



St Clare of Assisi Catholic Church

DIAMOND JUBILEE 1960 - 2020

Downsfield Road Chester CH4 8HH

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Parish Website: www.stclareschester.org

Psalter Week I 29th MARCH 2020 FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT Year of The Word



LIVE STREAMED MASSES

Whilst most of us are missing our communal Masses on Sundays and during the week during this current crisis, please be aware that live Mass is streamed from our Cathedral every day. If you have a smart TV, go to 'apps' then 'browsers' and then insert www.shrewsburycathedral.org/ or simply Google 'catholic live stream mass' and one can partake in Masses across the country (and Ireland-although signal may be poorer) at varying times of day.

Adoration, Rosary and 'Office of Readings' are also available.

DISPENSATION FROM EASTER DUTIES

In their letter of 18th March 2020, the President and Vice President of the Bishops Conference of England and Wales said: "in these emergency circumstances, and for as long as they last, the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days is removed. This is, without doubt, the teaching of the Church (CCC n. 2181). This pandemic is the 'serious reason' why this obligation does not apply at this time."

Many of you will be aware of their Easter Duties; that is to receive Holy Communion during the Easter Season and by custom, to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation beforehand. The Code of Canon Law says "each of the faithful is obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a year. The precept must be fulfilled during the Easter season unless it is fulfilled by a just cause at another time during the year" (CIC 920) As it is not possible for the faithful to receive Holy Communion at this time and into the future, the Bishops of England and Wales have dispensed the Easter Duties for the year 2020.

The Bishops ask that all should make a Perfect Act of Contrition at this time. Perfect contrition (or Contrition of Charity) is true and real sorrow for our sins which is created when we realise the immense love of God for each one of us. We express this contrition when we realise how we offend God by our sinful words, deeds and omissions in contrast to the immeasurable love and mercy that He continuously shows us. This requires us to be contrite of heart for what we have done, know and be overwhelmed by the love and mercy of God for his children, and to approach this grace with humility and resolution not to sin again

. I recommend the following act of Contrition as an example:

My God, I am sorry for 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.

THE SACRAMENT OF PENANCE AND RECONCILIATION

Bishop Mark has written that following a meeting of the Metropolitan Archbishops I have been asked to share with you the following updated guidance: In addition to the earlier guidance it is to be noted that confessions cannot be heard over the telephone. Services of General Absolution cannot be held as this involves travel and the gathering of people. Requests for individual confessions may be difficult to meet given demands of social distancing and church closure.

REDEDICATION OF ENGLAND AS DOWRY OF OUR LADY

Rededication of England as the Dowry of Mary - This Sunday March 29th - being led from Our Lady's Shrine in Walsingham at 12 Noon by Mgr. John Armitage, the Rector. It will also be led by our Bishops from their Cathedrals, where possible, and many now have a live stream set up so that you can join and support your Bishops in prayer. **The Personal Angelus Promise and the Act of Entrustment of England as the Dowry of Mary and the links to the pdf downloads.** You need to print off the two Rededication Prayers from this link: <https://www.walsingham.org.uk/rededication/>

PARISH COMMUNICATIONS

We are trying to gather a list of as many email addresses of Parishioners as possible who would like to be kept informed throughout these difficult weeks. Please email me if you wish to be included in this group: patriddell31@aol.com

OFFERING IN CHURCH

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 send an email to 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

CAFOD LENT FAST DAY

Very many thanks to all at St Clare's who supported this collection; our combined donations totalled £644 which when Gift Aid is added will be approx £750.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK (Fr.

Emeka's private Mass)

Sunday: Gloria Smith

Monday: Parishioners

Tuesday: Ursula Breslin

Wednesday: David Brown

Thursday: Christine Long

Friday: Judy Kearney

Saturday: Elizabeth Pugh

Please Note If you wish to have a Mass offered simply send an email or text Fr. Emeka with the intention attached.

RECENTLY DEAD Please pray for Steven Gentile. Funeral service is on Tue. 31st at Blacon Crematorium. May he rest in peace

THE SICK

Please remember to pray for our sick parishioners, all those suffering around the world during these difficult times as well as the lonely and homeless.

Also because of coronavirus charities are receiving less donations than usual

ST CLARE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

ST Clare's Catholic Primary School remains open for children of critical workers. This week staff and pupils have been in communication through the school website's learning platform, where work has been set and outcomes celebrated. Staff are in school on a rota basis and are delivering packed lunches to pupils who require them. Each family has got an allocated member of staff working as a 'key worker' for the family and this week each household received a call just to remind all our pupils that we are here for them at this difficult time. This will take place each week so that we can keep communication lines open. All children this week have been very busy in their homes and most importantly have coped well with the changes.

