



Parish Priest: Mgr. Mark Crisp, Giffard House, 51, North Street, Wolverhampton. WV1 1RJ.

Assistant Priests: Fr Gary Mantle, OH and Fr Sean Gough

Pastoral Assistants: Sr. Lydwin & Sr. Rita, Sisters of St Ann of Providence,
173 Coalway Road WV3 7ND. **Telephone:** *See item in newsletter*

E-mail: rcwlvwest@gmail.com **Website:** www.rcwlvwest.com **Twitter:** Mark Crisp @wlvrcchap

Hospital Chaplaincy New Cross 01902 695098, Russell's Hall 01384 456111 ext. 2352

University Chaplaincy Facebook page: @rcwlvwest

Weddings and Baptisms *by appointment.* **St Michael's Hall Bookings:** stmichaelshallpenn@gmail.com

Business Manager: CPM Services cpm59@hotmail.co.uk 07388 994783

2nd Sunday of Advent Year B Timetable of Online Masses and Services.

For Online Masses, go to www.rcwlvwest.com

Saturday Vigil Mass Sunday 6th December Second Sunday of Advent	5.30 pm St Michael <i>Monica Blee RIP</i> 9.00 St Bernadette <i>Holy Souls</i> 10.15 am SS Peter & Paul <i>Nicola & Gigliola lafigliola RIP</i> 11.30 St Michael <i>Deceased Lewis & Mathias Families</i> 2.30 pm St Michael Syro-Malabar Rite Mass. 7.00pm SS Peter & Paul <i>pro populo</i>
Monday 7 th December Memorial of St Ambrose	Midday - 1.00pm SS Peter & Paul open for Adoration 6.30pm St Michael Mass <i>Jean Long RIP</i>
Tuesday 8 th December Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception	9.30am SS Peter & Paul and Online Anthony Brennan RIP Midday - 1.00pm SS Peter & Paul open for Adoration
Wednesday 9 th December Advent Feria	12.00 Midday SS Peter & Paul and Online Monica Blee RIP 6.00pm St Bernadette <i>Colette Jones RIP</i>
Thursday 10 th December Advent Feria	9.30am - 10.30 am St Bernadette's open for Adoration 12.00 Midday St Michael <i>Deceased Sisters of St Ann</i>
Friday 11 th December Advent Feria	9.30 am St Bernadette <i>Holy Souls</i> 12.00 Midday SS Peter & Paul <i>Marie Davis</i>
Saturday 12 th December Advent Feria	7.30 am SS Peter & Paul and Online Rorate Mass (by Candlelight) <i>Paula Martyn</i> 10.30am - 11.30am St Michael Adoration and Confessions
Saturday Vigil Mass Sunday 13th December Gaudete Sunday	5.30 pm St Michael <i>John Corbett RIP</i> 9.00 St Bernadette <i>Holy Souls</i> 10.15 am SS Peter & Paul <i>Chris Walsh RIP</i> 11.30 St Michael <i>Bernado Pulejo RIP</i> 2.30 pm St Michael Syro-Malabar Rite Mass. 7.00pm SS Peter & Paul <i>pro populo</i>

For the moment, Mass is celebrated in private at the Carmelite Convent but the sisters continue to pray for us, day and night.

Continuing Problems with the Telephone at St Michael's This temporary number: **01902 342 380** is still the only way of contacting St Michael's but the answer machine now does work on this number.

As soon as the 01902 341 343 begins to work again, the temporary number will cease.

Ventilation in Church We are required to ensure that there is ventilation during Mass. All our churches will therefore be drafty, so it is essential that you wear warm clothing.

Parish News and Activities

Walk With Me booklets are available in the church foyer. Could you please collect your copy when you come for adoration and use for your prayer and reflection during Advent.

Advent Preparations at Home An ideal way to prepare your home for the true spirit of Christmas is to gather in your bubble and celebrate the **Advent Feast**. Some of you experienced this in the hall at St Michael's last year but it is intended that this is something done at home. All the instructions for how to celebrate the Advent Feast can be found by downloading the booklet of our website.

Rorate Mass This is a special Mass of Our Lady in Advent that is celebrated before sunrise by Candlelight. It is a beautiful way of preparing for Christmas and it will be celebrated next Saturday 12th December at 7.30 am at SS Peter & Paul's. It will also be available online.

A Chance to Reconcile with the Lord before Christmas? There will be Adoration and Confessions available across the city on **Monday December 21st from 6.30 pm – 8.00pm** in the following Churches: St. Michael's St. Anthony's, St. Thomas of Canterbury, St. Joseph's (Wolverhampton), Our Lady's Ss. Mary & John's (Snow Hill), & St. Patrick's. See the poster in the porch or on the website for more details. There will be three priests at St Michael's. There will also be Confessions at the usual time on Saturdays at St Michael's and an extra session at SS Peter & Paul on December 17th.

Virtual Crib Festival 2020: Please consider adding a touch to your door and window displays this Advent which signals our Christian hope. Across Penn, across denominations, we invite you to be part of a Virtual Crib Festival, to spread a little light and joy to our world through our windows etc. Share the message of the Nativity particularly across the weekend of Gaudete Sunday (Dec 11- 14): light up a crib, create a reflection in pink (liturgical colour that Sunday), doodle "Joy" in lights: any response to a small or major part of the Nativity. Do spread this good news - and the request to join in - across and beyond our parishes. (CWL is encouraging this local initiative nationally: can you?) *This is an initiative from Churches together in Penn, but we can all participate across the whole of our parish.*

Doorstep Carols: share the good news in traditional fashion. Dec 16th at 6pm: join in singing from your own steps and gardens to spread a little joy. Radio stations across the land will broadcast the same carols to keep us all in time. (BBC West Midlands Radio 95.6 FM) Carol sheets freely available from www.doorstepcarols.co.uk: but you will know them all. Household-bubble and safe-distancing friendly! If you are willing to inform your street/ face book friends check the website for "Street organisers" (there is a flyer just to alert neighbours, primarily). *(Keep your scene for the Virtual Crib Festival up for this?)*

Zoom Blessing of Cribs On the **4th Sunday of Advent December 20th at 6.00pm** there will be a special zoom meeting where Fr Mark will bless everyone's cribs. All you will need is the codes for the meeting and then be able to point your laptop or phone to your crib at one point of the meeting. We will start with a welcome, then look at everyone's cribs and then there will be a short service of blessing of your cribs and your homes. If you would like to take part, please email rcwlvwest@gmail.com and mark your email "Crib Blessing".

Diocesan Magazine: The Sower There free copies available in the porches of our three churches. ***Please do not take one, if you have the internet as it is available online.*** Please do take one, though, for a friend or neighbour who does not have the internet.

Christmas Message from the Sisters at the Carmelite Convent There is a beautiful card from the sisters on our website assuring us of their prayers for us this Christmas!

Booking places for Sunday Masses.

FOR ST MICHAEL, please email or ring Sr Lydwyn on 01902 342 380 on Thursday and Friday. (or 3413430 once it is mended!)

FOR SS PETER & PAUL, please ring or text Val on 07934905283

FOR ST BERNADETTE, please ring Judith on 01902 620 764 between 6.30pm and 7.30pm on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays or email judithpitt64@gmail.com

Christmas Masses *It is essential that you book to attend Mass on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. You may only book for one Mass so that as many people as possible get a chance to attend Mass. Please let friends and family know that this is the case. To book, use the same contacts as for Sundays..*

Christmas Mass Schedule (This has been worked out according to the availability of stewards and cleaners)

Christmas Eve Thursday 24th December	4.00 pm St Michael Family Mass 1 4.30pm St Bernadette Family Mass 2 5.30pm SS Peter & Paul Family Mass 3 8.00pm St Michael Vigil Mass Midnight St Michael Keralan Syro-Malabar Rite Mass Midnight SS Peter & Paul Vigil Mass
Christmas Day Friday 25th December	9.00am SB 10.00am SM 10.30am SSPP

Please encourage families to make use of all three family Masses that are being provided on Christmas Eve.

Please be aware that any of the Masses from Christmas Day until New Year's Day are part of what is called the Octave of Christmas and are therefore Christmas Masses. If you are uncertain about gathering in larger crowds, you may consider coming for one of the Christmas Octave Masses instead.

FairTrade Hub: socially distanced visits (after Dec 2nd) to purchase FairTrade seasonal items can be booked at Beckminster Methodist Church. Contact: 0784500793 to arrange a slot. Mini olive wood cribs and other gifts available: a super range of patterned socks, too! (Photographs/prices can be forwarded via mibeyg@hotmail.co.uk)

Christmas cards: Because of Covid 19 restrictions there is no general selling via Piety Stalls; for those unable to place orders for Carmel's Christmas cards St Michael's Piety Stall offers "dial and drop": ring 336534 and see how we can help. *NB There is currently no access into Carmel though cards produced by the Carmelites can be ordered there. Over 50 Christmas designs can be viewed at: cloistercards.co.uk. Requests/payment can also be dropped through their letterbox.*

Mission and Outreach

CALL FOR EVIDENCE The Government is leading a review into how it might best engage with faith groups in England. It's a 'Call for Evidence' to help provide both qualitative and quantitative data to support the work of the Faith Engagement Advisor of the government. ***For some reason it has not reached many Catholic Communities*** and the deadline for responses is next Friday 11th December. If you can, please respond to the questionnaire:

[Independent Faith Engagement Review: call for evidence - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/call-for-evidence-independent-faith-engagement-review)

The FOOD COLLECTION: The Food and Christmas Present Collection continues outside St M on Tuesday 1-2, Thursday and Saturday 10-11 and before all Masses AND at SSPP before the 10.15 Sunday Mass. This week's donations are being distributed to local families via St Patrick's Catholic Primary Academy. Thank you for your continued support!

ADDRESSING LOCAL NEED: Much-welcomed supplies can be dropped off at any time for the Good Shepherd Ministry via 2, Richmond Rd WV3 9HY Thank you for your kindness.

"Double the Love": this Mary's Meals "porridge at school" project in a Liberia recovering from Ebola reaches orphans and the poor. Until January 31st 2021 donations to the project will benefit from UK Government Match Aid, pound for pound up to £2 million. Do consider doubling the impact of your Christmas giving! If you cannot manage website or telephone banking do you have a friend who could help? More information: Catherine on 336534

Life Charity shop and Life outreach to needy mums and babies; With the help of your generous donations of goods, the shop has done well in recent weeks. Sadly, it has to close during the lockdown. Please save any further gifts of clothes, bric-a-brac and books to give to us once it is open again. We aim to continue practical support for needy mums

and babies during these difficult times, so still welcome gifts of baby clothes and equipment such as pushchairs and cots. If you can help, please ring Rosalie on 01902 330553.

Hats sent to Sea: Thank you so much, knitters and hat suppliers: 58 warm hats have gone to Apostleship of the Sea who will ensure they reach seafarers in our ports. Please do continue to knit this winter: gathering has begun for a January posting! Stella Maris/ AoS celebrates Sea Sunday on December 20th. 336534

Climate Ambition Summit will be held on 12 December. Prior to this, we are invited to a webinar “**Faith, Science, Youth –a call for an ambitious Climate Summit**” which will take place this Wednesday, 9 December at 1pm (GMT) organised by the Vatican, CAFOD and partners. Do sign in even if you are not free on 9 Dec. You can watch the recording when it suits you. Link to register: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_HZEWWel1SQjyNetvgKKatlw

The Catholic Bishops of England and Wales have issued this important guidance concerning the new vaccines against the coronavirus.

The development of a vaccine against COVID-19 presents an important breakthrough in protecting others as well as oneself from the virus; a virus which has not only caused a global pandemic and led to a huge loss of life but has also placed a great burden on healthcare workers and systems.

Each of us has a duty to protect others from infection with its danger of serious illness, and for some, death. A vaccine is the most effective way to achieve this unless one decides to self-isolate. At present, debate concerns the use of the vaccines developed by Pfizer & BioNTech, Moderna, and AstraZeneca.

Some have questioned the use of the Astra Zeneca vaccine since it has been developed from cell-lines originating from the cells of an aborted foetus in 1983. The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith and the Pontifical Academy of Life have expressed the view that one may in good conscience and for a grave reason receive a vaccine sourced in this way, provided that there is a sufficient moral distance between the present administration of the vaccine and the original wrongful action.

In the COVID-19 pandemic, we judge that this grave reason exists and that one does not sin by receiving the vaccine. Both the Pfizer & BioNTech and Moderna vaccines have a different source since they are mRNA-based vaccines. On 2 December 2020, the Pfizer & BioNTech vaccine was approved for use in the UK. Each Catholic must educate his or her conscience on this matter and decide what to do, also bearing in mind that a vaccine must be safe, effective, and universally available, especially to the poor of the world.

Catholics may in good conscience receive any of these vaccines for the good of others and themselves. In good conscience, one may refuse a particular vaccine but continues to have a duty to protect others from infection.

Right Reverend Richard Moth
Chair, Department of Social Justice
Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales

FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK: R. J., Keith Tomlins, Brian Dyce, David Souberry, Ben Sherry, Holly Burke, Mason Kavanagh, Paula Box, June Abbiss, Peter Holmes, Alice Stevens, George Brown, Chris Starkey, M Mary, Thomas Mackin, Stephen Briggs, Hilary Elsdon, Katherine Poole, Teresa Mitchell, Ann Bayley, Helen O'Brien-Coleman, Mary Abbiss, Peggy McHale, Patrick Quinn, Fred & Celia Norton, Jean Hollingshead, Margaret Stokes, Leah Nixon, Pat Pool, John Dolan, Liam Dolan, Marie Looker, Lorna Ciraulo, Pat Eades, Helen Porter, Mary Kirby, Sheila O'Toole, Tony McGinn, Brendan Bleakley.

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY: Jamie MacFarlane, Stephen Brooks, Patricia Allen, John Corbett, Antony Brennan, Desiree Molloy, Geoffrey Baker, Eileen Dodd May they rest in peace.

Safeguarding Representatives: Steve & Chris Callow (St Michael) 01902 340775,
Ann Shorthouse (St Bernadette) 01902 326334

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