



Saint Mary's Catholic Church, Brewood

Kiddemore Green Road, ST19 9BQ

Email: stmarysrbrewood@hotmail.com **Website:** www.stmarybrewood.org.uk
Serving HMP Brinsford, HMP Featherstone and HMP Oakwood, Penkridge, Bishop's Wood, Four Ashes, Coven, Lapley, Wheaton Aston and surrounding areas.

This parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham. Registered charity number 234216
Parish Priest: Fr Paul Smith, St Mary's Presbytery, Wharf Lane, Brewood, ST19 9BG
Tel: 01902 850394

Parish Deacon: Revd. Stephen Gee 01902 782969

Parish school: Executive Headteacher ~ Mrs Bernadette Corbett ~ Tel: 01902 850261

Sunday 17th May 2020 **Sixth Sunday of Easter**

****Two page newsletter - continued overleaf****

The Masses advertised below will *not* be in public but will be live-streamed on

Fr Paul's YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCgY-szDpsHcQ5OUdBRz6zw/featured>

Sun 17th	10am	Sixth Sunday of Easter Craig Jones (birthday)
Mon 18th		Easter Feria
Tues 19th		Easter Feria
Wed 20th	9am	Easter Feria Staff and pupils of St Mary's school
Thurs 21st	9am	Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord (Holy Day) Michael Marren RIP
Fri 22nd	9am	Easter Feria Kit Morton RIP
Sat 23rd	9am	Easter Feria Coronavirus sufferers and NHS staff
Sun 24th	10am	Seventh Sunday of Easter Gerald Good RIP

Sick List To comply with **GDPR** legislation, from November 2018, we started the parish sick list anew. Only those who have given consent will be on the sick list. A letter is available which can be handed to anyone who is ill to request a visit, or to have their names added to the list to be prayed for.

Please pray for the sick of the parish & their carers: - Chris Rauchmann, Philip & Christine Elson, Bill Baker.

International Day of Prayer for Eastern Christians Today we are asked to make this special prayer:

"Heavenly Father, we pray today for peace in the world, especially in the Middle East. By your heavenly grace, strengthen the faith and hope of Eastern Christians. May they be blessed with peace and prosperity in their lands. And may we be inspired by their devotion and witness to the Gospel, by their love and compassion for all in their communities, and by their courage, their endurance and self-sacrifice against oppression. Through their charity, tolerance and friendship, bring peace and reconciliation to those troubled lands, where Christianity was born and first spread."

Fr Paul writes:

Dear All

It doesn't seem like 6 weeks since Easter and we still aren't sure when we will be able to open churches to pray or celebrate Mass. This week the government published proposals that churches could open from 4th July; subject to clinical advice and continued reduced infections. A multi-faith task force, including Cardinal Vincent, is working with the Government on this matter so we'll have to see.

I hope most people have been able to make use of their time out to exercise while keeping a distance. There are still lots of flowers out now and tree blossoms are at their best. The photos below are from our graveyard over the last couple of weeks.



I'm encouraged that people are able to join me on YouTube for Mass. Thanks to Deacon Stephen for his virtual homilies and to Val for adding music to our Sundays - we're getting more ambitious each week. In normal time, Ascension Thursday would have been a holy day of obligation but we can still join together in prayer on this feast.

Thank you for continuing to give to the mission of the parish at this difficult time. If you normally give by the envelope scheme, could you please add your envelope number each time you send a cheque or notify us of a donation via your bank or online.

We continue to pray for those suffering from the pandemic, for the safety of key workers and that our Government may make decisions for the common good.

God bless

Fr Paul



continued overleaf...

COVID-19 Virus As we try to stop the spread of the COVID-19, Mass and other public acts of worship in our churches have unfortunately had to be suspended and churches must remain closed in line with Government advice. The Catholic bishops of England and Wales have produced a **prayer leaflet from for when Mass cannot be celebrated publicly** - this can be found on our website along with other prayer resources at: <https://www.stmarybrewood.org.uk/prayer-resources.html>

The bishops' prayer leaflet contains an **Act of Spiritual Communion** by saying the prayer of **St Alphonsus** below. This is being said at Communion during parish live-streamed Masses:

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in this Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love you above all things and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever. Amen.

Mass Online - Fr Paul is **live-streaming Mass** from the Presbytery on **YouTube** at the times shown overleaf. You should be able to follow him on his YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCqY-szDpsHcQ5OUdBRz6zw/featured> :
If you wish to follow the Mass **readings** of the day, you can find these a number of websites given on **our website**; including: <https://www.alivepublishing.co.uk/daily-mass-readings/>

Parish WhatsApp group The parish WhatsApp group is now quite well established. The group is for over 18's to share news and cheer each other up. If you wish to join; please follow the following link: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/BpKF76Z32oCFqwC57nd2Gj>

Caring for each other - If you live in **Brewood** and are having to self-isolate or are staying in because of a health condition and need help with shopping / prescription collection or maybe just someone to chat to on the phone if you're feeling lonely, then you can contact Brewood Helpers Network via its Facebook group 'Brewood Helpers Network' or via a flier which you should have received through your front door. If you live in **Penkridge**; the Penkridge Support Group can be contacted on 07388 467660 or on Facebook. **Please also ring me if you need help.** If you know anyone who does not have access to the internet; please post them a copy of this newsletter and maybe ring them occasionally if they are self-isolating.

CAFOD Coronavirus appeal The Covid-19 virus has now spread worldwide, with confirmed cases in several countries where the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development (CAFOD) works. Its spread to countries with poor health systems will be devastating. CAFOD's local experts need our support to continue protecting lives. We can donate to their work at the following website: <https://cafod.org.uk/Give/Donate-to-Emergencies/Coronavirus-appeal>

Mass Intentions Fr. Paul is celebrating Mass in private without a congregation but any intentions requested will be fulfilled; as indicated overleaf. You can send Mass intentions to Fr Paul by email and/ or at St Mary's Presbytery, Wharf Lane, Brewood, ST19 9BG; cheques made payable to 'Rev Paul Smith'. Thank you.

Our Collection There are several ways to support your parish financially at this difficult time:

- You can post a **cheque** to Fr Paul at St Mary's Presbytery, Wharf Lane, Brewood, ST19 9BG; cheques made payable to 'St Mary, Brewood'. If you normally give by the envelope scheme could you also enclose **the number of your envelope**.
- You could pay by **BACS payment**.
- You could also set up a **Standing Order** (even if you have a Gift Aid envelope)
- You could give **Online** via the Diocese website.

BACS Payments If you wish to pay by BACS; please email us at: stmarysrcbrewood@hotmail.com with your telephone number and Teresa or Fr Paul can ring you to give you our bank account's sort code, account number and account name. The reference would be 'Donation St Mary Brewood'. If you are already registered for gift aid and are giving by **BACS**; can you please let us know the **date** and **amount of money** you have given and your **envelope number** (if you normally give this way) so we can update the records. You can do this by email: stmarysrcbrewood@hotmail.com

Standing Orders Although BACS is the most convenient way for most people to give to the parish; in the long term, **it would really help the parish if you could set up a standing order** for future giving. You could set up an order for a reasonable amount each month which you could then add to if you want. The parish would then have some idea of its regular income.

If you do **internet banking**, you can just set a standing order up this way up; having received the parish's bank account details from us and preferable letting us know by email the **amount** and **frequency** you are intending to give and your **envelope number** (if you normally give this way).

If you don't have internet banking:

1. Download the Standing Order form next to this newsletter and print it.
2. Fill in your bank account details and how much you wish to give etc. and sign it.
3. Contact the parish for the parish bank account details and add them in and **post the form to your bank**. Please ensure you get the correct title of the parish account.
4. Please also let us know by email the **amount** and **frequency** you are intending to give and your **envelope number** (if you normally give this way).

If you are a tax payer, paying sufficient tax, please consider making a **Gift Aid Declaration** which would mean that the parish could receive some of your tax back. To do this, please complete the Gift Aid part of the Standing Order form as well, ensuring that it is dated on or before the date of your first payment. Can you then return the completed form **to the parish**; either by post to St Mary's Presbytery, Wharf Lane, Brewood, ST19 9BG; or as a scanned document emailed to stmarysrcbrewood@hotmail.com

The Standing Order/ Gift Aid form is also available at: <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/pages/FAQS/category/finance-resources>

Online Giving You can also donate **online** by going to the Diocese website: <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/support-our-work> following instructions; selecting 'Brewood' when a box prompts you with: 'Donating to'. The only down side of this online option is that **there is a transaction charge on a sliding scale; equating to 39p for a £10 donation**. If you are already registered for gift aid and are giving via the Diocese online; can you please let us know the **date** and **amount of money** you have given and your **envelope number** (if you normally give this way) so we can update the records. You can do this by email: stmarysrcbrewood@hotmail.com

Thank you for your continued support and generosity to the mission of our parish.

