

# ST MARY'S & ST PAUL'S NEWSLETTER

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

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## Last Sunday in Ordinary Time

## 22nd November 2020

### Feast of Christ the King

**THEME:** Christ is our King

As our good shepherd, Christ watches over us and sorts us out if we get into difficulties; he is in complete charge and has over all authority in our universe. At the end of time we shall be judged by our actions during life, and if we have lived for Christ we shall enter with him into the glory of his unending kingdom.

**St Mary's Sunday 9-30am -11-00am. for private prayer. Fr Oliver will be present**

**St Paul's: Saturday 6-00 - 6-30pm for private prayer. Fr Oliver will be present.**

**REQUIEM MASS: St Paul's for James Patrick Travers Tuesday 12-00 noon**

**RECENTLY DECEASED PARISHIONERS:** Next Friday Father Oliver will celebrate mass for all those who have died in our parish since last November. Parishioners are reminded that they are unable to be present due to covid-19 restrictions.

**ST MARY'S SCHOOL CHAPLAINS:** Fr Oliver will commission the pupils who have been elected to act as school chaplains for the this academic year, next Tuesday morning in school.

**SCRIPTURE PASSAGE:** MATTHEW 25:31-46. Following our own way and living for ourselves has the effect of thickening our skins and dulling our sensitivity to others. It is an insidious process, and may be quite advanced before it becomes noticeable to others, though we usually see it in ourselves before that.

Gradually we find we can shrug off the suffering of the malnourished as a problem for their own governments to solve: it is no concern of ours. Prisoners deserve to be severely punished – what is the point in showing them kindness? Yes, it is bad when volcanoes cause such damage, but what a stupid place to live. The homeless have usually brought about their own problems by squandering money and making trouble, in any case. I need my money to look after my own family. So it goes on, a daily hardening and toughening which is justified conveniently every time.

Yet Christ pierces the excuses, and in his light, selfishness will be revealed for what it is – a rejection not just of the needy but of God himself, who suffers alongside them. Our attitudes and behaviour during life, then, will be interpreted as our attitudes and behaviour towards God. But he does not wave the flag or sound an alarm to let us know his presence, and warn us to behave generously on a particular occasion, so unless we are alert, we may find that our ordinary, everyday behaviour counts against us. God requires a thorough 'conversion' or a turning around of outlooks, not a few magnanimous gestures or an occasional smug good turn. But if we want to change, he will rush to transform us.

### NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR COVID-19

The Catholic bishops of England and Wales have invited all Catholics to keep Saturday November 21st as a day of national prayer to bring an end to the current pandemic.

A number of you will have picked up this prayer from church in recent weeks.

**Prayer to St Joseph:** The heavenly Father chose you, St Joseph, to be the husband of the Holy Mother of God, and to watch over his only Son our Lord Jesus Christ.

In times of trial, pray for us so that we can see your loving plan of the Eternal Father who always works

for the good of those who love him.

Teach us, Guardian of the Holy Family, to be attentive to the promptings of the Holy Spirit.

By your intercession help us to be faithful and protect all the Eternal Father has entrusted to us in our days.

Pray for us, that through the circumstances of our lives we may draw ever closer to the Lord Jesus, above all in the mystery of the Holy Eucharist. At the last, pray for us that we may happily join you, the just and faithful servant, to praise God forever in the company of our Lady and all the saints. Through Christ our Lord Amen. We pray for the sick. For strength for all medical staff. For wisdom for those in government. For peace for those who mourn. For patience for ourselves. For those who have died.

#### **ARRANGEMENTS for MASS**

- If you are intending to come to mass please provide advance notification, preferably by email [john.storey6@btopenworld.com](mailto:john.storey6@btopenworld.com) or tel: 0161 330 2424.
- A face mask must be worn whilst you are in Church. The only exception is for children 3 and under. Please do not come to mass if you are feeling ill or if you are unable to wear a face covering.
- On arrival you will be asked to sanitise your hands and check your name against the booked list. If you have not pre-booked, please give the steward your details.
- You will be guided to a pew. To avoid passing those already seated, pews are filled from the front.
- Mass will take approximately 30 minutes, there are no mass sheets and there will be no singing
- **Holy Communion will be distributed after the final blessing.** Please remain seated whilst Father prepares for communion. Stewards will then guide the congregation for communion starting with the front pews of the centre aisle. After receiving communion **do not return to your seat** and leave church by the exit doors on the left (front of church at St Mary's, back of church at St Paul's).
- **Parishioners with disability must not leave St Mary's church through the front door of the house due to the steps but through the main door of the church.** John Storey and his helpers will assist you with advice if needed.
- **The toilets will not be open.**

**Stewards are needed to assist at the 11-00am Mass to assist with ensuring the safety of those who will be participating. If you can help, please contact John Storey or Fr Oliver.**

**SVP SUDAN BABY FEEDING APPEAL:** While we are very aware of the situation in this country and elsewhere, we should not forget the dire conditions in Sudan and South Sudan. Extreme poverty continues and our baby feeding centres are the only source of food for thousands of Children. Unfortunately the centres have to close from time to time due to lack of funds and the children just sit there until they re-open as they have nowhere else to go.

The president of our SVP Peter Chorlton is asking for the usual generosity to help to keep the centres open. Due to the present situation he can not do the appeal in the usual way. If you wish to support this appeal please e-mail Peter for a sponsor form and he will arrange with you when he can collect it. If you do not have an email you can text him on his mobile 07789214592 giving him your name and address. If you wish to sponsor on behalf of someone as a Christmas present, please put their name on the form and he will issue a certificate. E-mail [peterchorlton@btinternet.com](mailto:peterchorlton@btinternet.com)

**ST MARY'S SCHOOL:** If your child will be four before 1st September 2021, you need to apply for a Reception Place on line at [www.Tameside.gov.uk](http://www.Tameside.gov.uk) The closing date is January 15th 2021. St Mary's is a happy, caring and welcoming community where we help every child to reach their full potential and make the most of the gifts and talents given to them by God. We warmly welcome all applications.

**ST PAUL'S NURSERY:** Applications for places in Nursery for September 2021 are open. Please contact the school for an application form. Further information can be found on the school website <http://www.st-pauls-hyde.tameside.sch.uk/page/admissions18690>

**APPLICATION FOR A PLACE IN RECEPTION** at St Mary's and St Paul's 2021: The online application for a place in Reception for September 2021 is now open and can be found at <https://www.tameside.gov.uk/education/organisation> and [admissions/school-admissions](https://www.tameside.gov.uk/education/organisation/admissions/school-admissions). Closing date January 15th 2021. School contacts: **St Mary's** 368-4824. **St Paul's** 368-2934

## **BIDDING PRAYERS for the Last Sunday in Ordinary Time**

### **Priest:**

The Lord has spoken to us through his word in the scriptures. We now speak our own words to the Lord in our prayers of intercession

We pray for the Pope bishops and priests, may they set out clearly and fearlessly the teachings of the Gospel.

**Lord, hear us**

We pray for those who hold political authority in our country, may they be guided by the common good and by the requirement of justice.

**Lord, hear us**

We pray for those places in the world where there is conflict, war and violence. We ask for the gift of perseverance for those who are working to bring about peace and mutual understanding in such areas.

**Lord, hear us**

We pray for the sick members of our families and parish community, may they be soon well again.

**Lord, hear us**

We pray for the faithful departed, especially anyone we knew who has died in the past twelve months.

**Lord, hear us**

We pray for our own special needs.

We ask Mary the Mother of God to join us in our prayers as we pray:

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst 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.

## The readings for Sunday 22nd November

**Priest:** Loving Father, we present you these and all the prayers of our hearts, confident that you hear and answer, through Christ our Lord Amen.

**Entrance Antiphon** How worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and divinity, and wisdom and strength and honour. To him belong glory and power for ever and ever.

### A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel

**34:11-12, 15-17**

The Lord says this: I am going to look after my flock myself and keep all of it in view. As a shepherd keeps all his flock in view when he stands up in the middle of his scattered sheep, so shall I keep my sheep in view. I shall rescue them from wherever they have been scattered during the mist and darkness. I myself will pasture my sheep, I myself will show them where to rest – it is the Lord who speaks. I shall look for the lost one, bring back the stray, bandage the wounded and make the weak strong. I shall watch over the fat and healthy. I shall be a true shepherd to them. As for you, my sheep, the Lord says this: I will judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and he-goats.

### Psalm 127

Response: **The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

The Lord is my shepherd;  
there is nothing I shall want.

Fresh and green are the pastures  
where he gives me repose. **Response**

Near restful waters he leads me,  
to revive my drooping spirit.

He guides me along the right path;  
he is true to his name. **Response**

You have prepared a banquet for me  
in the sight of my foes.

My head you have anointed with oil;  
my cup is overflowing. **Response**

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me  
all the days of my life.

In the Lord's own house shall I dwell  
for ever and ever. **Response**

### A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians 15:20-26,28

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Death came through one man and in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through one man. Just as all men die in Adam, so all men will be brought to life in Christ; but all of them in their proper order: Christ as the first-fruits and then, after the coming of Christ, those who belong to him. After that will come the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, having done away with every sovereignty, authority and power. For he must be king until he has put all his

enemies under his feet and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is death, for everything is to be put under his feet. And when everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will be subject in his turn to the One who subjected all things to him, so that God may be all in all.

**Alleluia, alleluia!** Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David! **Alleluia!**

### A Reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 25:31-46

Jesus said to his disciples: 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, escorted by all the angels, then he will take his seat on his throne of glory. All the nations will be assembled before him and he will separate men one from another as the shepherd separates sheep from goats. He will place the sheep on his right hand and the goats on his left.

'Then the King will say to those on his right hand, "Come, you whom my Father has blessed, take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome; naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me." Then the virtuous will say to him in reply, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you; or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and make you welcome; naked and clothe you; sick or in prison and go to see you?" And the King will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me."

'Next he will say to those on his left hand, "Go away from me, with your curse upon you, to the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you never gave me food; I was thirsty and you never gave me anything to drink; I was a stranger and you never made me welcome, naked and you never clothed me, sick and in prison and you never visited me." Then it will be their turn to ask, "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty, a stranger or naked, sick or in prison, and did not come to your help?" Then he will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me."

'And they will go away to eternal punishment, and the virtuous to eternal life.'

**Communion Antiphon** The Lord sits as King for ever. The Lord will bless his people with peace.

**Gloria:**

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

**Credo:**

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