from our Diocesan Mission for Catechesis. Rueben is now back at work and the Mission for Catechesis now has its own YouTube channel; you can find it on:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgLVgfUIN3HarGh2AP803qA>

Rueben and the Diocesan Mission for Catechesis now have their own website and you can find it on:

<http://www.weareallcatechists.com>

**Caritas:** 'Caritas' is the Catholic organisation that incorporates what we used to call the 'Catholic Children's Society'. In some of our Churches we have had the tradition of placing presents under the Christmas Tree for Caritas, Diocese of Shrewsbury, to give to families in need. This year, because of the COVID-10 Regulations Caritas, Diocese of Shrewsbury are asking that donations are made online, and there is a link below. However, if anyone would still like to give the traditional 'present', then we can arrange this. We'll say more a little closer to Christmas; for now to make a donation online, please go to:

<https://www.caritasshrewsbury.org.uk/services/community-projects/>

**SVP Holiday Home Fundraising Link:** Many of you will know the difference that the SVP Holiday Home in Talacre has made for families who might not have been able to have a holiday otherwise. With the COVID-19 restrictions the usual Holiday Home Fundraising Activities have not been possible. Therefore the SVP have set up a fundraising page and this can be viewed through the link below:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/chesterellesmereportholidayhome>

**COLLECTION ENVELOPES UPDATE:** Many thanks to those who have dropped off Collection Envelopes; with some opportunities for paying in cash being available now, if you are passing please put your any Collection Envelopes you may have through either Our Lady's or St Mary's Presbytery Letter Boxes and these can be dealt with. To set up a Standing Order please see the links in each Parish Section below. As the item mentions, Parishioners will be able to Gift Aid their Online donation. Please note that this will not involve any additional work for Parish Gift Aid Organisers – the Gift Aid will be claimed centrally by the Planned Giving & Gift Aid Service. Parishioners will need to use a password each time they donate – this is created the first time that they make a donation. All donations made by Parishioners are acknowledged by an email from 'InvestMyCommunity'. Please also be aware that donations appear on the bank/credit card statements of the donor with the narrative "Invest My School".

**THANK YOU AGAIN:** We continue to pray for each other in this time, and thanks again for the many ways of support you have and are showing.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession):** Please see the **St Saviour & St Mary of the Angels' Information**, Section and the **Our Lady & St Bernard's Parish** Section below for their Confession Times. At this time we are not able to offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation at **St Thomas Beckett, Tarpoley Parish** for the time being but hope to have more information soon.

For people who are not able to come to the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) the Bishops of England & Wales have recommended that people say 'The Perfect Act of Contrition' below until such time as they are able to return to the Sacrament.

**The 'Perfect 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 on me."*

**Readings for the Sunday of the Baptism of the Lord in Year B:** Earlier in the week we celebrated the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord. The word 'Epiphany' means 'to show forth' – to allow something to be seen for what it is. Two people can see the same thing, but perceive different things. Anyone passing the

stable of Bethlehem might have 'just seen' a baby with its mother and father, they might have wondered why someone was looking after a baby in a stable, but maybe thought nothing more of it than that!

The Wise Men come and 'see' with a different perception; they see in the baby 'Emmanuel' 'God-with-us' and they offer symbolic gift that show they truly see who this baby is, and will be. They give Gold, for a King of Kings, Frankincense, to honour God in front of them, Myrrh to show this is one who will die for us. The Wise Men who are 'Gentiles' Non-Jews, represent the nations of the world, and this baby who is God-with-us is shown forth, and recognised by the nations.

Today's feast, the Baptism of the Lord, is another Epiphany Scene, it might be described '30 years later, Epiphany 2, the Baptism'. The Baptism of the Lord is a powerful sign again of who Jesus is, and what his ministry will be. All four Gospels, in some way, record this event.

We look at the picture, John the Baptist is by the River Jordan; he shares hope that God is not distant, but to all who seek him he will open a way in their hearts, he 'baptises' people who go into the water to show a 'cleansing' a 'new beginning and change of heart' 'repentance'. John says one is coming who will be more than the sign of God's presence that he is, but be that very presence.

Then from all who are seeking John the Baptist Jesus comes to be baptised. Did Jesus need Baptism? No, but he wishes to show where his ministry and service will be; not standing on the bank, looking down at those struggling and squirming in the water, he 'plunges' in with them, struggles for breath with them and rises from the water.

We have seen this scene before, it goes right back to the stable of Bethlehem it is 'Emmanuel' 'God-with-us'. God in Jesus does not look down disdainfully at those in need, but 'plunges' in with them, feels their struggles, and as 'One with them' leads and shows the way, starting from where they are, leads as one of them.

This image is endorsed by the sign of the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove, and God the Father's voice "You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you." It is a beautiful and moving moment' showing where God is, where God longs to be, not with the 'mighty and self-important' looking down, but with those who are most in need, literally 'plunging in' with them.

Today's Readings reflect this message.

The First Reading comes from the second part of the Old Testament Prophet Isaiah, referred to as the Book of Consolation, containing as in today's reading, one of the 'Servant Songs'.

As I have said to you before, this part of the Prophet Isaiah was compiled to give hope to the leading citizens and artisans of the old kingdom of Judah who were taken in exile to Babylon roughly between 597 to 538 BC after the fall of Jerusalem and the Temple. The Exile was a massive moment of change for the people of Israel, when all their old securities, all their formulas, and 'anchors' had gone for good; the old way was gone, but prophets like Isaiah showed that in turning to God there was a new way, and new beginning possible.

In today's passage God's Servant is shown 'among the people' in gentle, loving service. God will lead from within, and the exiles are invited to a 'change of heart' of outlook and perception so that they can recognise that presence of God in day to day life, and perhaps, by their embracing it, be it. The first Christians saw in these 'Servant Songs' a promise of the coming of Jesus who be God's presence among the people.

The Second Reading is from the New Testament Acts of the Apostles. It continues St Luke's Gospel, and it is compiled by St Luke. St Luke's Gospel and the Acts of the Apostles are more or less two volumes of a single work that could almost be called 'A History of the Rise of Christianity'.

Today's passage portrays St Peter in the house of the Roman Centurion Cornelius. It is a pivotal moment; St Peter realises that in his encounter with the faith in Jesus professed by the Roman Soldier Cornelius and his household that the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus is not just for Jewish people, but for peoples of all nations and backgrounds. St Peter has to open his own understanding, and he speaks to them about Jesus' mission. After Jesus had encountered John the Baptist and by the power of the Holy Spirit shared the message, and now Peter rejoices that the message is for all people.

The Baptism of the Lord is the very start of St Mark's Gospel, there are no 'infancy narratives' in Mark, they are developed later in St Matthew and St Luke. Mark's Gospel starts with the Baptism of the Lord, showing that the work and mission of Jesus starts from him 'plunging in' with us, being anointed by the Holy Spirit to proclaim the Good News of the way of God among us.

Today continues to 'show forth' God becoming one with us. When people traditionally thought of 'god' or 'gods' they were portrayed as giant beings, often 'looking down' on humanity's struggles, and people offering them sacrifices to appease them, or win their favour. The God of the Old Testament gradually revealed that the way of God was one of relationship, consent and a change of heart. Now God is with us in Jesus, not 'looking down' or 'outside', but 'One-With-Us' joining in the struggle of humanity, feeling pain and suffering, joy and love, leading and showing God's Way from within, as One like us, showing that the 'Way' is not beyond us because God as a Human Person showed how Human People can live that Way. By his Birth, Life, Death, Resurrection, Ascension and Gift of the Holy Spirit he has made that Way available to us all.

Though the Gift of the Holy Spirit alive in the Sacraments, and in people's lives that Way becomes part of our 'way'.

As the sign of Jesus 'plunging' in with us still inspires, so amid all the challenges of world today, near and far, he still 'plunges' in through the lives of his people. I have seen, amid all the challenges of recent days, how faith in the Incarnation, the Word made flesh, God-with-us still inspires people today. Locally there have been so many selfless acts of caring and service, people going out of their way to see others are cared for, people going the extra mile. On the wider scale, faith in the Incarnation has inspired people to acts of selfless service in questioning and challenging systems and structures, so that the poorest and most vulnerable are not cast aside. This faith has encouraged some even to put their lives on the line in caring for others.

The sign of God who becomes one with us in Jesus encourages and inspires us all. It becomes 'about us' once again in the here and now. The 'Word' became flesh in Jesus, and whenever we seek to live his way, even challenge ourselves to go the extra mile, then those words of God become flesh in us.

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord completes the Church Season of Christmastide. We don't leave it there though, yes the Crib and Decorations go away, but the Word remains with us always, and whenever we seek to live it, the Word becomes a living Word today.

**Care for 'Our Common Home' & CAFOD Links:** Check out the following Websites for further information on care for 'Our Common Home', CAFOD, the Fair Trade Foundation, the Bishops Conference of England & Wales on care for environment and CAFOD online Events:

- ! Our Common Home: [www.ourcommonhome.co.uk](http://www.ourcommonhome.co.uk)
- ! Bishops' Conference of England & Wales Links: [www.cbcew.org.uk](http://www.cbcew.org.uk)
- ! CAFOD Website: [www.cafod.org.uk](http://www.cafod.org.uk)
- ! The Fairtrade Foundation Website: [www.fairtrade.org.uk](http://www.fairtrade.org.uk)

## St Saviour & Mary of the Angels' Information



This week the churches of St Saviour's and St Mary of the Angel's will be open for prayer before the Blessed Sacrament and Holy Mass at the following times:

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> January:**

**St Mary's** 10.00am Holy Mass & Holy Hour- Fr Louis' Intentions

**St Saviour's:** **BAPTISM OF THE LORD** Vigil Mass at 5pm: Thanksgiving Intention

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> January:** **BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

**St Mary's:** 9.00am Holy Mass: (Parishioners Intentions)

**St Saviour's:** 11.00am Holy Mass: John Jarvis RIP 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January: St Mary's:** 9.30am: Holy Mass: Mark Rymel (RIP)

10am: Rite of Burial for Mark Rymel RIP

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January: St Mary's:** 9.30am Holy Hour - St **Aelred (Abbot)** –

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January: St Saviour's:** **St Hilary (Bishop & Doctor of the Church)**

**St Saviour's:** 6.00pm holy Hour, 7.00pm Holy Mass: Thomas Gunning (RIP)

7.30pm Novena.

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January: St Mary's** 9.30am Holy Mass: Pat Higgins

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January: St Saviour's** 9.30am: Holy Mass: Sean Leary Intentions

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> January:**

**St Mary's:** Sorry No Mass or Service Today

**St Saviour's:** Vigil Mass at 5pm: Brian O'Rourke

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> January:** **SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**St Mary's:** 9.00am Holy Mass: Doreen Adams

**St Saviour's:** 11.00am Holy Mass: Parishioners Intentions

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Betty Jacobs, Gerard Marsden, Doreen Adams, Brian Doyle, Please keep all of our recently deceased and their families in your prayers.

**CHRISTMAS MASSES:** Thank you to all who booked for and attended our Christmas Masses. A very big thank you to our office staff, volunteers and stewards who all worked so hard in support of this ministry. Our gratitude also to the parishioners who kindly assisted in preparing our churches for the Christmas Season.

**Please note that there is no need at present to book for any other Masses.**

As always when attending services in our churches we ask that you follow the instructions of our volunteer stewards and remain in your allocated seat.

Please be assured that all the required and necessary risk assessments and safety measures are in place.

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK, HOSPITALISED & HOUSEBOUND:** Please keep in your prayers all who are sick, bereaved or suffering at this time. In particular we remember all suffering with or because of the consequences of the pandemic

**FOOD BANK AND FOOD HAMPERS: 2021:** It is our intention to keep this increasingly vital ministry active and available. At present the Foodbank is well stocked but we will keep you updated as to specific needs as time goes on. Once again we express our huge gratitude for the generosity of so many people in making this ministry a reality. This is enabling us to support people who find themselves in need at this very difficult time.

*If you would benefit from some support from the parish foodbank or know of anyone who would, please speak to one of the clergy team or SVP members*

**CHRISTMAS DAY DINNER:** This year due to the issues relating to the Corona Virus we operated a 'Meals on Wheels' service along with Christmas Hampers. A large number of hampers were delivered in the days before Christmas Day when hot meals were also prepared and delivered. A huge thank you for the overwhelming generosity of so many parishioners who supported this ministry and to the volunteers who gave up their time on Christmas Day. This combined kindness made this Christian outreach possible.

**PARISH OFFERINGS & DONATIONS:** We acknowledge that we are all living through very difficult times and for many this includes financial difficulties. The Church is not exempt from this and understandably our parish finances are now significantly reduced. If you are able to continue to support the life and ministry of the parish financially this is greatly appreciated and valued. Offerings and planned giving envelopes can be left in the church collection boxes in each of our churches or posted through the door of St Mary's Presbytery.

**Please do not post through the Presbytery (house) at St Saviour's, thank you.**

#### **BAPTISM:**

This Sunday at St Saviour's we welcome Jenson & Jaxx Marshall as members of God's family through the sacrament of baptism. Please keep Jenson, Jaxx and their family in your prayers

#### **PARISH WEEKLY BULLETIN:**

It is good news that our bulletin is now delivered each week to hundreds of people via email. If you would like to receive the bulletin in this way please contact the parish office and let us know. Bulletins will also be available in church during opening hours. However, if due to lockdown, poor health or any other reason, you can't receive a bulletin by any of these ways, please let us know and we will once again arrange delivery to your address. Our LPA website will contain regular updates please visit [www.rcchep.co.uk](http://www.rcchep.co.uk)

#### **LOCK-DOWN 2021**

We understand that as we enter this latest period of 'Lockdown' many of us will have our own struggles and challenges. On this occasion, thank God, our churches are not being closed and as such will remain open for Holy Mass, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and times of private prayer. It is worthy of note that the safety measures being applied so diligently by our stewards far exceed those in any other public buildings such as shops. We continue to endeavour to keep the parish as present and active as is appropriate and possible at this time. We encourage you all to remain strong in faith and not to live in fear. In the words of the phrase most commonly used in Scripture;

***'DO NOT BE AFRAID'***

**PARISH OFFERINGS & DONATIONS:** Please place all offerings, donations, etc. into the basket/box in each of our churches or post through St Mary's Presbytery.

**Please do not post through the Presbytery (house) at St Saviour's, thank you.**

**SETTING UP A STANDING ORDER:** We've also been asked by several folk whether they can set up either a Temporary or Permanent Standing Order during the time when our Churches are closed or not easily

accessible. This is very kind of people, and this support is greatly appreciated. Our Diocesan Gift Aid Organiser, Mr Mike Russell, that many of you know, can sort out sending a form to you to set this up. Mike's email address is: [Mike.Russell@dioceseofshrewsbury.org](mailto:Mike.Russell@dioceseofshrewsbury.org)  
He would be happy to hear from you.

Also an online giving page has been set up by the Diocesan Finance Office through 'InvestMyCommunity.com' for our Parishes

The page for **St Saviour and St Mary's Parish** can be found at:

<https://investmycommunity.com/not-logged-donator/page/SsSaviour&MaryGreatSutton&Hooton2159>

***If you wish to speak to the clergy regarding any concern, requests for ministry or area of need, please call the Parish office at St Mary of the Angels on 0151 327 6158. (Please note that the office is staffed as much as possible and the answerphone is checked regularly)***

***With due regard to the particularly difficult circumstances of our time we sincerely hope that you have all enjoyed a happy, peaceful & joyful Christmas Day and season. It is our prayer that this New Year will bring better days for all. As such we extend our prayers and very best wishes for 2021 to you and your loved ones.***

With our continued prayers, presence & support.

Yours in Christ

***Fr Louis, Deacon Tony & Tony Nuttall***



## FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



### CATECHISM CORNER

Through the centuries, in so many languages, cultures, peoples and nations, the Church has constantly confessed one faith, received from the one Lord, transmitted by one baptism and grounded in the conviction that all people have only one God and Father

(Catechism of the Catholic Church – Profession of Faith)

### SCRIPTURE CORNER (Ephesians 4: 5-6)

**'There is one Lord, one Faith, one baptism, there is one God and father of all who is Lord of all and is in all.'**

## [Our Lady & St Bernard's Information](#)

**Masses at Our Lady's:** For the time being the Temporary Mass Times at Our Lady's Church during these COVID-19 Protection Measures are:

For this week the Private and Public Mass Intentions will be:

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> January Vigil (The Baptism of the Lord)**

– 6.00pm Mass in Our Lady's Church: Clare Murphy

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> January (The Baptism of the Lord)**

– 9.30am Mass in Our Lady's Church: Robert Henricus

– 11.00am Mass in Our Lady's Church: Parishioners

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January – No Mass today**

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January - Private Mass – Maureen Wilby**

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January - Private Mass – Anne Reddy**

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January - Private Mass – Priest's Intention**

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January**

-11.00am to 11.30am Confessions

– 12.noon Mass in Our Lady's Church: Chalkie White

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> January**

– No Mass during the day

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> January Vigil (The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time)**

– 6.00pm Mass in Our Lady's Church: Edwards' Family Intention

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> January (The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time)**

– 9.30am Mass in Our Lady's Church: Parishioners

– 11.00am Mass in Our Lady's Church: Maureen & Reg Sutton

**Mass Times Sheet in Our Lady's Church:** There is a sheet available to take with you listing Mass and Service Times in Our Lady & St Bernard Parish on the front and St Saviour & St Mary of the Angels' Parish on the other side.

**A big 'Thank You':** So many people worked so hard behind the scenes to make our Services possible over Christmas in these challenging times. Your effort is greatly appreciated and valued by us all.

Thank you also for the kind wishes and gifts that you sent; peoples' kindness and generosity has been such an encouragement in these difficult times. May God bless and care for you all.

**Diocesan Year Books, Shrewsbury Voice Magazines and Diaries and Calendars:** We do have available Diocese of Shrewsbury 2021 Year Books, Christmas issues of the Shrewsbury Voice Magazine and 2021 LPA Diaries & Calendars. As we are trying to avoid in accordance with COVID-19 Protection Measures, too many

things for people to handle, and hold people up in Church, please ask us if you would like any of these items and can arrange this for you.

**Foundation Governors for Our Lady's & St Bernard's Primary Schools:** Thank you to those who have come forward already for this, as I say Our Catholic Schools are a vital part of our Parish Families, and by law schools have Governing Bodies of volunteers who support, and work with the School Staff to ensure that the Schools manage everything in line with what is expected. In our Catholic Schools, along with other Faith Schools, the majority of these Governing Bodies are made up of 'Foundation Governors'. In our Catholic Schools, Foundation Governors are practising Catholics who are appointed by the Bishop to help support him in ensuring the 'Catholicity' of the School amid all the other necessary teaching that is required by the Government. We always try to have some Foundation Governors who are parents at our Schools. At present both at Our Lady's and St Bernard's Primary Schools we have vacancies for Foundation Governors, and would ask that if you are a practising Catholic who wishes to support our Schools, that you consider offering to help in this way. For more information please contact me (Father Niall) at Our Lady's on: T. 0151 355 1255 or E: [parishol@rcchep.co.uk](mailto:parishol@rcchep.co.uk) Additional information can be found in the Education Section in our Diocesan Website on: [www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org](http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org)

**Safety for the Celebration of Mass in Our Lady's Church:**

**! PLEASE FOLLOW THE DIRECTION OF THE PRIEST AND THE STEWARDS AT ALL TIMES, ESPECIALLY ON ARRIVAL AND LEAVING**

**Please remember that we are gathering in a time of a World Health Crisis, so do please act responsibly and sensitively to others in Church and on the way out. Please follow the guidance of the Priest and the Stewards. Thank You**

Once again, sorry if this all sounds a great deal of 'palaver'; these restrictions have been agreed by the Bishops of England & Wales and the Government Health Advisors to minimise the risk of spreading the virus and keeping people safe. Following these procedures has enabled us to reopen for Mass.

During Mass me (Father Niall) and the Stewards will guide you. When Mass is finished you will be asked to leave through the Car Park Door. **Please keep the one way system, and do not enter through the car park exit door. It is more important than ever that we keep safe space from one another; for the same reason please do not gather in groups to talk in the car park. This new variant of COVID-19 is spreading rapidly and we all need to play our part in helping stop the spread, to care for one another and help protect the Health Service**

**Please note also that, again because of Infection Prevention Regulations, we are unable to open the Toilets for these times. Please take this into consideration before coming out**

**Also, please note that if you are shielding, or in a vulnerable category of any kind, it would be unwise for you to come to Church until all restrictions are lifted. *This is for your own protection and well-being. The Coronavirus is still around, and this is part of the measures to minimise the risk***

**Again, just to remind you, that the obligation to attend Mass is still suspended, so if for any reason you do not feel able to come please don't worry. You may wish to come during the week when this is available or join in spiritually through a livestream link. Even if we seem to be praying alone, in Christ we are never alone.**

All that being said, it is lovely to welcome you back to Our Lady's Church for Mass!

**Stewards and Cleaners at Our Lady's Church:** Thank to our Stewards and Cleaners who work so hard to enable us to open for Masses and Services. If you feel you could help in this way please contact us on: T: 0151 355 1255, E: [parishol@rcchep.co.uk](mailto:parishol@rcchep.co.uk)

**Confessions in Our Lady's Church:** These are generally available on Fridays at 11.00am. Please check the weekly notes, and follow the direction of the Stewards when you arrive.

**Prayers for the Sick:** Please pray for Nora Williams and Mark Wilson who have asked our Prayers

**SETTING UP A STANDING ORDER:** We've also been asked by several folk whether they can set up either a Temporary or Permanent Standing Order during the time when our Churches are closed or not easily accessible. This is very kind of people, and this support is greatly appreciated. Our Diocesan Gift Aid Organiser, Mr Mike Russell, that many of you know, can sort out sending a form to you to set this up. Mike's email address is: [Mike.Russell@dioceseofshrewsbury.org](mailto:Mike.Russell@dioceseofshrewsbury.org)  
He would be happy to hear from you.

Also an online giving page has been set up by the Diocesan Finance Office through 'InvestMyCommunity.com' for both of our Parishes

The page for **Our Lady & St Bernard's Parish** can be found at:

<https://investmycommunity.com/not-logged-donator/page/ourladyandstbernarddioceseofshrewsbury2137>

## **St Thomas Becket Tarporley Information**

Welcome if you are joining us from St Thomas Becket Parish in Tarporley. Thank you to Father Joe and all who worked so hard over Christmas to make it possible for people to gather safely for Mass.

**Mass at St Thomas Becket during the January 2021 Lockdown:** As you are well aware the spread of the new COVID-19 variant has greatly increased. During this time of the new Lockdown **it has been considered wiser to reduce the number able to attend Mass to 27 people. Also attendance is now by Pre-Booking Only.** Please call: 01829 732511 to book a place. This is to help protect your safety and help in preparation.

Thank you for those who have volunteered to act as stewards. If anyone else would be willing to act as a Steward could you please contact me here, or leave your name and details with our Secretary. Please call us on T: 0151 355 1255 (Monday to Friday 9.00am to 4.00pm if possible) or E: [parishol@rcchep.co.uk](mailto:parishol@rcchep.co.uk) and we can get this set up.

Rather than a long list of 'dos' and 'don'ts' which will put folk off, it's easier to sum up by saying as I have done for our Churches here above:

**! PLEASE FOLLOW THE DIRECTION OF THE PRIEST AND THE STEWARDS AT ALL TIMES, ESPECIALLY ON ARRIVAL AND LEAVING**

Once again, sorry if this all sounds a great deal of 'palaver'; these restrictions have been agreed by the Bishops of England & Wales and the Government Health Advisors to minimise the risk of spreading the virus and keeping people safe. Following these procedures has enabled us to reopen for Mass.

During Mass Father Joe and the Stewards will guide you. When Mass is finished you will be asked to leave through the Side Door to the right of the Sanctuary. Please note that, **the wearing of face coverings for those attending Church is now obligatory** excluding those who have a special exemption.

All that being said, welcome back to Mass at St Thomas Becket!

The Mass details for the coming are:

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> January (The Baptism of the Lord)**

– 11.00am Mass in St Thomas Becket Church: Parishioners **(Pre-Booked People Only)**

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> January (The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time)**

– 11.00am Mass in St Thomas Becket Church: Parishioners **(Pre-Booked People Only)**

We continue to pray for one another during this time.

**Please remember that we are gathering in a time of a World Health Crisis, so do please act responsibly and sensitively to others in Church and on the way out. Please follow the guidance of the Priest and the Stewards. Thank You**

Below, I'm leaving in the listing of the Websites for the neighbouring Chester Parishes with information of when they might be open for Private Prayer and the Celebration of Mass in case this is help to you:

- ! **St Werburgh's, Chester:** [www.stwerburghchester.co.uk](http://www.stwerburghchester.co.uk)
- ! **St Francis, Chester:** [www.stfrancischester.co.uk](http://www.stfrancischester.co.uk)
- ! **St Columba & St Theresa, Chester:** [www.stcolumbachester.wordpress.com](http://www.stcolumbachester.wordpress.com)
- ! **St Clare's, Lache, Chester:** [www.stclares.co.uk](http://www.stclares.co.uk)

**Thanks again:** A big thank you once again to all who are working so hard and have enabled St Thomas Becket to reopen for Mass; your effort is greatly appreciated. Please do contact me, Canon Niall Mullaley on T: 0151 355 1255 or E: [parishol@rcchep.co.uk](mailto:parishol@rcchep.co.uk) if there is any way I can help. Preferably if you could do this during Office Hours here Monday to Friday 9.00am to 4.00pm, that would help, but you are welcome to call at other times if this is not possible.

**Collection Envelopes and Standing Orders:** Thank you to all who have enquired about their Offertory Envelopes and have also set up Standing Orders. If you would like to set up a Standing Order please see the note below.

**SETTING UP A STANDING ORDER:** We've also been asked by several folk whether they can set up either a Temporary or Permanent Standing Order during the time when our Churches are closed or not easily accessible. This is very kind of people, and this support is greatly appreciated. Our Diocesan Gift Aid Organiser, Mr Mike Russell, that many of you know, can sort out sending a form to you to set this up. Mike's email address is: [Mike.Russell@dioceseofshrewsbury.org](mailto:Mike.Russell@dioceseofshrewsbury.org)  
He would be happy to hear from you.

Also an online giving page has been set up by the Diocesan Finance Office through 'InvestMyCommunity.com' for both of our Parishes

If you are visiting us from **St Thomas Becket Parish in Tarpoley** where the Regional Dean, Canon Niall Mullaley, has oversight, you can donate to St Thomas' Parish at:

<https://investmycommunity.com/not-logged-donator/page/stthomasbeckettarpoleydioceseofshrewsbury2181>