

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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Pathway out of Lockdown

As you will be aware we are moving into the next steps of the Government's step by step plan to take us out of Lockdown, and move back to some kind of normality. As you will also be aware this is dependent on us reaching certain targets, and we are far from out of the woods yet. With the variants of COVID-19 still around, and with the vaccination programme still a good way off completion we need to remain vigilant and keep the strict implementation of the Protection Measures in place. We will inform you as things change step by step but in the meantime we ask your continued patience and understanding as we continue to support each other in these times.

Let's continue to pray for each other in these challenging days.

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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, 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](#)

Year of St Joseph: 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. A Prayer Resource for this 'Year of St Joseph' can also be viewed by clicking on the Link Below:

[Prayers for the 'Year of St Joseph'](#)

Bishops' Conference Statement 'The Day of the Lord': The Bishops' Conference of England & Wales after a week of 'virtual meeting' have released a statement reflecting on the Pandemic and the challenges as we move to a new start. This Statement called 'The Day of the Lord' can also be viewed by clicking on the Link Below:

[Bishops of England & Wales Statement 'The Day of the Lord'](#)

Praying for an end to the Pandemic: Bishop Mark wrote in his recent Letter to the Clergy the '*Ad Clerum*': "LET US PRAY FOR AN END TO THE PANDEMIC: The Holy Father has called the Church to pray for an end to the pandemic "Let us call for the end of the pandemic together with the recitation of the Rosary together with shrines all over the world." In the United Kingdom we have seen remarkable progress in containing the spread of Covid-19 and can be grateful for the availability of vaccines and the efficiency of their distribution to a large proportion of the population. We know a third wave is likely, even though the people of our country and the most vulnerable now appear to be well-protected. However, the distressing scenes we are witnessing in India reminds us of the urgency of prayer in the face of a continuing pandemic.

POPE FRANCIS'S CALL FOR THE ROSARY IN THE MARIAN MONTH OF MAY: Pope Francis specifically calls for the praying of the Rosary across the world during the month of May. In the Holy Father's vision this worldwide chain of prayer will proceed from the Marian shrines of the world. Our own national shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham has been given a pre-eminent place following the Vatican on the first day of May.

The Pontifical Council for the Promotion of New Evangelisation explains, "At the heart of the Holy Father's wish, the month of May will be dedicated to a marathon of prayer from the theme "From the whole Church the prayer to God went up incessantly" (Acts 12:5). The initiative will involve in a special way all the Sanctuaries of the world, so that they become promoters to the faithful, families and communities of the recitation of the Rosary to invoke an end of the pandemic. Some thirty representative shrines across the world will guide the Marian prayer, which will broadcast live on the official channels of the Holy See at 18.00 (Rome time) every day. Pope Francis will initiate this prayer on May 1st and bring it to a conclusion on May 31st." A letter from the Apostolic Nuncio to the Bishops of England and Wales reminds us that parishes and communities of every diocese are being called to be part of this spiritual initiative marking the month of May. A chain of prayer will be formed across the world and I would ask you, according to circumstances, to consider arranging at least one occasion to pray the Rosary publicly with the parish in union with Pope Francis. Amid continuing safety restrictions, this might be a livestreamed devotion encouraging people to join from their homes. The Cathedral will take a special place in this intercessory prayer, with a nationally live-streamed Rosary Hour from 2.00pm to 3.00pm on Sunday 30th May.

THE ROSARY UNITED WITH WALSINGHAM has been chosen to be the Marian Shrine for the first day of Pope Francis's initiative and the praying of the Rosary will continue each day. Monday 24th May named by the Holy Father as the Memoria of Mary, Mother of the Church will a special day for all our schools and youth groups; Saturday 30th May will be a relay Rosary through all the dioceses of England, Wales and Scotland in which Shrewsbury will take its part at the designated hour; and on Monday 31st May there will be a final Rosary online from Paisley Cathedral at 8.00pm. Link to follow the livestream events: <https://www.churchservices.tv/walsingham>

Bishops of England & Wales 'The Care of Creation': At their recent Conference the Bishops of England & Wales discussed the Care of Creation in the light of the anniversary Pope Francis' Encyclical 'Laudato Si'. Bishop Mark has shared the following paragraph about one major aspect of the Church's Care of Creation:

“At a time of growing concern for the care of creation, the Church brings to the environmental concerns of our time the perspective of God’s creation and the place of humanity within creation. The Church across the country is taking practical steps with IFM (Inter-Diocesan Fuel Management Limited), based in our Shrewsbury Diocese and supplying all 22 dioceses and over 100 schools with 71% green energy and with a 29% carbon offset. The offset schemes include renewable boreholes in Eritrea and a new energy plant in Bangladesh using household waste (including landfill), to reduce the methane being produced and provide renewable power. IFM is also using its buying power to drive the demand for “green gas” in the UK.”

More on this important matter will follow.

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: Permissible with Fifteen People only.

Baptisms in Church: Permissible with Fifteen People only.

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

Diocese of Shrewsbury (Shrewsbury Cathedral): 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.

Lately Dead: Please pray for the following who have died recently and for their families: Mabel Harrison, Patricia McNaughton, Peggy Cahill, Halina Ryter, Christine Cain, Sam Brown, Gerard Smyth, and Bryan Armstrong

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: Follow Mr Reuben Purchase, our Diocesan Coordinator for Catechesis on and the Shrewsbury Diocesan Mission for Catechesis Web Site: www.weareallcatechists.com

SVP Holiday Home Fundraising Link: Many of you will know the difference that the SVP Holiday Home in Talacre ha 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 though the link below:

Employment Opportunity, Administrator for Inter-Diocesan Fuel Management Limited

- Job Title:** Administrator
- Location:** Curial Office, Birkenhead, Wirral.
- Reporting to:** Team Manager
- Hours of work:** 35 hours per week – Monday to Friday
- Salary:** £16k to 19k dependant on experience, on completion of a satisfactory probationary period 6% employer pension contributions, permanent health insurance and death service benefits.

Outline of role:

Inter-Diocesan Fuel Management Limited is a Catholic organisation purchasing gas, electricity, fuel oil and biomass for all Catholic Dioceses in England and Wales, taking advantage of the better buying power that working together brings. It is ahead of its time in community buying and is now a long standing, stable organisation that supports the work of parishes. The role is working with others in the department processing invoices, collecting data and general administration duties.

Duties and responsibilities:

With the support of the Team Manager, the successful candidate will:

- ! Process invoices as received, carrying out data checks
- ! Data entry
- ! Handle inbound telephone calls/queries
- ! Proactively respond to customer correspondence/emails
- ! Filing, scanning and posting of documents
- ! Administrative duties as required.

Person Specification:

- ! Ability to communicate clearly and professionally with a good telephone manner
- ! Solid organisation skills with the ability to prioritise and changing workload
- ! Experience of working at a similar level in an office environment
- ! High level of accuracy and attention to detail
- ! Ability to work as part of a fast paced energetic team
- ! Proficiency in MS Office products - Excel and Access preferable.

Please email CV to Pauline McCulloch recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org

Closing date 28 May 2021

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 Arrangements. At this time we are not able to offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation at **St Thomas Beckett, Tarporeley 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 Fifth Sunday of Easter in Year B: As is the custom in Eastertide the First Reading today again comes from the New Testament Acts of the Apostles, remembering in the eyes of the faith, the first beginnings of the Church following on from Jesus' Resurrection, Ascension and Gift of the Holy Spirit.

Saul of Tarsus had been a zealous young Jewish man of influence who had tried to destroy the first Christians. The Acts of the Apostles recalls how on his journey to Damascus Saul had received a vision of the Risen Jesus. This completely changed his life, and he started to preach the message of Jesus; he had a complete change of heart after meeting the Risen Jesus. Saul is the Hebrew version of the name of the man we know better by the Roman version of his name 'Paulus', St Paul.

In today's passage 'Saul' is introduced to some of the Christian Churches, who have great difficulty believing that their former persecutor has actually changed. St Barnabas takes it on himself to support Saul and introduce him and share his story. Eventually Saul, St Paul, was to journey with St Barnabas sharing the Gospel. Paul was in the forefront, Barnabas took more of a supportive role, but together they were a living sign and witness to the Risen Jesus.

Sometimes people's role can be to support and enable others to perform their role; this Barnabas did for Paul.

The Good News today is that meeting the Risen Christ can and does change hearts. People can change; we can help them or hinder them. Some greeted Paul with hostility and suspicion, Barnabas helped him, and in doing so enabled a mighty channel of God's Grace to be opened. I thank God today for all the people who have been like St Barnabas to me, some I might never know! In thanking God I ask that I also may, in whatever way is given to me, be that St Barnabas to others.

The Second Reading comes again from the First Letter of St John. In today's passage St John reminds us that our faith in the Risen Christ should not be just 'mere talk' but 'something real and active'. If we say that we love God this is called to show forth in our outlook and attitude, to want and care for the things that God wants. If we are truly seeking to love God, this will be shown in the way we look at and treat other people. St Barnabas' faith and love of Christ showed in his attitude to St Paul in the First Reading. This enabled that love and mercy of God to grow and be set free in St Paul. In receiving God's gift we can do the same for others today.

The Gospel today is again from St John. Today he uses to image of Jesus as the 'true vine'. This is one of the St John 'I AM' passages of Jesus in which Jesus uses the Old Testament name of God 'I AM WHO I AM'. In using the 'I AM' at the beginning of a statement such as 'I am the true vine' St John is showing us that this is the very presence of God speaking and acting.

Using the image of the vine, from which branches grow and spread from the main root, and in turn root and give rise to other branches, Jesus is teaching us that 'rooted' in him only can we grow and pass on the life that we have received. The image of 'bearing fruit' is one that permeates the Gospels; a sound vine or tree bears good fruit. If we are soundly 'rooted' in Jesus we will bear the fruit of our living relationship with God, that St Paul describes in the Letter to the Galatians as 'love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness and self-control'.

In these times we thank God for each other, that rooted in Christ so many generous hearts are bearing fruit, and thanking God for the many ways that fruit has been shared with us, we in our turn seek to allow that fruit to be borne in us, for Jesus said:

"It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit, and then you will be my disciples."

CAFOD Link: To take part in the work and mission of the 'Catholic Agency for Overseas Development' (CAFOD) please follow: www.cafod.org.uk

Mary's Meals Charity: 'Mary's Meals' is a Catholic Charity that helps to provide regular meals for children in some of the poorest areas of our world. They are asking our support and prayer especially in this month of Our Lady. To see ways you can help and support them, please visit their website by following this link: <https://www.marysmeals.org.uk/prayinmay>

[St Saviour & Mary of the Angels' Information](#)



Saturday 1st May **St Joseph the Worker** **St Mary's: 10am** Holy Hour
(Private Mass Intention Fr Louis)

St Saviour's: 6.00pm: Vigil Mass (George Bishop RIP -Anniversary)

SUNDAY 2nd May **FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER YR B**

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

St Saviour's: 11.00am Holy Mass: (Sister Hilary HFC 100th Birthday Intention)

Monday 3rd May: Ss. Philip & James

9.30am: St Saviour's: Morning Prayer & Adoration

(Private Mass Intention: Len Willson RIP Anniversary)

Tuesday 4th May: The English Martyrs

St Mary's: Morning Prayer & Adoration

(Private Mass Intention: Elizabeth McDonald RIP)

Wednesday 5th May: St Saviour's: 7pm: Evening Prayer & Adoration, Novena.

Thursday 6th May: St Mary's: 9.30am Morning Prayer & Adoration

Friday: 7th May: St Saviour's: 9.30am: Morning Prayer & Adoration

Saturday 8th May: St Mary's: 10am Holy Hour

St Saviour's: 5.00pm: Vigil Mass (Bridie Myles RIP)

SUNDAY 9th May SIXTH SUNDAY EASTER YR B

St Mary's: 9.00am Holy Mass: (Barbara Jones RIP)

St Saviour's: 11.00am Holy Mass: (Parishioners)

RECENTLY DECEASED: Patricia McNaughton, Sam Brown, Halina Ryter, Mabel Harrison

May they Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory

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

REQUIEM MASSES AND FUNERAL SERVICES

Patricia Ann McNaughton RIP:

Tuesday 11th May 10am at Blacon Crematorium Chapel

PARISH FOODBANK / HAMPERS VIA SCHOOL'S MINISTRY

Much of our distribution of hampers & vouchers has once again resumed through the schools. Many thanks to all who continue in various ways to support this vital ministry

FR LOUIS – ABSENCE FROM PARISH:

Fr Louis will undergo his operation this week, this will see him in hospital for a couple of days and then away from the parish recuperating for a few weeks. As such there will be changes to some of the normal liturgies and the day to day life of the parish. **During this period, Fr Louis is not able to be available for ministry until further notice. Deacon Tony and Tony Nuttall will be available to assist the life of the parish wherever possible.** We are also grateful to Fr Jesmond Pawley OFM Conv, the Franciscan Guardian from All Saints church in Manchester as he will be celebrating weekend Masses in the parish during the first weeks of Fr Louis absence. As always we will try to keep you updated via the weekly parish bulletin.

Please keep Fr Louis in your prayers for a full & speedy recovery.

SUMMER OUTDOOR MASSES AT ST MARY OF THE ANGELS

Circumstances allowing and when Fr Louis has recovered from his operation, we hope to return to outdoor Masses at St Mary of the Angels. The target date is the month of June and this will necessitate the changing of Sunday morning Mass times which will be 9.30am at St Saviour's and 11.30am in the field at St Mary of the Angels – Weather permitting. The outdoor Masses were very popular last summer and many people have requested that as we journey out of the pandemic they should if possible resume.

WEEKLY COLLECTION ENVELOPES:

The envelopes for the new tax year are now available in our churches. If you are shielding at home but require an envelope please email your request or ring the office on 0151 327 6158 and we can arrange a delivery to you.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS

During Fr Louis' period of isolation and convalescence, First Communion Masses will be suspended and will resume again on 19th June.

RCIA AND FAITH SHARING

Recently we have been conducting Zoom meetings for those interested in becoming a Catholic and also anyone wishing to learn more about the Catholic faith, eventually we will hold our meetings in the parish when the stipulations allow. The next meeting will be at 7.15pm on Monday 10th May. If you are interested in joining our group please email into the parish on stsoff@rcchep.co.uk and we will send you a link for our meeting. All are welcome.

POPE FRANCIS'S CALL FOR THE ROSARY IN THE MARIAN MONTH OF MAY

The Holy Father has called the Church to pray for an end to the pandemic "Let us call for the end of the pandemic together with the recitation of the Rosary together with shrines all over the world." Pope Francis specifically calls for the praying of the Rosary across the world during the month of May. In the Holy Father's vision this worldwide chain of prayer will proceed from the Marian shrines of the world. Our own national shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham has been given a pre-eminent place on the first day of May. The initiative will involve in a special way all the Sanctuaries of the world, so that they become promoters to the faithful, families and communities of the recitation of the Rosary to invoke an end of the pandemic. Some thirty representative shrines across the world will guide the Marian prayer, which will broadcast live on the official channels of the Holy See at 18.00 - Rome time (which is 5pm here in the UK) every day. Pope Francis will initiate this prayer on May 1st and bring it to a conclusion on May 31st." Shrewsbury Cathedral will take a special place in this intercessory prayer, with a nationally live-streamed Rosary Hour from 2.00pm to 3.00pm on Sunday 30th May.

PARISH DAY OF RECOLLECTION; Thursday 24th June 2021:

Theme: The Message of Our Lady of Fatima

All Saints Franciscan Friary in Manchester. The theme for the day will be 'The Message of Our Lady of Fatima' The cost, to assist with transport and a donation to the friars will be around £20. The Franciscan Guardian, Fr Jesmond OFM Conv, looks forward to welcoming us. More details will be available in due course, if you wish to join us please contact the parish office at St Mary's on 0151 327 6158

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**

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 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)

As always we wish you and your families the joy of the Risen Christ, also the strength, support & comfort of our Catholic faith.

Yours in Christ, *Fr Louis, Deacon Tony & Tony Nuttall*

[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 1st May (Fifth Sunday after Easter)

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

Sunday 2nd May (Fifth Sunday after Easter)

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

– 11.00am Mass in Our Lady's Church: Kathleen Emmett (A)

Monday 3rd May (Ss. Philip & James) - Private Mass – Diocesan Clergy Intention for May

Tuesday 4th May (The English Martyrs) - Private Mass – Canon Philip Moor Intention

Wednesday 5th May - Private Mass – Wayne Baldwin

Thursday 6th May - Private Mass – Mulvihill Family

Friday 7th May - Private Mass – Deacon Norman Carew

(Sorry no Confessions or Public Mass today)

Saturday 8th May – No Services during the day

Saturday 8th May (Sixth Sunday after Easter)

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

Sunday 9th May (Sixth Sunday after Easter)

– 9.30am Mass in Our Lady's Church: Cyrina Nwachukwu

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

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.

Foundation Governors for our Primary Schools: Once again, 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 in our Catholic Primary Schools we have vacancies for Foundation Governors, and would ask that if you are a

practising Catholic, who would wish to support our Schools that you would 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

Celebration of Mass and Services in Our Lady's Church as we move into new phases of COVID-19 Safety Measures:

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

Thank you so much to everyone for their continued understanding and support. The work our Stewards has enabled us to open for services, and their hard work and dedication is so greatly appreciated. Thank you for the kind messages we receive from people saying how safe they feel at Our Lady's; it makes all the effort and hard work involved worthwhile to know that.

As we come into less restricted days it is easy to 'want to end it before it's finished' so to speak. This we cannot do for peoples' safety! All we do at Our Lady's follows the guidelines of the Bishops of England & Wales prepared with the Government Health Authorities. All of our layout in Church is set so people from different 'bubbles' do not have to cross over anywhere where others have been sitting. Also our measures seek to follow the advice the Mass and other Services are not unduly prolonged.

As we move into these new times we ask you once again to keep vigilant for your own and others' safety. Some of the Our Lady's Benches have dividing plastic chain in the middle; please do not ask someone to move up to the chain link in order for you to get in. For although it looks like you are still one metre plus apart, you will have blocked them in, you will have had to pass where they were sitting, and then they may to pass at Communion time where you were sitting, or you may have to push past each other thus increasing risk.

In the ideal world the Stewards will guide you to a seat; however especially with more people coming back to Mass, they may not always be in a position to do this, so please be sensitive and understanding to one another and as we move into what we hope and pray are the last weeks of these measures please do not let your guard down and continue to help keeping each other safe.

Also, I know too well how difficult it can be to get to Church on time; we have planned it out, but then 'this or that' happens, and we find ourselves rushing. We've all been there! **But please, I ask especially in these times that we all try and make an extra effort to get to Church at least ten minutes beforehand.** This is a help to the Stewards who have to take the 'track & trace' details, and help seat people. If folk are coming in at the last minute, or after the start, it can be disruptive, and sometimes the Stewards are not in a position to seat people and folk end up wondering about, and often end up moving past and making contact with other people to find a seat.

Please, although I know this isn't always possible, do try to make an effort to get in place a little beforehand, and help make things safer for all.

Thank you all so much for your continued patience and understanding.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Our Lady's Church: In recent communications Bishop Mark and the other Bishops of England & Wales have been rightly encouraging Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. This however they always advise us to do within the COVID-19 Safety Measures and only as the resources of a particular Parish allow, also respecting the advice that any time in Church is not unduly prolonged. At Our Lady's we have been able to have public Mass in the week on Fridays, circumstances permitting. When we

have Friday Confessions and Mass I will try to have exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 11.30am to 12.00pm.

Also in this month of May, as you see above, Pope Francis has asked for a month of Prayer of the Rosary for the ending of the Pandemic. Although we cannot have public Holy Hours at Our Lady's at the moment I will be holding two lunchtime Private Holy Hours before the Blessed Sacrament praying the Rosary in the week. This week I cannot say when those will be, but hopefully next week I will let you know when I will be having these Holy Hours so that you can at least join me spiritually.

Friday Confessions resumed in Our Lady's Church: As COVID-19 Regulations have been eased, we have resumed Confessions at Our Lady's from 11.00am to 11.30am on Friday Mornings before the 12.00pm Mass, when this is taking place. We are not in a position to safely resume the Saturday Morning Confessions using the Confessional yet, so the Friday option on the Sanctuary is the best compromise for the time being.

Just to remind you what to do:

- ! Please come in through the Entrance door and give your 'track & trace' details to the Steward
- ! Please tell the Steward if you are just going to Confession or if you are staying for Mass
- ! The Steward will show you a place to wait
- ! If the Priest is free go up to him taking care on the steps
- ! When you come up to the Priest there is a reversed kneeler; if you can please stand a little behind this without touching it. If you need some support please ask and we will get you a chair
- ! The Priest will not look at you directly at you. If you wish to stay anonymous then just start your Confession; if you would like the Priest to speak to you face to face then just say your name
- ! When you are finished, take care as you go down the steps, and if you are not staying for Mass please leave through the exit and say your penance at home
- ! If you are staying for Mass please go back to the same place where you waited. The Steward will see no one takes your place
- ! If someone is at Confession before you, please wait a moment when they have finished as a Steward may need to sanitise the place before you come up. The Priest will say "next please" when the place is safe

Sorry for the directions, but it is just to let you know what to do and keep things safe for everyone.

Retiring SVP Collection in Our Lady's this weekend: There will be a Retiring Collection outside Our Lady's Church for the valuable work of our SVP this weekend of 1st/2nd May.

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

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.

Mass at St Thomas Becket during the present Lockdown: As you are well aware the spread of the new COVID-19 variant has greatly increased. During this time of continued 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 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!

The Mass details for the coming week are:

Sunday 2nd May (Fifth Sunday after Easter)

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

Sunday 9th May (Sixth Sunday after Easter)

– 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 still 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
- ! **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.

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
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>