



# St. Joseph's, Warndon & Holy Redeemer, Pershore Parish Newsletter - 21<sup>st</sup> March



## Coronavirus Update

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In response to the Coronavirus pandemic, so many aspects of our lives must change. This includes the ways in which we publicly express our faith. It is very clear that, following official advice and in order to keep each other safe, save lives and support the NHS, at this time we must not gather for public acts of worship in our churches. This will begin from Friday evening, 20th March 2020, until further notice. Our churches will remain open. They are not closing. They will be a focal point of prayer, where you will find solace and strength. In visiting our churches at this time, we will observe with great care the practices of hygiene and the guidance on social distancing.

**However, the celebration of Mass, Sunday by Sunday and day by day, will take place without a public congregation.**

We want everyone to understand that in these emergency circumstances, and for as long as they last, the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days is removed. *Cardinal Vincent Nicholls*

Read full letter [HERE](#) Read liturgical advice [HERE](#) Live streaming of masses [HERE](#)

**Mass Intentions:** Until further notice I will be saying private mass each day for your intentions:

Date	Intention	Date	Intention	Date	Intention
21/3	Sandie & Stan Smith. R.I.P.	24/3	Ronald Oakley	27/3	Aleyamma George R.I.P (Anniv)
22/3	Jesse Embling. R.I.P.	25/3	John & Catherine Cronin. R.I.P.	28/3	Reta Morris R.I.P.
23/3	James Gowdy R.I.P.	26/3	Edna May Hart R.I.P. (Anniv)	29/3	Thomas Sebastian R.I.P. (Anniv)

Our churches will be open for private prayer as below:

<b>Church Opening Times for Private Prayer</b>			
	Holy Redeemer	St. Joseph's	
Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	---	6:00 -7:00 pm	4th SUNDAY OF LENT
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	9:00 – 10:00 am	11:00 – 12:00 am	
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	10.00 – 11:00 am	---	
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	---	10.00 – 11.00 am	
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	10.00 – 11:00		ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	10.00 – 11:00 am	6:00 – 7:00 pm	
Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	---	6:00 – 7:00 pm	5th SUNDAY OF LENT
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	10:00 – 11:00 am	10:00 – 11:00 am	

Parish Priest - Rev. Fr. Michael Amalados M.A – Chedworth Drive, Warndon WR4 9PG – 01905 454352.

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Website **St. Joseph's** [www.catholicworcester.org](http://www.catholicworcester.org) **Holy Redeemer** <http://holyredeemerpershore.org.uk>

St. Joseph's & Holy Redeemer are part of The Archdiocese of Birmingham - Reg. Charity No. 234216

# *PARISH NOTICES*

## Sunday Reading for 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent Year A

### First Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13

And the Lord said to Samuel: How long wilt thou mourn for Saul, whom I have rejected from reigning over Israel? fill thy horn with oil, and come, that I may send thee to Isai the Bethlehemite: for I have provided me a king among his sons. And when they were come in, he saw Eliab, and said: Is the Lord's anointed before him? And the Lord said to Samuel: Look not on his countenance, nor on the height of his stature: because I have rejected him, nor do I judge according to the look of man: for man seeth those things that appear, but the Lord beholdeth the heart. Isai therefore brought his seven sons before Samuel: and Samuel said to Isai: The Lord hath not chosen any one of these. And Samuel said to Isai: Are here all thy sons? He answered: There remaineth yet a young one, who keepeth the sheep. And Samuel said to Isai: Send, and fetch him, for we will not sit down till he come hither. He sent therefore and brought him Now he was ruddy and beautiful to behold, and of a comely face. And the Lord said: Arise, and anoint him, for this is he. Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the spirit of the Lord came upon David from that day forward: and Samuel rose up, and went to Ramatha.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14

For you were heretofore darkness, but now light in the Lord. Walk then as children of the light. For the fruit of the light is in all goodness, and justice, and truth; proving what is well pleasing to God: And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them. For the things that are done by them in secret, it is a shame even to speak of. But all things that are reprov'd, are made manifest by the light; for all that is made manifest is light. Wherefore he saith: Rise thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead: and Christ shall enlighten thee.

### Gospel: John 9:1-41

And Jesus passing by, saw a man, who was blind from his birth: and his disciples asked him: Rabbi, who hath sinned, this man, or his parents, that he should be born blind? Jesus answered: Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents; but that the works of God should be made manifest in him.

I must work the works of him that sent me, whilst it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.

When he had said these things, he spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and spread the clay on his eyes, and said to him: Go, wash in the pool of Siloe, which is interpreted, Sent. He went therefore, and washed, and he came seeing.

The neighbours therefore, and they who had seen him before that he was a beggar, said: Is not this he that sat and begged? Some said: This is he. But others said: No, but he is like him. But he said: I am he. They said therefore to him: How were thy eyes opened? He answered: That man that is

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called Jesus made clay, and anointed my eyes, and said to me: Go to the pool of Siloe, and wash. And I went, I washed, and I see. And they said to him: Where is he? He saith: I know not.

They bring him that had been blind to the Pharisees. Now it was the sabbath, when Jesus made the clay, and opened his eyes. Again therefore the Pharisees asked him, how he had received his sight. But he said to them: He put clay upon my eyes, and I washed, and I see. Some therefore of the Pharisees said: This man is not of God, who keepeth not the sabbath. But others said: How can a man that is a sinner do such miracles? And there was a division among them. They say therefore to the blind man again: What sayest thou of him that hath opened thy eyes? And he said: He is a prophet.

The Jews then did not believe concerning him, that he had been blind, and had received his sight, until they called the parents of him that had received his sight, And asked them, saying: Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then doth he now see? His parents answered them, and said: We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind: But how he now seeth, we know not; or who hath opened his eyes, we know not: ask himself: he is of age, let him speak for himself. These things his parents said, because they feared the Jews: for the Jews had already agreed among themselves, that if any man should confess him to be Christ, he should be put out of the synagogue. Therefore did his parents say: He is of age, ask himself.

They therefore called the man again that had been blind, and said to him: Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner. He said therefore to them: If he be a sinner, I know not: one thing I know, that whereas I was blind, now I see. They said then to him: What did he to thee? How did he open thy eyes?

He answered them: I have told you already, and you have heard: why would you hear it again? will you also become his disciples? They reviled him therefore, and said: Be thou his disciple; but we are the disciples of Moses. We know that God spoke to Moses: but as to this man, we know not from whence he is. The man answered, and said to them: Why, herein is a wonderful thing, that you know not from whence he is, and he hath opened my eyes. Now we know that God doth not hear sinners: but if a man be a server of God, and doth his will, him he heareth. From the beginning of the world it hath not been heard, that any man hath opened the eyes of one born blind. Unless this man were of God, he could not do any thing. They answered, and said to him: Thou wast wholly born in sins, and dost thou teach us? And they cast him out.

Jesus heard that they had cast him out: and when he had found him, he said to him: Dost thou believe in the Son of God? He answered, and said: Who is he, Lord, that I may believe in him? And Jesus said to him: Thou hast both seen him; and it is he that talketh with thee. And he said: I believe, Lord. And falling down, he adored him.

And Jesus said: For judgment I am come into this world; that they who see not, may see; and they who see, may become blind. And some of the Pharisees, who were with him, heard: and they said unto him: Are we also blind?

Jesus said to them: If you were blind, you should not have sin: but now you say: We see. Your sin remaineth.

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<b>Safeguarding</b>	Rev. M Kevin Gowdy - 01905 731639 Mr. Sinoj Sebastian 07882 754832	Ann-Marie Wallbank 01684 294040
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### The Word this Week

When we get to Easter, there are two symbols of the resurrection that we use: fire and light (the Easter Candle) and water (the Font). Last week we reflected on water, and this week there are passages all about light – true light, that defeats the blindness of sin. This speaks to all of us who have been baptised, inviting us to be renewed in the light of Christ at Easter. Jesus is the light of the world

### Spiritual Matters

There can be no doubt that we are living through an International crisis. Most of us are fearful and unsure what exactly to do or how we are going to manage. We may be worried about our work and finances and concerned for our own, and our loved ones, well-being. We are also unable to attend mass for much needed strength and support. Despite this, we can all seek Spiritual help in our own homes where we are especially urged to pray. During these disturbing times it is imperative that we all maintain our faith and feel the comforting embrace of Jesus. We know that He is always with us and that these difficult days will pass. We also need to help everyone that we can. This may be practical help or, for those of us confined at home, making sure that we telephone our family, friends and neighbours daily. Let us pray for anyone who is sick and ask for help to keep cheerful, faithful and caring to each other. - (Louise Bowen)

### For Your Prayers:

Continue to pray for all those who are sick at this time, those at home and in hospital, **Elena Petta, Mary Waring, Mary Jenkins, Hannah Bratt, Rachael Nielsen, Sarah Cole, Helen Abbott, Richard Milnes, John Allison, Sandra Bryer, Hazel Tester and Siobhan Stillwell.** We also remember their carers and the sacrifices they humbly offer.

We pray to the merciful Heart of Jesus for those who have died, especially those whose anniversaries occur this week. **Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine.....**

**If you would like someone to be prayed for by the parish, please complete a privacy consent form.**

*“All the darkness in the world cannot extinguish the light of a single candle.” — St. Francis of Assisi*

**Re-dedication of England as the Dowry of Mary:** 29th March 2020. In a message from Pope Francis which has been sent to Cardinal Nichols, the Holy Father “prays that the act of re-dedication will inspire all to persevere in the urgent task of sharing the joy of the Gospel with the men and women of our time”. The Holy Father once more entrusts “Mary’s Dowry” to her maternal protection and willingly imparts his Apostolic Blessing as a pledge of grace and peace in the Lord.

In the light of the current restrictions the Re-dedication will now not take place at the Sunday Mass, but it is a prayer that can take place anywhere and indeed anytime. I invite you to take part in whatever way you can, whenever you can. See [www.behold2020.com](http://www.behold2020.com) for details

<https://dontscreenusout.org/boris/> This is the website address to contact to stop unborn babies with disabilities such as; Club Foot, Cleft Lip, Down’s Syndrome being aborted. The Government plan to introduce this in Northern Ireland and elsewhere. Your help can save their lives. See notice board for Open Letter to PM

**Birmingham Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes:** Cancelled.

**Newsletter:** items and information you wish to be included in the weekly newsletter should be received by **12 noon on the Thursday.** Emails - [stjosephswarndon@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:stjosephswarndon@yahoo.co.uk) - and envelopes should be clearly marked ‘**For the Newsletter**’.

Collections etc.	<i>St. Joseph’s</i>	<i>Holy Redeemer</i>
Weekly Offering 14 <sup>th</sup> / 15 <sup>th</sup> March	£xxx.xx (Gift Aid: £xxx.xx & Loose: £xxx.xx) Direct debit: £xxx.xx	£xxx.xx (Gift Aid: £xxx.xx & Loose: £xxx.xx) Direct debit: £xxx.xx
Last Week’s 2nd Collection for xxxxxxx	£xxx.xx (Gift Aid: £xxx.xx & Loose: £xxx.xx)	£xxx.xx (Gift Aid: £xxx.xx & Loose: £xxx.xx)