

ST MARY'S & ST PAUL'S NEWSLETTER

The R.C. Diocese of Shrewsbury is a registered charity

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Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary time

30th August 2020

THEME: When Peter tries to deny the Lord his Passion – “God forbid that such a thing ever happen to you!” – the Lord rebukes him. Why? Because Christ’s death on the cross would fulfil the “good and pleasing and perfect” will of the Father for our salvation. In union with Jesus, we offer our bodies as a living sacrifice to God. Our sharing in Christ’s cross may make us objects of the world’s laughter and mockery, but through it all the love of God remains like a fire, burning in our hearts. “True glory is the glory of love because that is the only kind that gives life to the world” (Pope Francis). It is the life-giving glory of love which Christ reveals on the cross.

We are the people of the Lord, the flock that is led by his hand: come, let us adore him, alleluia.!

MASS TIMES: St Mary’s: Sunday 9-30am; Monday No Mass, Tuesday - Friday 9am; Saturday 10am
St Paul’s: Saturday vigil 6-00pm

We welcome Fr Oliver back from his annual leave this weekend.

If you are intending to come to Mass on Sunday, please let Father Oliver, John Storey or Mary McDonough know, by phone (0161 330 2424) or email john.storey6@btopenworld.com including the number of people planning to attend. This is to allow us to assess the likely numbers and maintain a register of attendees, which is **imperative to fulfil the track and trace requirements**.

WEARING OF FACE MASKS IN CHURCH: Guidance from the Diocese remains clear **that masks must be worn by all people attending Mass** (with the exception of young children). Although the latest government guidelines mention there are exemptions from wearing face masks “... for people who cannot put on, wear or remove a face covering because of a physical or mental illness or impairment, or disability” and “... where putting on, wearing or removing a face covering will cause you severe distress”, the Diocese is clear that there is “... no lifting of the restrictions to allow anyone not wearing face coverings or face visor/shields to attend Mass.” This is for the health and safety of all those attending Mass. Live Mass is still streamed from the cathedral every Sunday at 8am, 10am and 12 noon (Extraordinary form) for anyone who is unable to attend Mass in person for any reason <http://www.shrewsburycathedral.org/live-stream-mass> Please remember to keep your face covering over your nose and mouth when you approach the altar to receive Holy Communion. Once you have received the Host in your hands, move to one side to consume the Host before making your way out.

MASS AT ST MARY’S: Mass will be at **9:30am** with the church doors open from **9am**. There is a maximum capacity of 50 people and procedures are in place to help keep everyone safe.

- Face masks must be worn.
- Do not come to Mass if you are exhibiting any symptoms such as a high temperature or are feeling unwell or cannot wear a face covering
- Church will be open at 9am for staggered arrivals and to avoid a queue immediately before Mass.
- Holy Communion will be distributed after the final blessing and, after receiving communion or a blessing, you will be asked to leave church directly, via the front door into Zetland Street.

- **The toilets will not be open.**
- Mass will be shorter than usual, around 30 minutes and there will be no singing.

Please be aware that if we reach our maximum capacity then you may not be allowed entry.

MASS AT ST PAUL'S: Mass will be at **6pm** on Saturday with the church doors open from **5.30pm**. There is a maximum capacity of 48 people and procedures are in place to keep everyone safe:

- Face masks must be worn.
- Do not come to Mass if you are exhibiting any symptoms such as a high temperature or are feeling unwell or cannot wear a face covering
- Church will be open at 5:30pm for staggered arrivals and avoid a queue immediately before Mass.
- Holy Communion will be distributed after the final blessing and, after receiving communion or a blessing, you will be asked to leave church directly, via the left hand aisle and out the side door to the rear of the church.
- **The toilets will not be open.**
- Mass will be shorter than usual, around 30 minutes and there will be no singing.

Please be aware that if we reach our maximum capacity then you may not be allowed entry.

The Sunday obligation to attend mass remains suspended and if you are anxious or concerned about coming to Mass, you can stay at home with a clear conscience.

SERVANT OF GOD ELIZABETH PROUT, MOTHER MARY JOSEPH OF JESUS: On Wednesday, a special Mass will be offered by the bishop in the cathedral to commemorate the bi-centenary of the birth of Elizabeth Prout of Shrewesbury. Elizabeth was born on 2nd September 1820 in Coleham and was baptised an Anglican at St Julian's church on Fish Street. She became a Catholic in her early twenties. In 1851 she founded a religious community, the Sisters of the Cross and Passion, to care for the poor and abandoned, basing its rule and spirit on St Paul of the Cross, recognising that the passion of Jesus is the great sign of God's love reaching out to those in pain. She died on 11th January 1864. Mother Mary Joseph's cause for canonisation has been referred to the Congregation for the Causes of the Saints in Rome, and she has the title 'Servant of God' during this process. From Wednesday onwards, the cathedral is promoting the cause of Mother Mary Joseph, to share her life story and begin to ask for her prayers. It could be that Rome determines Mother Mary Joseph ought to be beatified, and be acknowledged as a saint. If you have a special intention, why not begin to ask Mother Mary Joseph to pray for you, and ask God to hear her prayers.

O God, source of all life, your servant, Elizabeth Prout, responded to your call by bringing together a new family to welcome the poor and the abandoned and to keep alive the memory of your love for all your children, shown to us in the Passion of Jesus, your Son. Give us courage to follow her example of living faith and untiring love. Through her intercession, grant us the favour which we pray.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please keep our sick and housebound parishioners in your daily prayers. (*Please Mother Mary Joseph of Jesus, pray for them.*) If you know of anyone who is in special need of prayers or comfort, please let Fr. Oliver know.

OFFERTORY: Thank you to everyone who has made an offering to St Mary's or St Paul's during this ongoing period of pandemic. There will be no collection at Mass on Sunday, but there will be a basket for your offertory as you leave Church.

Receipts: 1st Aug to 16th Aug, St Mary's £477.34; St Paul's £758.48

TOTE: The 100 Club remains suspended for the moment. Any payments received have been recorded and will be used for future draws. When the draws resume, individual balances will be available.

BIDDING PRAYERS for Twenty-Second Sunday in ordinary time

Priest:

Lifting up our hearts in prayer, we call upon the name of God as we now turn in prayer to the Father.

We pray for the renewal of the Church and an ever-greater commitment to Jesus, the Bridegroom.

Lord, hear us.

We pray that those in civil authority will dedicate themselves to justice, peace, authentic freedom, and the generous defence of the poor.

Lord, hear us.

We pray for all those whose lives have been permanently marked by the coronavirus pandemic this year.

Lord, hear us.

We pray for the unemployed and all who are in financial difficulty.

Lord, hear us.

We pray for all Christian husbands and wives: that the Lord will strengthen them in their vocation and make them witnesses of Christ's love.

Lord, hear us.

We pray for all those preparing to return to work, university, college, and school, that they will be free from anxiety and able to enjoy the experience of being together again.

Lord, hear us.

We pray for the grace this week to carry our crosses in union with Christ.

Lord, hear us.

We ask Mary help of Christians, St Winefride and all the saints of the diocese of Shrewsbury to intercede for us as we place all our intentions before the Lord.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst all women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Priest: Loving Father, you are our help. Your kindness is a greater good than life. May we bless you in our daily lives, always calling upon your Name. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The readings for Sunday 30th August

Entrance Antiphon

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah 20:7-9

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced;
you have overpowered me: you were the stronger.
I am a daily laughing-stock,
everybody's butt.
Each time I speak the word, I have to howl
and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!'
The word of the Lord has meant for me
insult, derision, all day long.
I used to say, 'I will not think about him,
I will not speak in his name any more.'
Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my
heart,
imprisoned in my bones.
The effort to restrain it wearied me,
I could not bear it.

Psalm 62

Response: **My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.**

O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.
My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water. **Response**

So I gaze on you in the sanctuary
to see your strength and your glory.
For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise. **Response**

So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy. **Response**
For you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.
My soul clings to you;
your right hand holds me fast. **Response**

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans 12:1-2

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

Alleluia, alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind, so that we can see what hope his call holds for us. **Alleluia!**

A Reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 16:21-27

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord;' he said 'this must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life?

'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'

Communion Antiphon

How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise You,
We bless You

We adore you
We glorify You
We give You thanks for Your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father almighty.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only-begotten Son.
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
You take away the sins of the world, receive our
prayer;
You are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One.
You alone are the Lord.
You alone are the most high,
Jesus Christ
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
Of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the
Father; through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate
of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of
life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and
glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy, Catholic and apostolic
Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen