

ELLESMERE PORT & HOOTON CHURCHES WITH ST THOMAS BECKET, TARPORLEY
UPDATE BULLETIN WEEKEND OF 18th OCTOBER 2020
AND FOLLOWING WEEK

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, Tarpорley	For St Saviour & St Mary of the Angels' Parish
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- ! 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, Tarpорley Parish**, please click (or 'ctrl+click') the following blue highlighted link **St Thomas Becket Tarpорley Information** or scroll down

General Information

For the Prayers for making a Spiritual Communion Please Click:

[When Mass cannot be celebrated publicly](#)

For the Month October Prayer Resource Sheet Please Click:

[Prayer Resource for the Month of October](#)

For this Weekend's Reflection Sheet Please Click:

[Reflection Sheet 29 Sunday](#)

Pastoral Letter

To view Bishop Mark's recent Pastoral Letter: Please Click:

[Pastoral Letter - 27th September](#)

Pope Francis has also 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](#)

Bishops' Conference of England & Wales' Website: www.cbcew.org.uk

Go to the Bishops' Conference of England & Wales' Front Page for information, videos, meditations and prayers for this time.

Guidelines for the Celebration of Mass and for Confession

For your information, below are copied the Guidelines from the Bishops of England & Wales for the Celebration of Mass and the Celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation at this time:

[Guidance for Acts of Worship](#)

[Guidance for Confession June 2020](#)

Update on COVID Regulations from the Bishops of England & Wales

For your information, below are copied the latest updated COVID-19 Regulations from the Bishops' Conference of England & Wales:

[Updated COVID Regulations](#)

Father Louis and Deacon Tony have prepared two Online Holy Hours, which can be accessed by clicking the links below:

[St Mary's Holy Hour](#) Video

[St Saviour's Holy Hour](#) Video

Masses can be viewed online, these are some links to help:

Diocese of Shrewsbury: www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org

Walsingham National RC Shrine of Our Lady: www.walsingham.org.uk

Catholic Television Channel: 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.

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 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: You may be aware that from last week, the Government, as part of their efforts to curb the latest surge in COVID-19 outbreaks has now capped the number at Weddings and other what they define as 'life cycle ceremonies' to 15 people. Again, these are for immediate family and others who they have invited.

Baptisms in Church: We recently heard from the Bishops of England & Wales that the Health Authorities have now capped the number allowed to attend at Baptisms to 6 people only.

Latelly Dead: Please pray for the following who have died recently and for their families: Mary Fox, Thomas Madden, Mark Rymell, Stephen Peter McGuinness, Brian Leech

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

Fratelli Tutti: In Assisi two weeks ago, Pope Francis has issued a new encyclical called 'Fratelli Tutti' which calls us to see each other as brothers and sisters. Pope Francis is inviting us all, in a world changed by COVID-19 to move forward in the light of Christ, to be clothed in the values of the Gospel. Throughout his Pontificate,

Pope Francis has challenged the imbalance of power and wealth in our world that causes poverty and destitution, he has challenged the greed that leads to the climate crisis and the dire effects it has on our whole world. Fraternity and social friendship are the ways the Pope Francis indicates to build a better, more just and peaceful world, with the contribution of all: people and institutions. With an emphatic confirmation of a 'no' to war and to globalized indifference.

Pope Francis doesn't just say what's wrong, he shows what is right, and seek to move forward in a new way. If we seek to move forward in the light of Christ's teaching, and seek to see one another, and our world in that light then we can break down barriers and give new hope.

Hard copies of the Encyclical are becoming available, and if there is enough interest we might be able to order these. However the Encyclical is available for downloading now for e-readers and e-reading apps from the usual sellers.

Employment Opportunity - Diocesan In-House Solicitor

The Diocese of Shrewsbury are looking to recruit an **In-House Solicitor**, who will be required to provide legal advice and support on a range of matters including employment and HR (including sponsor management for overseas workers), commercial, probate, litigation, and academy conversion. Based at the Curial Office in Birkenhead. Full details and application form can be found at: <http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/curia/vacancies>

Completed applications should be returned to recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org

Closing date Friday 6 November.

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>

Also, for those who were doing the online course this still available. Again, we'll hopefully try and pick this up again when things return to some kind of normality.

Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC): SPUC have asked that we include the following items in this Newsletter: Help stop DIY abortions - During the Coronavirus pandemic unborn babies and their mothers have been at even greater risk of abortion. The Government's "pills through the post", brought in as COVID-19 measure, means that over 23,000 women in England and Wales aborted their baby at home during lockdown. Please help us to spread the truth about DIY abortion and save women and babies from the tragedy of abortion.

Will you deliver pro-life information leaflets about DIY abortions door-to-door in your area? Every leaflet could make the difference to a vulnerable woman and save a baby's life. Please go to our [website](#) to learn more and order some leaflets. Or you can order leaflets by calling SPUC on 020 7091 7091.

Sign the petition to save the right to save lives - Pro-abortion MPs in Parliament want to stop pregnant women getting help outside abortion clinics by calling for buffer zones. SPUC is campaigning to save the right for peaceful pro-life vigils to take place. Hundreds of children are alive today in this country because their mother met a loving pro-life person just before they walked into the abortion clinic. We must protect this vital work. Please sign our petition to save the right to save lives. It only takes a minute of your time, but it could mean a lifetime for an unborn baby. You can sign the petition here: <https://spuc.org.uk/SaveTheRightToSaveLives>

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>

Video from St Mary's Church: A Video of Kathleen Devine singing 'Ave Maria' has been recorded at St Mary's Church and this can be viewed through the link below:

<https://wettransfer.com/downloads/946d17311b0d29dda5a247c4d37571c220200909201509/bdc2190a6ef06c5bfbea68d5bc16a420200909201524/6df25b>

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. If you would like your new Collection Envelopes, please see the notes in the relevant Parishes Sections. Also, you may consider setting up a Standing Order with the details below. See also the note below in the 'St Saviour & St Mary's Section' if you are a Parishioner there. If anyone from St Thomas Becket Parish in Tarporley would like information about their Collection Envelopes please contact Canon Niall Mullaley on: 0151 355 1255 or email: parishol@rcchep.co.uk

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

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

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

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

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

<https://investmycommunity.com/not-logged-donator/page/stthomasbeckettarporleydioceseofshrewsbury2181>

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: 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, Tarporley 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 Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A: This weekend's First Reading and Gospel reflect a theme of the right use of what we have, and the right relationship with those in authority and with our faith in God.

As I have said before, in Ordinary Time, the scene is set from the first Old Testament reading. Today's First Reading comes from the Old Testament prophet Isaiah. This reading comes from the second part of the book of Isaiah called 'The Book of Consolation', compiled towards the end of the exile of the leading Jewish citizens and artisans in Babylon, seventy years or so after the fall of the Jewish Kingdom of Judah with the destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple.

The Book of Consolation introduces the hope of a new start to the exiles, in this passage today we see the figure of the Persian Emperor Cyrus the Great, who ruled the Persian Empire between the years 559 to 530 BC. The Judean exiles had been taken to Babylon, and the Persian Empire later absorbed the Babylonian Empire into its rule. During the exile many Judeans had grown into positions of importance, people like Zerubbabel and Nehemiah. Under Cyrus, who ruled with a more enlightened view, many of the exiles and their families were allowed to return to the Holy Land and begin the restoration of the Temple and Jerusalem. This takes us to today's first reading.

This passage is to give hope to the exiles that God is working in this new situation to bring a new beginning, through the Emperor Cyrus. The exile had been a time of reflection and change of heart. Many of the Judeans had never lived in the Holy Land, they had been raised in Babylon, and embraced their traditional faith in the one God of Israel with a new and fresh understanding. By their turning and seeking God's way, they were able to see the hand of God in the situations around them, and that by Cyrus' attitude to different peoples, and his more enlightened view of how people should be treated, this could open a way for the reestablishment of their nation in the Holy Land. It was an invitation to the Jewish people in Babylon and the other parts of the Persian Empire, not to see the political changes going on around them as something they were 'outside of' but by looking and responding through the eyes of faith, they could help affect change for the good. The people prayed, and through the good intentions of rulers like Cyrus, a new beginning came about. Persevering in the vision of faith, even when all around us seems to be out of our control, we begin to see with the vision of God, and believe in the change we can each bring about for the better.

In today's Gospel of St Matthew some of the Religious Leaders try to trap Jesus. Why? Because he was challenging their so called position and status, 'rocking their pedestals' and some of them wanted to get rid of him.

They had tried various tricks and failed, but now they thought they had the perfect trap, one he could not get out of:

"The Pharisees went away to work out between them how to trap him in what he said. And they sent their disciples to him, together with the Herodians, to say, 'Master, we know that you are an honest man and teach the way of God in an honest way, and that you are not afraid of anyone, because a man's rank means nothing to you. Tell us your opinion, then. Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not?'"

But Jesus sees right through them:

“You hypocrites! Why do you set this trap for me? Let me see the money you pay the tax with.’ They handed him a denarius, and he said, ‘Whose head is this? Whose name?’ ‘Caesar’s’ they replied. He then said to them, ‘Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar - and to God what belongs to God’.”

The denarius had an image of the Roman Emperor ‘Caesar’ on it. The Pharisees and Herodians were almost gleeful when they put their question to Jesus about taxes. They thought that if Jesus says “yes”, you should pay taxes, they could say to the Jewish people “he’s a Roman Collaborator, and thinks we should be subservient to them”. If on the other hand Jesus had said “no you shouldn’t pay taxes” then they could run to the Romans and say “look he’s a rebel and an agitator against your rule”. They thought he had no way out; however as always Jesus turns the mirror, turns it on them: “‘Whose head is this? Whose name?’ ‘Caesar’s’ they replied. He then said to them, ‘Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar - and to God what belongs to God’.”

They are dumfounded by this reply and cannot think of anything more to say.

Like with the exiles and Cyrus centuries before Jesus invites them to see the situation of their world as it is; they were trying to shape things to their own agendas and plans, now they are challenged to see things in God’s light, in God’s agenda. Jesus invites them beyond ‘paying taxes or not paying taxes’ beyond Caesar’s rule or someone else’s rule, to see the part we can play in our faithfulness to God. Not perhaps allowing these external situations to overcome us, but rather for us to fill them with the light of God’s way, by our living that way, and playing our part in making that way real in our lives.

At present in our world, near and far there is massive change, in our lives due to COVID-19 and in relationships with neighbouring nations. It is a time more than ever when we can, not let things overwhelm us, but being strengthened to live in the Gospel of Jesus we can fill those situations with the Light of Christ. It may be only with the smallest acts, but done with love and good heart can make that world of difference.

In all the bad and discouraging news around us I’ve been lifted so much by seeing so many small acts of generosity, selflessness and humanity which do make so much of a difference.

Perhaps today as Jesus challenges the ‘powerful and influential’, it encourages us to persevere in living our faith, seeking to live that way in our day to day life, and then we too will be ‘giving back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar - and to God what belongs to God’.

Today’s continuous Second Reading (Epistle), now comes from the First Letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians. This first letter to the Christians of Thessalonica in Greece was probably sent from Corinth in about A.D. 50 after St Paul’s companion, St Timothy had returned from a visit to Thessalonica. Paul was to give them practical encouragement and teaching, but today he tells the Thessalonian Christians how their perseverance and example have encouraged and strengthened him and his companions:

“We always mention you in our prayers and thank God for you all, and constantly remember before God our Father how you have shown your faith in action, worked for love and persevered through hope, in our Lord Jesus Christ.

We know, brothers, that God loves you and that you have been chosen, because when we brought the Good News to you, it came to you not only as words, but as power and as the Holy Spirit and as utter conviction.”

Their living the Gospel has lifted St Paul and his companions. This reminds us today, that by our seeking to put into effect the teaching of Christ, we encourage and strengthen each other. It’s often by seeing someone seeking to do their part that has encouraged me to keep going.

The Good News of Jesus is so urgent in these days, so today we thank God for the support and encouragement we share with one another, and believe that in our lives that Good News can be made real and alive.

CAFOD Harvest Family Fast Appeal: Thank you for your support of the Fast Day Appeal last week. This year, CAFOD's Harvest Fast Day collection is for their Coronavirus Appeal. We have all been affected by the pandemic, but the impact on the poorest and most vulnerable in the world has been the greatest, so CAFOD has pledged to apply **ALL** the donations received to help them **survive, rebuild and heal**. You can view a short video showing the measures that CAFOD is funding in various parts of the world at <https://www.cafod.org.uk/fundraise/family-fast-day> Please pray for all those affected and consider giving what you can, either online at <https://www.cafod.org.uk/give> or by putting your donation in the CAFOD collections in our Churches. (If you want to gift aid it, please pick up an envelope on your way out today and return in the coming weeks.) You can also give **£10** by text – just text **CAFOD** to **70085**. (Texts cost £10, plus one standard rate message and you will be opting in to hear more about CAFOD's work and fundraising via telephone and SMS. If you would like to give £10 but do not wish to receive marketing communications, you should text CAFODNOINFO to 70085. For more information, see CAFOD's Privacy Policy at <https://www.cafod.org.uk/legal-information/privacy-notice>) There are still envelopes available and we will keep this appeal open for the next couple or so weeks.

Care for 'Our Common Home' & CAFOD Webinars: As I have said before, myself, and the small group of people from our Pastoral Area who were seeking to consider how best to put the message of 'Care for Our Common Home' into some action, have not given up on this resolve; it is something more than ever has an urgency in these changing times.

In the meantime, the videos on Care for Our Common Home prepared by CAFOD and the Bishops' Conference of England & Wales, called 'Global Healing Caring for Our Common Home' and 'Global Caring Living in Harmony with God's Creation' can be easily accessed through: www.ourcommonhome.co.uk

They contain a message that it's about all of us, and the difference we can really make. Pope Francis continues to express his concerns for the environment and the effect it especially has on the poorest and most vulnerable in our world. Pope Francis encourages us all to do our part because our faith call to see each other and the gift of this world and its resources through the light of God's eyes and with his heart. Again, as above with the Season of Creation, the Bishops' Conference of England & Wales on their Website: www.cbcew.org.uk encourage us all to do our part. Go to the website and check on the various links.

Additional Resources are available through the CAFOD Website (www.cafod.org.uk) and the Fairtrade Foundation Website (www.fairtrade.org.uk) to see some huge areas of need in our world, and the real difference each one of can make for the better.

CAFOD have also asked that we let you know about their Webinars. Last week it was a privilege to hare in the Webinar that presented CAFOD's work in Lebanon, Yemen in South Sudan. We do not realise at times what other people in our world have to go through, and these Webinars have certainly open my eyes a little more, but also given hope by sharing the difference we can, and are, making. I am sorry that I thought the next one was last Tuesday, but in fact it is this coming Tuesday, 20th October at 7.00om. For information on how to join these Webinars please go to:

www.cafod.org.uk/Give/Major-Giving/Philanthropy-events

If you already registered for the Webinar mentioned above CAFOD have since introduced new forum for taking part in Webinars, and you will need to re-register on:

https://cafod.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_YVXIeEyYRz6raIoc6_qzhw

Livestream from Shrewsbury Cathedral: Again, from phone and email conversations I know how much people have valued being able to join Bishop Mark for daily Mass and Services at our Cathedral in Shrewsbury through the Livestream. With the opening of the Cathedral for Mass the daily itinerary at the Cathedral has

changed. To see the new agenda, go to: www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org and on the homepage click on 'View Events' and then scroll down to see the itinerary. To join Livestream Services, go back to the 'Welcome – Front Page' and click on the 'Livestream' Box, you will then see the 'Screen Box', then just click on the 'play' symbol.

St Saviour & Mary of the Angels' Information



Church Opening, Mass times and Intentions for the week ahead:

Saturday 17th October:

10.00am **St Mary's:** Holy Mass & Devotions - Fr Louis' Intention

5.00pm **St Saviour's:** Vigil Mass - Friends & Relatives of Williams Family

Sunday 18th October: (29th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

9.00am **St Mary's:** Holy Mass - Parishioners

11.00am **St Saviour's:** Holy Mass - Tom & Kate Dillon & children, Intentions

Monday 19th October: St Peter of Alcantara

9.30am **St Saviour's:** Adoration and Morning Prayer

Tuesday 20th October:

9.30am **St Mary's:** Holy Mass - Barbara Jones RIP

Wednesday 21st October:

6.00pm **St Saviour's:** Holy Hour

7.00pm **St Saviour's:** Holy Mass – Sr. Columba RIP

7.30pm **St Saviour's:** Rosary and Novena

Thursday 22nd October:

9.30am **St Saviour's:** Holy Mass – Holy Souls

11.00am **St Mary's:** Funeral Service for Mary Fox RIP

Friday 23rd October:

9.30am **St Saviour's:** Holy Mass – Brenda Payas RIP

Saturday 24th October:

10.00am **St Mary's:** Holy Mass & Devotions - Fr Louis' Intention

5.00pm **St Saviour's:** Vigil Mass: Michael Doherty RIP

Sunday 25th October: (30th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

9.00am **St Mary's:** Holy Mass – Maureen Elias

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

We recognise that the obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains suspended, especially for all who are elderly, sick or shielding. However we strongly encourage those who are able to return to attendance at Holy Mass

MASS & SERVICE TIMES FROM OCTOBER:

We have now returned to the previously regular weekend times for Holy Mass and the weekday Masses have also returned to normal.

Masses, Services and Funeral Services during weekdays will be announced via the parish bulletin. At present, under the one metre rule the maximum capacity at St Mary's for Holy Mass will be 68 and there are protocols which have to be adhered to. The seating layout in church will be explained by the stewards upon your arrival. In St Saviour's Church the one metre social distancing rule continues with a permitted capacity of 101 worshippers for Holy Mass. If you are attending Mass or services at St Saviour's or St Mary's please remember to bring a suitable mask or face covering which must now be worn and contact details must be taken for track and trace purposes.. *To support the safe attendance at our Masses we have obtained and fitted the necessary technology to relay the services into Stanley Hall at St Mary's and making similar progress in the rear chapel at St Saviour's. The diocese has now granted the necessary authority for Masses to be relayed from St Mary's church to Stanley Hall.* Masses will also be broadcast using an FM transmitter and from a vehicle located in or close to our church carparks you should be able to hear the service by tuning the radio to 87.6FM (This is active at St Mary's and will be available soon at St Saviour's)

Many thanks to Anthony (Chaplain at EPCHS) for his time and technical support in obtaining and setting up sound systems. Also to the staff at Anderson's Funeral Directors who kindly supplied equipment and technical support to make this project possible.

Recently Deceased:

Mary Fox, Thomas Madden, Mark Rymell, Stephen Peter McGuinness

Please keep all our recently deceased and their families in your prayers.

Prayers for the Sick, Hospitalised & Housebound

Please keep in your prayers all who are sick, bereaved or suffering at this time

Carparks at St Mary's & St Mary of the Angels

A polite reminder and request to park in a manner that does not block the entrance or exits to our carparks. As always we ask that you park in a considerate manner to our local residents.

Baptisms in the Parish: Baptism services can once again take place in our churches but with certain restrictions and a limited capacity.

For full details please call the Parish office of St Mary Office on 0151 327 6158.

November Services for deceased parishioners and Holy Souls

On Sunday 1st November a short service & blessing of graves will take place following the 9am Mass at St Mary of the Angels. A similar service and blessing of graves will take place in Overpool Cemetery at 12.15pm

CAFOD Harvest Collection: This year, CAFOD's Harvest Fast Day collection is for their Coronavirus Appeal. We have all been affected by the pandemic, but the impact on the poorest and most vulnerable in the world has been the greatest, so CAFOD has pledged to apply **ALL** the donations received to help them *survive, rebuild and heal*. You can view a short video showing the measures that CAFOD is funding in various parts of the world at <https://www.CAFOD.org.uk/Fundraise/Family-Fast-Day> Please pray for all those affected and consider giving what you can, either online at cafod.org.uk/give or by putting your donation in the CAFOD box as you leave the church next week. (If you want to gift aid it, please pick up an envelope on your way out today and return in the coming weeks.) You can also give **£10** by text – just text **CAFOD** to **70085**. (Texts cost £10, plus one standard rate message and you will be opting in to hear more about CAFOD's work and fundraising via telephone and SMS. If you would like to give £10 but do not wish to receive marketing communications, you should text CAFODNOINFO to 70085. For more information, see CAFOD's Privacy Policy at cafod.org.uk/Legal-information/Privacy-notice)

CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX APPEAL 2020: This may be a difficult year for many but if you can fill a shoebox in support of those in great need please call Eileen Brennan on 07432782877. If it helps, an empty box can be delivered to you and will be collected by 8th November for transit to families in Eastern Europe in time for Christmas. Any donations of items which can be used to fill boxes also gratefully received. Many thanks for your kind support.

COURTESY TO CHURCH STEWARDS & VOLUNTEERS: Following one or two recent and isolated occurrences we ask that all attending our churches for services and prayer to please show courtesy and respect to our team of volunteers and stewards. They are performing an essential and much valued service in very difficult times. Without their presence, expertise and willing sacrifice of their time we would not be able to open and conduct services in our churches during these very challenging times. Once again we would like to thank the stewards and volunteers who have worked so hard over the past months and continue to work hard to allow Mass and Services to take place safely.

For your own safety and the wellbeing of others, please do follow any directions given by the stewards or the parish clergy.

If you need to speak to the clergy regarding any concern, requests for ministry or area of need please call the Parish office of St Mary Office on 0151 327 6158.

With our continued prayers & support. *Fr Louis, Deacon Tony & Tony Nuttall*

Hail Holy Queen

Hail Holy Queen, mother of mercy;
Hail our life, our sweetness, and our hope!
To you we cry, poor banished children of Eve;
To you we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping
in this valley of tears.
Turn then, most gracious advocate,
Your eyes of mercy towards us;
And after this our exile,
Show to us the blessed fruit of your womb, Jesus.
O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.
Pray for us, O holy Mother of God,
That we may be made worthy of the promises of
Christ.



OCTOBER – MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY
PRAY FOR US

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

Masses at Our Lady's: As I've said before, we can't say thanks enough to all who helped in enabling us to open for Mass at Our Lady's. In addition to the Sunday Masses we have restarted a Vigil Mass on Saturday Evening at 6.00pm, half an hour earlier than the normal time. So now we have three Masses, 6.00pm Vigil on a Saturday Evening and on a Sunday Morning, at 9.30am and 11.00am and then, generally speaking, one in the

week at 12.noon on Fridays; Masses on other days will continue to be private Masses. These times are a temporary measure until such time, whenever down the line, we can return to some kind of normality. We are still sadly not able to reopen St Bernard's for the time being.

As said previously, as we have moved into these autumn weeks we are having to review what we are able to do and 'cut the cloth to fit' so to speak. Due to the fact that some of our Stewards have had to go back to work and their commitments we are having to curtail some of our weekday celebrations so as to free the available Stewards for Funerals, Weddings and Baptisms. Obviously the more Stewards we have, the more we will be able to provide, so once again I would draw your attention to the note below entitled '**Urgent Request for help at Our Lady's with Stewarding and Cleaning!**' Please keep checking the Service Times information. At present, for their own well-being we are still not allowed to invite those who are over 70 to act as Stewards, though the Bishops of England & Wales are seeking clarity on this, and hope it may change soon it is hoped that this may change. The over 70's may carry out other roles provided we have done a 'Risk Assessment' and that this has been approved.

Please, as not everyone has access to the internet, if you could pass this information on to anyone who might be asking about Masses restarting in Our Lady's, this would be greatly appreciated.

So for this week the Public and Private Mass intentions will be:

Saturday 17th October Vigil (The Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time)

– 6.00pm Mass in Our Lady's Church: For Families suffering as a result of Illness

Sunday 18th October (The Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time)

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

– 11.00am Mass in Our Lady's Church: Priest's Intention

Monday 19th October (St Peter of Alcantara) – Private Mass – Special Intention

Tuesday 20th October - No Mass today

Wednesday 21st October - Private Mass – Bishop Brian Noble

Thursday 22nd October - Private Mass – Gabriel McGahon

Friday 23rd October

-11.00am to 11.30am Confessions

– 12.noon Mass in Our Lady's Church: Rourke Family Intention

Saturday 24th October

– No Mass during the day

Saturday 24th October Vigil (The Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time)

– 6.00pm Mass in Our Lady's Church: For Peace and Understanding between Nations

Sunday 25th October (The Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time)

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

– 11.00am Mass in Our Lady's Church: Priest's Intention

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.

CAFOD Harvest Fast Day Appeal: As you may have seen in the notes above, last weekend was the CAFOD Harvest Fast Day Appeal. During this time of COVID-19 restrictions CAFOD are encouraging us to give

online, or by text. For the details of this you can find above in the [General Information](#) Section; please click (or 'ctrl+click') the blue highlighted link before. However, if you would prefer to give in the usual way, with the option of 'Gift Aid' there are still envelopes available on the way out of Our Lady's Church, and these can be placed in the general collection basket

QR Code at Our Lady's Church: As you will have seen in the media, the NHS have launched a new smartphone app to help with 'test & trace' and also to give up to date information. Part of the app has a facility to scan a QR Code on entering a particular venue. Our Lady's Church now has a QR Code by the Entrance. To use this please open your app on entry, tap on the 'Venue check-in' option, and then hold your phone over the QR Code so that the camera may scan the Code, and then the message 'Our Lady Star of the Sea RC Church' should appear, and then you are checked in!

Foundation Governors for Our Lady's & St Bernard's Primary Schools: 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 Additional information can be found in the Education Section in our Diocesan Website on: www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org

Safety for the Celebration of Mass in Our Lady's Church: It is good that we have at least been able to have limited public Mass again in Our Lady's. As with other Churches we have had to put the Safety Measures in place as directed by the Government.

You are aware that Government has now stated that, **the wearing of face coverings for those attending Church is now obligatory** excluding those who have a special exemption. In this light, at Our Lady's we are following the one metre plus rule, enabling us to accommodate 78 people at each Mass. This also means that we have gone to 'Option Two' of the Bishops' Guidance for the distribution of Holy Communion. This means that the Priest only will receive Holy Communion at the usual Time, he will then say the Concluding Prayer, Blessing and Dismissal. He will then put on a face covering, sanitise his hands and then the Stewards will guide people up for Holy Communion; once you have received the Sacred Host in your hand and consumed it, please leave the Church and do not return to your place. **Please, to help us, we ask that you that you lower your face covering before the Priest puts the Sacred Host in your hand and then to consume the Sacred Host before moving off, and not walk away with it in your hand.** We have seen people almost at the door before consuming the Host; we realise that people are just trying to do the right thing and keep things moving, but do ask that you just take a moment to receive the Sacred Host reverently before moving off.

The measures that we have in place are temporary and emergency ones that have enabled us to reopen for Mass. These are not something we have just thought up here, they are part of the measures the Bishops of England & Wales have agreed with the Government authorities that have enabled us to reopen. I would draw your attention to the link above marked '**Guidelines for the Celebration of Mass and for Confession**' and click on the links below for the Bishops' Guidelines that we are obliged to follow.

I know one of these measures that is very difficult is receiving Holy Communion at the end of Mass and going straight out at Our Lady's. This not about giving time for the Church to be cleaned. The Bishops of England & Wales' guidelines, which you can view above, asks that we do not prolong the Celebration of Mass so as to lessen the time people may be exposed to infection. Now that we have gone to one metre+ at Our Lady's, and with us almost up to full capacity at each Mass, if we were to give Holy Communion at the usual time and allow people to go back to their places this would add about another 10 to 15 minutes to the Mass, and would also involve people having to make contact with others whilst moving out and coming back, thus increasing the

possibility of passing on infection. Also the end of Mass might involve a larger group of people ‘clogging together’ at the exit. When we had the smaller number at first this was easier to manage, but now the larger numbers make what are now doing a safer option.

The COVID-19 Virus is still around and is sadly on the increase again as we have seen; it is a real and dangerous threat that we have to take seriously. Nobody wants these measures we are having to take, and we all long for things to be back to normal, **but in this situation these Temporary and Emergency Measures are necessary to help keep everyone as safe as possible.** Please, we ask your continued patience and understanding so we can help each other through this time. Thank you so much for all everyone is doing, it does make a real difference and is greatly appreciated.

As we have said above, the Virus is still about, and sadly cases are once again on the rise, so once you leave Church we have been asked to remind you that you are strongly advised, for everyone’s safety, not to remove your face coverings and have a chat in groups. It’s been a long time, and it’s natural to want see old friends again, but do please keep the safe distance and do not linger as it is thought this is one of the factors that has seen a rise in COVID-19 cases again. It is especially important that we act on this at the present moment.

As before, the Entrance is only through the main door on Enfield Road, opposite the Restaurant. On entry the Stewards will guide you to sanitise your hands and a Steward with a clipboard will ask your name and a contact number. This is to cover us with the Government’s ‘Track & Trace’ to prevent the spread of the virus. If on your own, all you need say is, for example “Mr Jones, 07123 456789” or if coming with the family, for example someone might say “Mrs Smith plus three, 07123 456789”. These sheets will be kept for 21 days only, then shredded. Mass will be shorter, and there will be no collection during Mass, but as you leave there will be collection baskets by the door to place any offerings in without having to pass anything to anyone.

Rather than a long list of ‘dos’ and ‘don’ts’ which will put folk off, it’s easier to sum up by saying:

! 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 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 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!

As I’ve said before, although we are pleased that some are able to open for Mass, some other of our Parishes in our West Cheshire Deanery, we are having to proceed a little more slowly until the necessary measures are in place and approved. Also, as we have mentioned, due to the difficulties of setting up and maintaining Infection

Protection Measures, it will not be possible to open St Bernard's for the immediate future. Please be assured that St Bernard's will eventually reopen, and we look forward greatly to that day.

Confessions in Our Lady's Church: As you can see from the 'Guidelines for Confession' linked above this is not just a matter of opening up the Confessionals again! We have been holding Confessions on Fridays from 11.00am to 11.30am. This is on the left hand side looking up, of the Altar. Please be careful coming up the steps, there will be a reversed kneeler two metres from the priest. Please stand if you are able, but do please sit if you need to. If you do, a steward will have to wipe down the seat after you; this is no problem, but if you are the next in the queue, please wait for the steward to do this. The priest will look away, for those who wish to be anonymous, but if you want to say your name, he will turn to face you. If you cannot make Fridays we will try to do a request on Sundays, but please note that the time between Masses is occupied, but we will try do what we can. Do please give us a call on: 0151 355 1255 between 9.00am to 4.00pm on weekdays if you can, if you want to arrange something. Sorry if this sound complicated but we are having to work within certain restrictions. Please also check the Service Times information as we might not be able to provide this option every Friday.

Urgent Request for help at Our Lady's with Stewarding and Cleaning!: As I have said before, it is due to the hard work of our cleaners and stewards that we have been able to reopen for Private Prayer and Mass. **We desperately need more help to keep this going.** If you feel you can help please call: 0151 355 1255 or email: parishol@rcchep.co.uk Thank to the generous response of those who have come forward recently following this request.

Weekday Masses and Services at Our Lady's: As I have been saying, it has only been through the generous support of our Stewards and Cleaners that we have been able to reopen. Once again, a big 'thank you' to those who have recently volunteered to help as Stewards and, or Cleaners, and continued thanks to all have kept things going over these last few weeks. As I have said above, now that our Schools are back, some of our Stewards involved in Schools and Education are no longer be available during the week. This has affected our ability to offer Services in the week, so I do draw your attention to the request for people to act as stewards, especially in the week. The Stewards are also helping with Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals in Church. We do not advertise these as they are number restricted to family and invited guests only. **We are having to 'cut the cloth to fit' so to speak** and that is why would again draw you attention to the note above entitled '**Urgent Request for help at Our Lady's with Stewarding and Cleaning!**'

Our Lady & St Bernard's Collection Envelopes: As we have said above, a few people have been asking their Collection Envelopes. We have these ready, and if you would like yours please call Our Lady's on: 0151 355 1255 during Office Hours 9.00am to 4.00pm Monday to Friday or email: parishol@rcchep.co.uk and we can arrange collection.

IMPORTANT - Our Lady & St Bernard's Tote Situation: The gentleman, John, who has run the Tote at Our Lady & St Bernard for a while now, quite understandably, feels that is now time for him to stand down from this role. Our grateful thanks go to John for the hard work he has done in keeping the Tote running for so long. John has said that if anyone feels they could take on this role, then he would be happy to talk this through with them and show them what was involved. If anyone felt they could take on this role, or would to find out more information, please call us on: T: 0151 355 1255, E: parishol@rcchep.co.uk If no one can take this on, we will wind up the Tote and arrange refunds for anyone who has already paid funds in.

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

[St Thomas Becket Tarporley Information](#)

Welcome if you are joining us from St Thomas Becket Parish in Tarporley.

Welcome back to Mass at St Thomas Becket!: It has been so good to be able to welcome people back to Mass at St Thomas Becket. Thanks to a group of people from Tarporley Parish working with Parishioners from Ellesmere Port, Father Joe and myself, Canon Niall Mullaley, we now have the approval from the Diocese to reopen for Mass at St Thomas Becket. This will be one Mass each Sunday at 11.00am.

As I am sure you realise that this is not just a matter of opening the Church, putting the things out and Father Joe coming out to celebrate the Mass. There has been a great deal of hard work in laying out the Church for safe spacing and setting up a 'one way system' coming in through the main door and leaving through the side door to the right of the Sanctuary. Thanks to you all for the way you have helped to make this work.

Initially, because the Church has had to be marked out for the required 'Social Distancing' and seating plan we have approval for a top number of 34 parishioners at each Mass for the moment.

Thank you for those who have volunteered to act as stewards, and I believe you have been contacted. 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 and we can to 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!

So for this, and next Sunday, the Mass details are:

Sunday 18th October (The Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time)

– 11.00am Mass in St Thomas Becket Church: Parishioners

Sunday 25th October (The Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time)

– 11.00am Mass in St Thomas Becket Church: Parishioners

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 click (or 'ctrl+click') the following blue highlighted link [General Information](#) and scroll down a couple or so pages to the heading '**SETTING UP A STANDING ORDER**' and find the St Thomas Becket link there to set this up. Hopefully Offertory Envelopes will be available around the Mass Time.

CAFOD Harvest Fast Day Appeal: Last was weekend was the CAFOD Harvest Fast Day Appeal. During this time of COVID-19 restrictions CAFOD are encouraging us to give online, or by text. For the details of this you can find above in the [General Information](#) Section; please click (or 'ctrl+click') the blue highlighted link before. There may be some CAFOD Envelopes at St Thomas Becket if you wish to give in the usual way.

QR Code at St Thomas Becket Church: As you will have seen in the media, the NHS have launched a new smartphone app to help with 'test & trace' and also to give up to date information. Part of the app has a facility

to scan a QR Code on entering a particular venue. St Thomas Becket Church now has a QR Code by the Entrance. To use this please open your app on entry, tap on the 'Venue check-in' option, and then hold your phone over the QR Code so that the camera may scan the Code, and then the message 'St Thomas Becket RC Church' should appear, and then you are checked in!

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
- ! **St Francis, Chester:** www.stfrancischester.co.uk
- ! **St Columba & St Theresa, Chester:** www.stcolumbachester.wordpress.com
- ! **St Clare's, Lache, Chester:** 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 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.