

The R.C. Diocese of Shrewsbury is registered charity No 234025

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SACRED HEART FATHERS

Fr. Jim Matthews, scj - Fr Blaise Nsangou, scj - Deacon Terry Simms

3 – 10 January 2021 - SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS - HEALTHY NEW YEAR

SATURDAY	2	5.00 pm	Bernard Wild Birthday Remembrance
SUNDAY	3	11.30 am	Anne Rose – who died peacefully in Hospital on Saturday 2nd. St Joseph's School intentions.
TUESDAY	5	12.00 noon	Deceased Members of the Murphy family
WEDNESDAY		12.00 noon	Greta, Jeanie & Cathie McWhinnie, and families, intentions.
FRIDAY	8	12.00 noon	Deceased members of the following families: Clayton, Durkin, Graham, Harkin, Hodson, Kenny, Maguire, Smith, Toner and Walden.
(Thursday		2.00 pm	Christmas Day Mass for our Ukrainian Community)
SATURDAY	9	5.00 pm	Alan and Frania Gell intentions
SUNDAY	10	11.30 am	Deceased member of the Bowler family

The EPIPHANY: 6th January. Mass at 12 noon. Although it is once more a Holyday of Obligation, since 2018, we wish to remind you that there is no obligation to attend that Mass if you feel uncomfortable doing so in a restricted capacity building. The Mass on the 5th is that of the Tuesday of the Christmas season, when the opening prayer celebrates God becoming one of us - in the person of his Son Jesus; the gospel reading dwells on Jesus choosing the apostles - who will tell people why Jesus has come among us.

It is good to know since we entered Tier 4, that public Masses can continue as above.

Here's wishing all our families better health and happiness in 2021.

We are glad to see the back of 2020. Not pleasant reviewing as we summarise as follows:

Café mornings, Sunday Teas, Books and Greeting cards, Bingo, Dancing lessons, Concerts, Nativity play,

Stockport Male Voice Choir practices and concerts, school PE, and more in the Hall..... all

On hold since Friday 20th March. Likewise, parish and school governors meetings in the Presbytery.

Visiting family and friends not recommended.

Included on hold are Parish meal outings, Walsingham and Knock pilgrimages, Family holidays.

Deemed virus spreaders were Public Masses, Little church, Christenings, as well as the following:

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1st Forgiveness and Holy Communions, Confirmations, Weddings, Reconciliation in church,

Faith Sharing Groups – all put on hold. Not recommended was congregational singing, etc

9 days wonder? – I do not think so. We are in for the long haul, preferably not via Dover or Holyhead!

Finally, on behalf of the parish community we want to extend our sincere thanks to Helen Tarr, our church florist, for her floral displays truly lifting our spirits especially during the 12 Day of Christmas, and beyond, and for a limited number of celebrations of Masses and private prayer.

The Sacred Heart Fathers wish to thank parishioners for their generosity in the Christmas Collection and the many gifts and greetings. Well done to our 14 faithful stewards, to musicians, and Shelagh Humphries for live streaming some of our Masses especially those of you cocooning.

Ecclesiasticus 24:1-2,8-12 - *From eternity, in the beginning, God created wisdom*

Wisdom speaks her own praises, in the midst of her people she glories in herself. She opens her mouth in the assembly of the Most High, she glories in herself in the presence of the Mighty One; 'Then the creator of all things instructed me, and he who created me fixed a place for my tent. He said, "Pitch your tent in Jacob, make Israel your inheritance." From eternity, in the beginning, he created me, and for eternity I shall remain. I ministered before him in the holy tabernacle, and thus was I established on Zion. In the beloved city he has given me rest, and in Jerusalem I wield my authority. I have taken root in a privileged people, in the Lord's property, in his inheritance.'

Psalm 147:12-15,19-20 **R.** *The Word was made flesh, and lived among us.*

O praise the Lord, Jerusalem! Zion, praise your God!

He has strengthened the bars of your gates he has blessed the children within you. **R.**

He established peace on your borders, he feeds you with finest wheat.

He sends out his word to the earth and swiftly runs his command. **R.**

He makes his word known to Jacob, to Israel his laws and decrees.

He has not dealt thus with other nations; he has not taught them his decrees. **R.**

Ephesians 1:3-6,15-18 *Before the world was made, God chose us in Christ*

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with all the spiritual blessings of heaven in Christ. Before the world was made, he chose us, chose us in Christ, to be holy and spotless, and to live through love in his presence, determining that we should become his adopted sons, through Jesus Christ for his own kind purposes, to make us praise the glory of his grace, his free gift to us in the Beloved. That will explain why I, having once heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus, and the love that you show towards all the saints, have never failed to remember you in my prayers and to thank God for you. May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit.

Alleluia, alleluia! Glory be to you, O Christ, proclaimed to the pagans.

Glory be to you, O Christ, believed in by the world. Alleluia! (*cf. 1Tim3:16*)

John 1:1-18 *The Word was made flesh, and lived among us*

In the beginning was the Word: and the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things came to be, not one thing had its being but through him. All that came to be had life in him and that life was the light of men, a light that shines in the dark, a light that darkness could not overpower. A man came, sent by God. His name was John. He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him. He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light. The Word was the true light that enlightens all men; and he was coming into the world. He was in the world that had its being through him, and the world did not know him. He came to his own domain and his own people did not accept him. But to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to all who believe in the name of him who was born not out of human stock or urge of the flesh or will of man but of God himself. The Word was made flesh, he lived among us, and we saw his glory, the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth. John appears as his witness. He proclaims: 'This is the one of whom I said: He who comes after me ranks before me because he existed before me.' Indeed, from his fullness we have, all of us, received – yes, grace in return for grace, since, though the Law was given through Moses, grace and truth have come through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; it is the only Son, who is nearest to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Our *New Year Wish* For Each Other Should Continue to Be

HANDS FACE SPACE