



The Catholic Parishes of

Corpus Christi, Ashmore Park, Wednesfield

and

Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, Cannock Road,
Old Fallings, Wolverhampton



Website: www.ourladyofperpetualsuccour.com

Parish Priest:

Father S.J. Goodman (☎ 731189; ✉ parishpriest@ourladys.org.uk)

Second Sunday in Lent, 28th February 2021

Times of Holy Mass and Other Services

Sunday	<i>Second Sunday in Lent</i>	
5.30 p.m. (Sat. p.m.)	(Our Lady's)	Devine and Shepherd family
8.45 a.m.	(Corpus Christi)	Denis and Mary Tunley
10.30 a.m.	(Our Lady's)	People of the Parish
Monday	<i>Feast of St. David, Bishop, Patron of Wales</i>	
9.30 a.m.	(Our Lady's)	Wayne Allsop
Tuesday	<i>Feast of St. Chad, Bishop, Patron of the Archdiocese</i>	
9.30 a.m.	(Corpus Christi)	Holy Souls
Wednesday	<i>No public celebration of Holy Mass</i>	
Thursday	<i>(St. Casimir)</i>	
9.30 a.m.	(Corpus Christi)	Madigan and McGee family
Friday		
9.30 a.m.	(Corpus Christi)	Private Intention (P.B.)
6.30 p.m. EF.	(Our Lady's)	Ian Coleman
Saturday		
9.30 a.m.	(Our Lady's)	Harry and Winnie Jones
Sunday	<i>Third Sunday in Lent</i>	
5.30 p.m. (Sat. p.m.)	(Our Lady's)	People of the Parish
8.45 a.m.	(Corpus Christi)	Brenda Kelsey
10.30 a.m.	(Our Lady's)	Kath Kisbee

Confessions

Saturday morning after Mass. (Our Lady's)
Sunday morning before Mass (Corpus Christi)

Divine Mercy Devotions and Eucharistic Adoration:

Friday 5.30 – 6.30 p.m. (Our Lady's)

Stations of the Cross

Fridays in Lent, 7.10 p.m. (Our Lady's)

Resources for children: please ask the stewards as you arrive for Mass for the sheets of paper prepared.

Weekday Mass schedule

Please note we have an altered schedule for Holy Mass on weekdays due to building work at Our Lady's.

Livestream Celebrations of Holy Mass

Livestreaming of Holy Mass at Our Lady's continues for those who are housebound and those with serious medical conditions who must "shield" and so not go to any public gatherings, shops, churches, etc. Anyone showing possible symptoms of Coronavirus should not leave their homes, and careful thought given before using public transport for any purpose. However, given the recognised safety of church buildings at the present time, it seems logical that those who are well and can leave their homes to go shopping, to go to work/school/college should be present at Holy Mass in church.

Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things,

and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,

come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen..



Food for the needy of our city

The SVP are collecting donations of food to pass on to the Good Shepherd Brothers for those in need: a box is at the back of our churches: due to the limitations caused by the Covid pandemic, this request is for contributions of tinned food (e.g. stewing steak, meat balls, corned beef, ham, chicken, sardines, salmon etc.). You are very welcome to bring these foodstuffs when you come to Holy Mass.



Prayer for Vocations

Each year, parishes are asked to have a day set aside for prayer and Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament for vocations to the Sacred Priesthood. The date designated for Our Lady's is Monday March 8th. Given the ongoing building works at Our Lady's, and the complications caused by the pandemic which lays upon us the requirement to have at least two stewards on duty when the church is open to the public, there will be Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament on this day from 5.00 p.m. until 6.30 p.m. People may come and go during this time.

Parish Safeguarding Representatives

Our Lady's: Margaret Greene
Corpus Christi: Mary Boxold

Corpus Christi Parish Centre and Club
Currently closed.

Hospital Chaplaincy: ✉ rw-h-tr.Chaplaincy@nhs.net
☎ 695098 (emergency) ☎ 307999

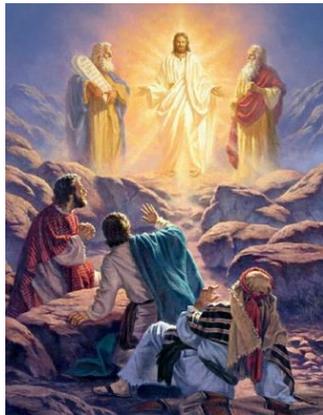


Registered Charity, no. 234216

“Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain....there in their presence he was transfigured....Elijah appeared to them with Moses; they were talking with Jesus.” (Mark 9:2-4)

This inner group of Jesus’ disciples, who were also to be with Our Lord when He went to pray in the Garden of Gethsemane just before His arrest (Mk. 14:33). The mention of ascending a high mountain evokes the image of an encounter with God, and the reference to the appearance of those two great Old Testament characters Moses and Elijah makes this image all the more powerful. Moses had first encountered the voice of the Lord God speaking to him from the burning bush at Mount Horeb, instructing him to go to rescue the people from their suffering in Egypt (Ex. 3). Then again, it was on the mountain that Moses received the Ten Commandments of the Law (Ex. 19; Dt. 9:9, 10:1-5). Centuries later, the prophet Elijah fled from King Ahab, making the forty day journey to Mount Horeb, where he where he heard the Lord speaking to him in the “sheer silence”/“still small voice.” (1 Kings 19:8-18).

“And a cloud came, covering them with shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, “This is my son, the beloved, listen to him.” (Mk. 9:7) Again, we must go back many centuries to Moses. We are told that when the Israelites pitched camp during their journey through the wilderness to the Promised Land, the Ark of the Covenant was placed in the tent of meeting. When Moses went to the tent of meeting, we are told, *“when Moses entered the tent, the pillar of cloud would descend and stand at the entrance of the tent, and the Lord would speak with Moses.”* (Ex. 33:9)



Reading the account of the Transfiguration of Our Lord in the Gospels (in the New Testament) in the context of those events which had occurred so many centuries beforehand (recorded in the Old Testament) we can see that the appearance of Moses the Law-giver and Elijah the prophet with Our Lord is in no sense incidental: their presence shows Our Lord as the fulfilment of God’s plan that we trace through the centuries of the Old Testament, the fulfilment of the Covenant relationship formed through Noah, Abraham, Moses and David which forms the basis for the First reading at Sunday Mass during Lent this year. Thus Jesus declares, *“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfil.”* (Mt.5:17)

Please pray for the Sick

Please pray for Brenda Whitmore, Kathleen Hannifin, Rita Nicholls, Robert Holland, Frances Paton, Margaret Clapp, Joanne Harbour, Valerie Dunne, Julia Siha, Violet Langston, Irene Lockett, and Margaret Belcher. *Names may be added to this list only with the specific permission of the infirm person for whom prayers are requested.*

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur this week

Florence Harris, James Reid, Clarice Blunt, Charles Jones, James Canavan, Harry Fieldhouse, Michael Bukowczan, David Sanderson, Bridie Nichols, Philip Murphy, Joseph Kinsella, Pat Johnson, Elizabeth (Betty) Brett. Ellen Connors, Anthony Snipe, Thomas Connors, James Carpenter, Tina Evans, Philip Meredith, Anthony Fellender, Mary Mullins, Norma Price, Madge Farmer, Catherine Jackson, Maureen Hamilton, Maureen Cooper, Bridget Nicholls, John Hennelly, Nora Fitzharris, Daniel Davidson, Winifred Cooper, Peter Corr, Cathryn Preston, Theresa Simcox.

Feast of St. Chad, Patron of the Archdiocese (Tuesday)

Saint Chad, also called Ceadda, (died March 2, 672, Lichfield, Mercia, England; feast day, March 2), was a monastic founder, abbot, and first bishop of Lichfield, and is credited with the Christianization of the ancient English kingdom of Mercia.



With his brother St. Cedd, he was educated at the great abbey of Lindisfarne on Holy Island (off the coast of Northumbria) under its founder, Abbot St. Aidan, and later apparently studied with St. Egbert, a monk at the Irish monastery of Rathmelsigi. Cedd recalled Chad to England to assist in establishing the monastery of Laestingaeu (now Lastingham, North Yorkshire). Upon Cedd’s death in 664, Chad succeeded him to become the second abbot of Laestingaeu, and, probably late in the same year, at the request of King Oswiu (Oswy) of Northumbria, he was consecrated bishop of the Northumbrians (with his see at York).

An ecclesiastical dispute arose because St. Wilfrid had already been chosen bishop of York and had gone to Gaul for his consecration, a mix-up recorded in Venerable Bede’s *Ecclesiastical History of the English People* (considered to be the best source for Chad’s life). The issue remains confusing. When in 669 the new archbishop, St. Theodore of Canterbury, arrived in England, he charged Chad with improper ordination. On Wilfrid’s return in the same year, Chad resigned York and retired to Laestingaeu. Theodore, however, was so impressed with Chad’s humility that when the bishop of Mercia died he asked King Oswiu to appoint Chad as the bishop’s successor. The king approved, and Chad, having been reconsecrated by Theodore in 669, chose Lichfield, where he built a church and monastery, as the new seat of his diocese.

During the last three years of his life, Chad founded a monastery in Lindsey, on land given him by King Wulfhere of Mercia. In the same area Chad supposedly founded another monastery, at Barrow-upon-Humber. He is noted as having conducted his apostolate zealously, traveling much on foot. He died of plague, and numerous miracles were reported as having taken place at his tomb. His relics, originally in the Cathedral of Lichfield, were saved by Catholics during the Reformation and transferred to St. Chad’s Cathedral, Birmingham.



Church Cleaning at Our Lady’s

Since we reopened for public worship last July, general church cleaning at our Lady’s has been organised by one team of volunteers headed up by Edina Phiri; it would be good to expand this team (possibly into two or more teams). Please contact Edina on 07900 6532636 or Fr. Goodman.



Walk with me booklets.

These are available from Fr. Goodman, price £1. These give daily meditations to lead us through Lent.

Building works at Our Lady's

The work is moving forward, and the anticipated completion date is March 5th. As with all building projects, there are a few unforeseen matters which have come to light.

The work on the roof is slightly less than anticipated, due to some lead flashings being in good order, and some work associated with ridge tiles.



There are a number of minor issues that need to be addressed:

- A small strip of floor near the new fire exit (which was covered by carpet) is rotten;
- the original construction of the building is not quite as thought, which has meant a couple of small lintels have had to be added;
- a small additional drain needs to be installed near the new fire exit; some draft proofing and glass work on the west double doors;
- the external door of the sacristy needs to be replaced.

There is one more serious issue:

All the windows in the church were covered with polycarbonate sheeting some years ago; this was a common practice at the time to protect church windows from vandalism, etc. However, this causes problems due to the heat capture from sunlight. Exposure to sunlight also causes the polycarbonate sheeting to become discoloured and brittle. At Our Lady's, this has been the case with the windows that are exposed to direct sunlight (on the south side) to a much greater extent than those windows on the north side where they do not get exposed to direct sunlight. Consequently, not only is the protective sheeting discoloured on the south side, the metal holding the windows together has become warped. If the situation is not removed, this warping will progress further, and the glass begin to fall out. If we simply remove the polycarbonate sheeting, the windows will leak and a significant amount of water come through in stormy weather. So the windows will have to be removed, flattened and replaced. This will cost somewhere between £4,000 and £6,000.

There is a contingency sum included in the overall projected cost of these works, but we are likely to exceed the overall cost to some extent.

Offertory Collections and Financial Support for Parishes

Regular giving is necessary for parishes, as all parishes need regular income to survive; during the periods last year when churches were closed for public worship and therefore offertory collections could not be taken up during Holy Mass on Sundays, many parishes were struggling, and the full effects of this have yet to be realised. These difficulties are compounded because almost all other means of fund raising (parish social events, fayres, etc.) are impossible with the current ongoing restrictions.

Please remember that there are other ways of giving other than through the Offertory Collection on a Sunday – and this is becoming more relevant as we use cash less in our daily lives.

Standing Orders: This is the safest and most reliable way of giving both from the perspective of individuals and for the parish. Thank you too all who have set up a standing order. *If you have not already taken out a standing order please do consider one.* **Standing Order forms** are available from the Presbytery, the church and via e-mail. Simply fill in the form with your name, signature, the amount and the frequency you wish to, and the other necessary details, and hand in to the presbytery, or Josie Turner or Keith Wood, and the parish will supply parochial details and pass on to your bank.

Online Giving: through the website of the Archdiocese of Birmingham (www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk) you can click on the "donate" button, follow the instructions and give to your parish using your credit/debit card.

Planned Giving envelopes: for those who would prefer not to use Standing Orders, you can give regularly (cash or cheque) using planned giving envelopes. These can be provided: please request these via Fr. Goodman, or Josie Turner (josie@ourladys.org.uk) or Keith Wood (corpuschristi@ourladys.org.uk).

Contactless giving: we are currently comparing different card readers supplied through the Archdiocesan offices so that people can donate in church using their credit cards. This facility is already available in at least six churches in the Wolevrhampton Deanery.



Please note: none of the above methods of giving requires you to be a tax payer or to Gift Aid your offerings; however, if you are a tax payer, Gift Aid enables the Church to recover tax and so increase your offering without any additional cost to you.

Attendance at Holy Mass: pandemic requirements

Please note: we must follow government guidance. In the recent roadmap, the "rule of six" is not to be re-instated until at least March 29th. Regrettably, this means that it remains illegal for groups of people to stand outside the church buildings chatting. Collectively, Catholics and other Christians here and throughout the country put pressure on our elected representatives in Parliament last November when public worship was suspended to ensure that such a suspension was not repeated, and therefore, in the current lockdown our churches have remained open, albeit with many restrictions. So please be careful not to jeopardise the limited freedoms that we do have for public worship by standing in groups outside the church after Holy Mass.

- Face coverings must be worn (unless you are in an exempt category)
- Please arrive in good time to avoid queuing.
- Please sanitise your hands on entry and exit.
- **Track and trace:** a member of each household should provide details. *Alternatively, please scan the QR code at the church door*
- A steward will direct you to a designated seat for you.
- Please follow the one-way system in church.
- **Offertory collections:** a basket is near the church door.



- There is no singing by members of the congregation.
- Please bring your own Missal/ipad/tablet to follow the order of Mass and the readings. Any printed newsletters should be taken home because they cannot be re-used.
- **Holy Communion** will be distributed after Holy Mass has been completed. Stewards will direct individuals to Holy Communion, and sanitise hands. People should queue for Holy Communion in a socially distanced manner, approaching the Altar along the central aisle and in single file.
- Face coverings/masks should be removed to receive Holy Communion and then replaced immediately.
- People should then proceed down the side aisles and leave via the side doors from the narthex.
- **Lavatories:** these are locked and not generally available for use. In emergency, please ask one of the stewards.
- Churches must be sanitised after each celebration of Mass.
- Those who are showing possible symptoms of coronavirus or other illness, and those who have been instructed to shield by medical professionals also ought not to attend.

Thank you to our stewards who are assisting us according to government guidelines to enable us to celebrate Holy Mass and have the churches open to the public; without the stewards, we are not permitted to open the churches

Readings at Mass

Entrance Antiphon (Cf. Ps 26: 8-9)

Of you my heart has spoken, Seek his face.
It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;
hide not your face from me.

Collect

O God, who have commanded us
to listen to your beloved Son,
be pleased, we pray,
to nourish us inwardly by your word,
that, with spiritual sight made pure,
we may rejoice to behold your glory.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

First reading (Genesis 22:1-2,9-13,15-18)

The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith

God put Abraham to the test. 'Abraham, Abraham' he called.
'Here I am' he replied. 'Take your son,' God said 'your only
child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah.
There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I
will point out to you.'

When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him,
Abraham built an altar there, and arranged the wood. Then
he bound his son Isaac and put him on the altar on top of the
wood. Abraham stretched out his hand and seized the knife
to kill his son.

But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven.
'Abraham, Abraham' he said. 'I am here' he replied. 'Do not
raise your hand against the boy' the angel said. 'Do not harm
him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me
your son, your only son.' Then looking up, Abraham saw a
ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and
offered it as a burnt-offering in place of his son.

The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from
heaven. 'I swear by my own self – it is the Lord who speaks –
because you have done this, because you have not refused me
your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will
make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and
the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall
gain possession of the gates of their enemies. All the nations
of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a
reward for your obedience.'

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 115(116):10,15-19)

I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

I trusted, even when I said:
'I am sorely afflicted,'
O precious in the eyes of the Lord
is the death of his faithful.

Your servant, Lord, your servant am I;
you have loosened my bonds.
A thanksgiving sacrifice I make;
I will call on the Lord's name.

My vows to the Lord I will fulfil
before all his people,
in the courts of the house of the Lord,
in your midst, O Jerusalem.

Second reading (Romans 8:31-34)

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not
spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be
certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can
give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When
God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No!
He not only died for us – he rose from the dead, and there at
God's right hand he stands and pleads for us.

Gospel Acclamation (Mt17:5)

Glory and praise to you, O Christ!
From the bright cloud the Father's voice was heard:
'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.'
Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

Gospel (Mark 9:2-10)

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them
up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves.
There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes
became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher
could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and
they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus:
'Rabbi,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us
make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for
Elijah.' He did not know what to say; they were so frightened.
And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came
a voice from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to
him.' Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no
one with them any more but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain he warned them to
tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had
risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully,
though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from
the dead' could mean.

Prayer over the Offerings

May this sacrifice, O Lord, we pray,
cleanse us of our faults
and sanctify your faithful in body and mind
for the celebration of the paschal festivities.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon (Mt 17: 5)

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased;
listen to him.

Prayer after Communion

As we receive these glorious mysteries,
we make thanksgiving to you, O Lord,
for allowing us while still on earth
to be partakers even now of the things of heaven.
Through Christ our Lord.

Prayer over the People

Bless your faithful, we pray, O Lord,
with a blessing that endures for ever,
and keep them faithful to the Gospel of your Only Begotten Son,
so that they may always desire and at last attain
that glory whose beauty he showed in his own Body,
to the amazement of his Apostles.
Through Christ our Lord.