



St. Patrick

THE BEACON



Our Lady of the Rosary

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28TH JUNE 2020

THE FEAST OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL

**Until further notice, we can no longer celebrate Public Masses.
 The Sunday and Holy Day Mass obligation is suspended until further notice.**

Sat	27th		<i>Live stream is available</i>
Sun	28th		<i>from Shrewsbury Cathedral at 08:30hrs and 10:45hrs on www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/</i>
Ss Peter & Paul, Apostles			
Mon	29th	Ferial	<i>Live stream at 08:30 on www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/</i>
Tue	30th	Ferial	<i>Live stream at 08:30 on www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/</i>
Wed	1st	Ferial	<i>Live stream at 08:30 on www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/</i>
Thur	2nd	Ferial	<i>Live stream at 08:30 on www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/</i>
Fri	3rd	St Thomas, Apostle	<i>Live stream at 08:30 on www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/</i>
Sat	4th	Ferial	<i>Live stream at 08:30 on www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/</i>
Sat	4th		<i>Live Stream is available</i>
Sun	5th		<i>from Shrewsbury Cathedral at 08:30hrs and 10:45hrs on www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/</i>
14th Sunday in Ordinary Time			

Starting this Monday Shrewsbury Cathedral will be open for private visits and private prayers from 10:00hrs until 15:00hrs on weekdays, and from 12Hrs until 15:00hrs on Sundays

Newsletter items: newsletter@stpatrickstelford.com
 Please send items by 5pm on Wednesday

The Diocese of Shrewsbury is a Registered Charity (No.234025)

Data Protection Privacy Notice

Our two parishes sometimes collect personal information about parishioners. All personal information is collected, processed and stored in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations. This is retained only as necessary and used by the Parish/Diocese for the benefit of the Parish and for legitimate reasons such as administrative and religious purposes. You can read our full privacy notice at www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/privacy-notice

SAINTS PETER & PAUL, APOSTLES

FIRST READING

(Acts 12:1-11)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

King Herod started persecuting certain members of the Church. He beheaded James the brother of John, and when he saw that this pleased the Jews he decided to arrest Peter as well. This was during the days of Unleavened Bread, and he put Peter in prison, assigning four squads of four soldiers each to guard him in turns. Herod meant to try Peter in public after the end of the Passover week. All the time Peter was under guard the Church prayed to God for him unremittingly.

On the night before Herod was to try him, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, fastened with double chains, while guards kept watch at the main entrance to the prison. Then suddenly the angel of the Lord stood there, and the cell was filled with light. He tapped Peter on the side and woke him. "Get up!" he said "Hurry!" – and the chains fell from his hands. The angel then said, "Put on your belt and sandals." After he had done this, the angel next said, "Wrap your cloak round you and follow me." Peter followed him, but had no idea that what the angel did was all happening in reality; he thought he was seeing a vision. They passed through two guard posts one after the other, and reached the iron gate leading to the city. This opened of its own accord; they went through it and had walked the whole length of one street when suddenly the angel left him. It was only then that Peter came to himself. "Now I know it is all true," he said. "The Lord really did send his angel and has saved me from Herod and from all that the Jewish people were so certain would happen to me."

The word of the Lord.

Response: Thanks be to God

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 33

**Response: From all my terrors
the Lord set me free.**

1. I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad. **R/**
2. Glorify the Lord with me.
Together let us praise his name.
I sought the Lord and he answered me;
from all my terrors he set me free. **R/**
3. Look towards him and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.
This poor man called; the Lord heard him
and rescued him from all his distress. **R/**

4. The angel of the Lord is encamped
around those who revere him, to rescue them.
Taste and see that the Lord is good.
He is happy who seeks refuge in him. **R/**

SECOND READING

(2 Timothy 4:6-8; 17-18)

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy

As for me, my life is already being poured away as a libation, and the time has come for me to be gone. I have fought the good fight to the end; I have run the race to the finish; I have kept the faith; all there is to come now is the crown of righteousness reserved for me, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that Day; and not only to me but to all those who have longed for his Appearing.

The Lord stood by me and gave me power, so that through me the whole message might be proclaimed for all the pagans to hear; and so I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from all evil attempts on me, and bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

Response: Thanks be to God

ALLELUIA VERSE

Alleluia, alleluia!

You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And he gates of the underworld can never hold out against it.

Alleluia!

THE GOSPEL

(Matthew 16:13-19)

The Lord be with you.

Response: And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Response: Glory to you, O Lord.

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." "But you," he said, "who do you say I am?" Then Simon Peter spoke up. "You are the Christ," he said "the Son of the living God." Jesus replied, "Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Response: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

celebrate Mass from Liverpool Cathedral on 9th July.

PRAYER REMEMBRANCES

Your prayers are asked for the sick and the housebound and all those who are in hospital, the Hospice or local nursing homes. We remember especially all those suffering from the effects of the corona virus; especially the doctors, nurses and all medical staff at the PRH and RSH; also all the staff at our local nursing homes.

We remember in prayer all who have died especially **Elsie Carty**; and all who are mourning the death of a loved one, and all whose anniversaries occur about this time.

LIVESTREAM MASSES

During the time when our churches remain closed, Sunday and Weekday Masses will still be live-streamed to the internet.

At Shrewsbury Cathedral

<http://www.churchservices.tv/shrewsburycathedral>

Sunday Morning: Sunday, 08:30 hrs & 10:45hrs

Weekday Mass: Daily at 08:30hrs.

If you prefer to livestream a more “homely” parish church celebration, then you can always log-on to <http://www.churchservices.tv>. In the “churches” section you will find where livestreaming is now available across the UK and Ireland, and also the schedule of service times.

HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY

“Given the escalation of the Coronavirus, hospitals are having constantly to review their policy on visiting the sick which includes chaplaincy access to patients. Although each hospital will determine its own approach to these matters, it is becoming increasingly clear that giving access to chaplains is difficult due to the scarcity of PPE, the risk of contagion to the chaplain, as well as the chaplain becoming another link in the chain of infection.

“Contact details of chaplains and priests are available for **telephone support** of those who need it. Priests and chaplains must follow the visiting instructions from Hospital and Trust authorities.

“Whilst this runs counter to our instinct to provide personal end-of-life sacramental and pastoral care, in the current circumstances minimising the spread of the virus must be the priority of all.”

MASS FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL

Bishops are still celebrating Mass for those who are ill and for all in the health service. This week on Thursday at 7.00pm Archbishop John Wilson of Southwark Cathedral will celebrate Mass; then Bishop Tom Williams, auxiliary Bishop, will

FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE PARISH

These are difficult times for us all. The Parish of course has to continue to pay its way – despite saving on the heating!

Like all charities we will feel the impact of not having a regular income. You yourselves will have the same pressures, especially if you are on a low income or zero hours contracts.

Parishioners can continue to make regular contributions in a variety of ways if they are able.

ENVELOPES

Supplies of new envelopes have been received and will be distributed when we are able to gather together to celebrate Mass.

If you can set your usual offertory gift aside and bring it when things return to normal it would help – but only if you are able. Fr Alban is most grateful to those parishioners who have sent him envelopes with their donations.

STANDING ORDERS

We thank all those who have started giving by Standing Orders. If you wish to set up a Standing Order either permanently or in order to continue to make your regular Offertory giving to the Parish during the period when Mass is not being celebrated in public, please contact the Parish Office on 01952 242423 and talk to Moira or e-mail Mike Russell (from the Diocesan Planned Giving & Gift Aid Service) including your name, phone number and name of the Parish. Mike’s email address is: mike.russell@dioceseofshrewsbury.org.

ONLINE GIVING

For those Parishioners who normally give in the collection at Mass and wish to help the Parish at this time, an online donation page to allow you to donate to the Parish has been developed. The links are on the Parish websites.

Please be aware that a minimum donation of £5 is requested if giving in this way. You can also Gift Aid your donation to help the Parish further.

If you want to Gift Aid your donation, please tick the box shown on the screen even if you have previously completed a Gift Aid Declaration form in favour of the Parish for regular giving made by Offertory Envelope or Standing Order.

We thank those who have started to donate monies using this method

Thank you for your continued support.

THIS WEEK

If you **urgently** need the services of a priest, please contact Father Michael Hartley at The

Good Shepherd Parish in south Telford on 01952 586118.

SAINT PETER AND SAINT PAUL

Today we celebrate the two princes of the apostles. Peter our leader in faith, and Paul the fearless preacher of the gospel. We are called, probably in a less spectacular way than them, to keep the flame of faith alive by bearing Christian witness to our family, friends and society. Peter and Paul gave their lives for Christ; how is God calling me and you to witness in our present circumstances?

ANOTHER SAINT OF THE WEEK

St Thomas was one of the twelve apostles. Although the gospels do not give us a clue about his background, he is remembered principally for his doubting the appearance of Jesus after his resurrection. His disbelief was changed into faith, and according to tradition he is reputed to have travelled as far as India where he preached the gospel and founded a Christian community. We celebrate his feast day on Friday of this week.

YELLOW RIBBON

Yellow Ribbon, looking after people coming out of prison and resettling into the community, is in need of bath towels, tea towels, single & double bedding, suitable for single males (that is, no florals please!) If you have any of these items, please call Rita Wilkinson on 07803 281971 and she will arrange collection from your home. As always, many thanks for your continuing help.

FR ALBAN SAYS "THANK YOU"

This last week Fr Alban celebrated a special anniversary and wishes to thank all the parishioners who sent him birthday cards and presents, or who phoned him with their best wishes; even those who called to see him – at a suitable distance of course!.

THE REOPENING OF OUR CHURCHES

Listening to government announcements it looks as though we might be able to open our churches for Mass before we have been able to open for private visits and private prayer.

At the very end of this week's Newsletter we have attached the letter addressed to all of us from the four Metropolitan Archbishops of England. Do take time to read the letter. It contains some important information concerning the reopening of our churches for the celebration of public Mass. If churches are ready, and with permission from the health and safety department of the diocese, churches can begin to reopen from 4th July.

We are still awaiting delivery of some required equipment so that we can safely reopen.

Hopefully we may have some information next weekend as to when we can open both our churches.

Fr Alban and Fr Joe

CHURCH STEWARDS

One important element in safely re-opening our churches is stewarding. We are most grateful for all those who have volunteered to act as Stewards. Twelve have offered their services at St Patrick's; two have come forward at Our Lady's (needed for when the church opens for liturgies); and six people from the Polish community.

If you are willing to act as a volunteer steward at St Patrick's or at Our Lady's, please either phone the Parish Office (01952 242423) and register with the parish secretary or with Fr Alban (please leave a message if the answerphone is operating). You can always, if you prefer, email the Office using the address ccntelford@gmail.com. Volunteers have to be under 70 years of age, and not suffering from any underlying health issues.

When our churches eventually begin to reopen, we would all want the experience to be as risk-free as possible as we begin to adjust to the "new normal". This week there will be training sessions for the volunteers.

SCHOOLS

We have already announced some weeks ago that **Mrs Sarah Coggins**, the Executive Headteacher of **The Blessed Edward Campion School Federation** (St Patrick's School and Shrewsbury Catholic Primary School), is retiring at the end of the school year. **Mr Graham Hawes**, the head-teacher at Shrewsbury, will become the acting Executive Head of the Federation during the Summer and Spring Terms of the next school year. His place at Shrewsbury will be taken until next Easter by **Mr Paul Higgins**, a teacher at the Shrewsbury School.

The Governors are sorry to say that **Mrs Stacey Beale** will be leaving St Luke's School at October half term to take up a Headship at the John Fletcher Primary School in Madeley. Mrs Beale has served our schools for around 15 years. She enjoyed several happy years as a teacher at St Peter & Paul Primary School in Newport before being appointed as St Luke's Deputy Headteacher in 2011, becoming Headteacher in 2013 and Executive Headteacher of **Our Blessed Saints School Federation** in 2017. It has been an extremely difficult decision for her to leave our children. Mrs Beale has worked tirelessly over many years and leaves our school in a secure position. We thank her sincerely for all she done

and wish her well in her future career. Governors will shortly commence the process of appointing Mrs Beale's successor.

Further pages follow ...

PRAYER RESOURCES

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,
I believe that you are present in the Most Holy
Sacrament of the Altar.
I love you above all things,
and I desire to receive you into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive you
sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace you as if you were already there and
unite myself wholly to you.
Never permit me to be separated from you.
Amen.

Psalm 90

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High and abides in the shade of the Almighty says to the Lord: 'My refuge, my stronghold, my God in whom I trust!'

It is he who will free you from the snare of the fowler who seeks to destroy you; he will conceal with his pinions and under his wings you will find refuge.

You will not fear the terror of the night nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the plague that prowls in the darkness nor the scourge that lays waste at noon.

A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand fall at your right, you, it will never approach; his faithfulness is buckler and shield.

Your eye have only to look to see how the wicked are repaid, you who have said: 'Lord, my refuge!' and have made the Most High your dwelling.

Upon you no evil shall fall, no plague approach where you dwell. For you has he commanded his angels, to keep you in all your ways.

They shall bear you upon their hands lest you strike your foot against a stone. On the lion and the viper you will tread and trample the young lion and the dragon.

Since he clings to me in love, I will free him; protect him for he knows my name. When he calls I shall answer: 'I am with you.' I will save him in distress and give him glory.

With length of life I will content him; I shall let him see my saving power.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

A Message from the Metropolitan Archbishops of the Catholic Church in England

Dear Brothers and sisters in Christ,

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

On Tuesday we heard the announcement that, from the 4th July this year, places of worship will be able to reopen for prayer and services. We welcome this news with great joy. Since the lockdown began, members of all faiths have faced restrictions on how they have been able to celebrate important religious festivals. Our own experience of Easter was unlike any other we have known. Now, in our churches, and with our people, we can look forward again to celebrating the central mysteries of our faith in the Holy Eucharist.

The recent reopening of our churches for individual private prayer was an important milestone on our journey towards resuming communal worship. Our churches that have opened have put in place all the measures needed to ensure the risks of virus transmission are minimised. This includes effective hand sanitisation, social distancing, and cleaning. We remain committed to making sure these systems of hygiene and infection control meet Government and public health standards.

We want to thank everyone within the Catholic community for sustaining the life of faith in such creative ways, not least in the family home. We thank our priests for celebrating Mass faithfully for their people, and for the innovative ways in which they have enabled participation through live-streaming and other means. We are grateful for the pastoral care shown by our clergy to those for whom this time of lockdown has been especially difficult, and, in particular, towards those who have been bereaved. We recognise too the chaplaincy services that have played a vital role in supporting those most in need. Gaining from the experience of all that we have been through, and bringing those lessons into the future, we must now look forward.

With the easing of restrictions on worship with congregations, we tread carefully along the path that lies ahead. Our lives have been changed by the experience of the pandemic and it is clear that we cannot simply return to how things were before lockdown. We remain centred on the Lord Jesus and His command at the Last Supper to “do this in memory of me.” We must now rebuild what it means to be Eucharistic communities, holding fast to all that we hold dear, while at the same time exploring creative ways to meet changed circumstances.

It is important to reaffirm that, at present, the obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains suspended. A significant number of churches may remain closed as they are unable to meet the requirements for opening for individual prayer. Fulfilling these requirements is a precondition for any church opening after the 4th July for the celebration of Mass with a congregation.

Please be aware that there will be a limit on the number of people who can attend Mass in our churches. This will be determined locally in accordance with social distancing requirements. We therefore need to reflect carefully on how and when we might be able to attend Mass. We cannot return immediately to our customary practices. This next step is not, in any sense, a moment when we are going ‘back to normal.’

We ask every Catholic to think carefully about how and when they will return to Mass. Our priests may need to consider whether it is possible to celebrate additional Masses at the weekends. Given there is no Sunday obligation, we ask you to consider the possibility of attending Mass on a weekday. This will ease the pressure of numbers for Sunday celebrations and allow a gradual return to the Eucharist for more people.

Moving forward, there will still be many people who cannot attend Mass in person. We therefore ask parishes, wherever possible, to continue live-streaming Sunday Mass, both for those who remain shielding and vulnerable, and also for those unable to leave home because of advanced age or illness.

When we return to Mass there will be some differences in how the celebration takes place. For the time being, there will be no congregational singing and Mass will be shorter than usual. None of this detracts from the centrality of our encounter with the Risen Christ in the Eucharist. We ask everyone to respect and follow the guidance that will be issued and the instructions in each church.

“As I have loved you,” said the Lord Jesus, *“so you must love each other.”* (Jn 13:34) The lockdown has brought forth remarkable acts of charity, of loving kindness, from Catholics across our communities as they have cared for the needy and vulnerable. We have seen love in action through charitable works, and through the service of many front-line keyworkers who are members of our Church. Now we can begin to return to the source of that charity, Christ himself, present for us sacramentally, body, blood, soul and divinity, in Holy Communion. As we prepare to gather again to worship, let us, respectful of each other, come together in thanksgiving to God for the immense gift of the Holy Eucharist.

Yours devotedly in Christ

- ✠ Vincent Cardinal Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster
- ✠ Malcolm McMahon OP, Archbishop of Liverpool
- ✠ Bernard Longley, Archbishop of Birmingham
- ✠ John Wilson, Archbishop of Southwark

This letter is addressed to the Catholic Community in England; the opening of the Catholic Churches in Wales is devolved to the Welsh Assembly who are still evaluating their position on opening Places of Worship.