



Saint Mary's Catholic Church, Brewood

Kiddemore Green Road, ST19 9BQ

Email: stmarysrcbrewood@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 28th June 2020 **Solemnity of Sts Peter and Paul**

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

The Masses advertised below will *not* be in public but will be available on

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

Sun 28th	10am	Solemnity of Sts Peter and Paul People of the parish
Mon 29th		Feria in Ordinary Time
Tues 30th		Feria in Ordinary Time
Wed 1st	9am	Feria in Ordinary Time Staff and pupils of St Mary's school
Thurs 2nd	9am	Feria in Ordinary Time Coronavirus sufferers and all key workers
Fri 3rd	9am	Feast of St Thomas, Apostle People of the Parish
Sat 4th	9am	Feria in Ordinary Time Winifred & Martin Garry RIP
Sun 5th	10am	Fourteen Sunday in Ordinary Time Fr Paul Smith (Anniversary)

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.

Private Prayer at St Mary's, Brewood From **Saturday 4th July**, and St Mary's church will be open for private prayer on **Saturdays and Wednesdays between 11am and 1pm**. We have waited for some time to be able to return to our beautiful church to be in the living presence of our Lord Jesus. The church will be laid out a bit differently to usual so that we can make it safe in line with Government guidelines but hopefully this will not distract us from prayer. A steward will welcome you and show you which seats have been reserved so that we can observe social distancing while we pray. Please follow the stewards' instructions and, when you leave, put a card you will be given on your seat to show someone and has sat there. Candles will be available to light if you wish. There should be enough capacity for those who wish to attend but, up to a certain number we may have to close the church. Please note that the toilet will not be available and we are under strict instructions to dispose of any items left behind, so try not to leave any gold watches! We are grateful for those who have offered to steward for this time.

Fr Paul writes:

Dear All

The Metropolitan Archbishops of England have welcomed the possibility that Mass can be celebrated in churches again from next Saturday 4th July; subject to these churches being safe to use. Having said this, Catholics are still not obliged to attend Mass on Sundays during the pandemic. The Archbishops have written a letter to the Catholic community in England about these matters which can be found next to where this newsletter is set on our website. I would encourage you to read this letter.

As you can see opposite, we are now able to open our church for private prayer but, unfortunately, **for the time being Mass will not be able to be celebrated in public in our parish**. This is because, understandably, St Michael's Anglican church is not available for us to celebrate Mass and St Mary's church would only be able to accommodate about a third of those who normally attend Sunday Masses at both churches. I will continue to celebrate Mass in private which will be live-streamed.

There are a number ways we could provide for Mass in our parish, including the option of pre-booking seats at Mass (online or by phone). I'd appreciate people's comments on this – maybe you could send me an email. If I find out local churches where Masses is being celebrated I'll try to advertise them in future newsletters or on the *News Updates* section next to where the newsletters are posted on our website.

Our Archbishops explain that while Mass will be available in some churches from next weekend; we cannot go straight back to where we were; being able to attend Mass when and where we used to. If we can begin to celebrate Mass in our parish again; people will be encouraged to attend Mass on weekdays rather than on Sundays in order to spread out attendance.

I still find celebrating Mass online a bit unusual and the internet connection can be a bit ropey but I'm encouraged by the positive comments people have given me and for highlights like the school childrens' recorded readings on Wednesdays.

This was a week of celebrations with Deacon Stephen's Silver Jubilee Anniversary of Ordination and Tessa and Tony Steven's Diamond wedding anniversary. They all had good days, given the restrictions we have. I'm so grateful for Deacon Stephen ministry in the parish and for his personal support to me.

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 have unfortunately had to be suspended in churches unless they can be made Covid-secure. 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/UCCgY-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/BpKF76Z32oCFgwC57nd2Gj>

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 **Penkrige**; the Penkrige Support Group can be contacted on 07388 467660 or on Facebook. **Please also ring or email 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'. If you are offering Mass for someone who has passed away, it is usual for you to add 'RIP' to the end of their name. Thank you.

Our Collection There are few ways to support our 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 To pay by BACS, please email us at: stmarysrcbrewood@hotmail.com with your telephone number so that Teresa or Fr Paul can ring you to give you our bank account details (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 also 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.

