



# SHREWSBURY CATHEDRAL

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS  
AND SAINT PETER OF ALCANTARA



# CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER



**COVERING SUNDAYS 22, 29 DECEMBER 2019, 5 JANUARY 2020**

As the season of Advent draws to a close we find ourselves very close to Christmas and the celebration of the Nativity of the Lord. This Sunday at the Cathedral we have the great joy of the baptism of Jack Whitehead, and the reception into Full Communion with the Catholic Church of Clare Cuan and Gavin Ashenden. Please pray for these three who will receive the grace of the sacraments of baptism and confirmation - and Holy Communion for the first time.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who will make the celebration of Christmas so beautiful across the parish at our three churches; for Jon Barton and the choir here at the Cathedral, all those preparing music at Our Lady of Pity and St Winefride, the flowers that will adorn the sanctuaries, the servers, the stewards taking care of the large numbers who will attend the Christmas Masses, our readers and all who have worked so hard to prepare the churches for our Christmas celebrations. Thank you!

To all the parish, your families and friends, and any visitors who are in Shrewsbury for the Christmas period, on behalf of all the Cathedral clergy, I wish you a very happy and peaceful Christmas and, when it comes, every blessing for the New Year 2020.

*Father Edmund*

## PARISH NEWS

**CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES:** Across the six churches we have responsibility for from the Cathedral I have endeavoured to offer Masses at multiple times to suit family and work commitments of our parishioners. I do not make this allocation based on a Christmas Mass per church but rather what can work with the clergy and the locations we serve, striving to make sure there are sufficient Masses to provide for all. I recognise in this there can be disappointment and I have had some representations on this. Hopefully the Masses rather than the location are the most important consideration. For information, we cancelled a Christmas Eve vigil Mass at St George, Whitchurch in order to ensure that there was a Mass at Our Lady of Pity on Christmas Eve. With Masses on Christmas Eve at 6pm, 7pm and Midnight, and Christmas Day at 8.30am, 9.00am, 9.30am, 9.30am (Whitchurch), 10.45am, 11.15am please God this gives sufficient number and variety to allow families, older parishioners, and visitors to celebrate Christmas with the joyful and prayerful offering of the Mass.

**Reordering Update:** Following a meeting with the architects and the diocesan officers, it will be late January 2020 that the removal works will begin on the sanctuary of the Cathedral. I will keep the parish updated as to a timeline. The Cathedral will not be closed, but Mass times on weekdays will be affected during these works.

**St Winefride's Rewiring Works:** I am delighted to say that the works for relighting and rewiring St Winefride's church have been approved and work will commence in January. This will necessitate the suspension of weekday Masses and services which will affect the Ordinary Form and the Institute of Christ the King, too. I will update on this when I am able. These works have been possible through your generosity in the *Our Mission Together* campaign.

**Seminarians Gathering:** On Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December, the Bishop has invited all our seminarians to gather in Shrewsbury for a time of prayer, Mass and a lunch together. On Monday there will be a Holy Hour from 11am-12noon followed by the Mass at 12.15pm as usual, which the Bishop will offer. The usual Holy Hour from 5-6pm will go ahead as normal and will be unaffected.

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:** There will be no Holy Hour from Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December 2019 - Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2020. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.

**Rehearsal, 24 December:** There is a rehearsal for all servers who wish to serve the Midnight Mass with Father Owen at 3pm in the Cathedral. If you intend to serve at the Midnight Mass then you must be at the rehearsal.

**Daily Mass Time Changes:** Please note that daily Mass times at the Cathedral, from Friday 27 December 2019 to Friday 3 January 2020 will change from 12.15pm to 10.00am. Please see the Holy Mass Schedule for more details.

**CAFOD 20-week draw:** The next session will start in February 2020 and tickets will be on sale during January. Many thanks to all who support this fundraiser for CAFOD.

**St Winefride's Church:** Volunteers are welcome to help clean and prepare St Winefride's Church for Christmas. Please join us from 10.00am on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December.

**Parish Magazine Winter 2019 Now Available!** Many thanks indeed to all contributors. Please take one copy per family, and if you know any parishioners who are housebound please take them a copy.

**Caritas: recent collection taken at 3 churches.** The grand total was a wonderful **£1143.04. THANK YOU** so very much to all parishioners who donated to this important cause. We have ensured that local families in need will benefit from a wonderful Christmas, with a hamper and a voucher to purchase meat. The remainder of the monies raised will be used to benefit the homeless in the town and throughout the Diocese.

Shrewsbury Cathedral Primary School also gave us a generous donation of **£170.46** collected from their School Nativity.

## PARISH EVENTS

**Cathedral Carol Service:** With scripture readings and reflections from Friends of The Holy Land projects on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 3pm. There will be a retiring collection on behalf of Friends of The Holy Land and afterwards refreshments in the Orchard Cafe.

**Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest:** Invites you to join us for a day with Our Lady, Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2020, St Winefride's Church. Please join us for devotion, prayer, catechesis, and community. This month's theme is 'Why did Christ come?' 10.45am Rosary, Mass at 11.15am, bring and share lunch at 12.15pm, then catechesis for adults and children from 1pm concluding with a holy hour at 4.00pm.

**Children's Liturgy:** There will be no Children's Liturgy at St Winefride's for the next couple of weeks but we look forward to seeing you all again when we resume on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January.

**Bereavement Group:** The January 2020 Bereavement support coffee morning is on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January from 10.30am – 12.30pm in the parish room, all are welcome. We also have a Walk and Talk session on the same day. For those who wish we would leave the parish room at 10.30am for a short stroll and aim to be back at 11.15 - 11.30am to rejoin the coffee morning.

**Confirmation 2020:** There will be an introductory meeting for those who are in Year 8 and above who wish to receive the sacrament of Confirmation in 2020. The meeting will take place on Sunday February 9<sup>th</sup> 2020 in the Orchard cafe after the 6pm Mass in the Cathedral. All the dates for the preparation programme and other information will be made available. If you would like to make known your certain attendance at this meeting then please contact Father Owen via email either at [admin@shrewsburycathedral.co.uk](mailto:admin@shrewsburycathedral.co.uk) or [revowengallagher@gmail.com](mailto:revowengallagher@gmail.com)

## OTHER NEWS/EVENTS

**The Orchard Café:** Opening times as normal until Christmas Eve. Christmas Eve we will open from 10.00am until 2.00pm. We will then be closed until the 29<sup>th</sup> December and will re-open on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January with normal hours from 10.00am-3.00pm. We are closed on New Year's day and reopening with normal hours on Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2020. The café staff wishes all their customers a very Happy Christmas.

**Shrewsbury Cathedral Catholic Primary School and Nursery:** On behalf of our school I would like to wish all the children, staff, parents, carers and parishioners a Happy Christmas. I would also like to thank everyone involved in our school this year who have contributed to its ongoing success. Mr

Graeme Hawes – Head of School. You can keep up to date with school's events by using the school's website <https://www.blessededwardcampion.co.uk/> and reading our weekly newsletters.

**SVP:** Including two private donations and Kath's raffle a total of £544.35 was raised. Many thanks. Nine local families have received Christmas Hampers thanks to your donations.

**Board Games:** Will resume after Christmas on Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

**Marian Lamp:** The Marian Lamp burns for the first week of every month for the Sidoli family. The Marian Lamp burns week commencing 22<sup>nd</sup> December for Norah Donnelly.

### **Cathedral, Caritas & Street Pastors Homeless Soup Kitchen – Winter 2019/20:**

A successful meeting on the evening of November 27<sup>th</sup> in the Orchard Café, chaired by the Shrewsbury Street Pastors, saw a large turnout, ending with 15 volunteers signing up to offer their help and support. The picture below is taken from the meeting. During the meeting, a cooking demonstration was undertaken, and volunteers were shown how everything is done to ensure the end user receives the best care and service from us. The ingredients are donated by Shrewsbury Food Hub, who are also keen to offer their support to the initiative. If you are interested on going out with the Street Pastors and joining the existing group of volunteers, please email Richard Keddie, Development Officer: [events@shrewsburycathedral.co.uk](mailto:events@shrewsburycathedral.co.uk) – thank you.



**Calling all budding Flower Arrangers:** The flower arranging team, here at the Cathedral, are looking for some artistic and creative men and women to help design the weekly flower displays. We now have our flowers delivered and sourced by Anne Whyshall florists in Pontesbury. Not only more cost effective for us, as we obtain them at wholesale cost; the flowers are the freshest they can be, and thus are much longer lasting.

You do not have to have undertaken flower arranging before as this is a skill that can be taught. All we ask is that you are free once a month to buddy up with one of the existing members to be shown the ropes!

If you are interested, please email Richard: [events@shrewsburycathedral.co.uk](mailto:events@shrewsburycathedral.co.uk) We can ensure you will really enjoy seeing the results of your work for all to be admired within the Cathedral!

**Wednesday Word:** Please note that copies of the Wednesday Word can be downloaded from <http://wednesdayword.org/>

<b>Collections</b>	<b>15<sup>th</sup> December</b>
Cathedral	£815.36
St Winefride	£339.30
Institute of Christ the King	£216.50
Our Lady of Pity	£360.70

*Data Protection Privacy Notice - The parish of Shrewsbury Cathedral sometimes collects personal information about parishioners. All personal information is collected, processed and stored in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations. This is retained only as necessary and used by the Parish/ Diocese for the benefit of the Parish and for legitimate reasons such as administrative and religious purposes. You can read our full privacy notice at [www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/privacy-notice](http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/privacy-notice).*

*The Diocese of Shrewsbury is a Registered Charity, No. 234025. Please remember the Cathedral in your Will*

# HOLY MASS SCHEDULE IN THE WEEK AHEAD:

## 22 December 2019

Sat 21 December <i>Vigil of the following:</i>	9.30am 6pm	Cathedral Our Lady of Pity, Harlescott	Sister M Emmanuel People of the Parish	
Sun 22 December  <b>Fourth Sunday of Advent</b>  <b>Day of Special Prayer for expectant Mothers</b>	8.30am 9am 9am 9.30am 9.30am 10.30am 10.45am 11.15am 6pm	Cathedral Our Lady of Pity, Harlescott St Mary, Shifnal St George, Whitchurch St Winefride, Monkmoor St Joseph, Albrighton Cathedral St Winefride, Monkmoor Cathedral	Moira Abbott  Patrick and May Smyth  Sister M Dypria  Anna Ezugwa and Family	Polish       EF
Mon 23 December	7.30am  12.15pm	Convent Chapel  Cathedral	Departed Family: De Castro and Maggs Jim Fogarty	
Tue 24 December <b>Christmas Eve</b>	12.15pm 6.00pm 7.00pm Midnight Midnight	Cathedral Cathedral Our Lady of Pity, Harlescott St Winefride, Monkmoor Cathedral	Helen Kelleher Olive Black All the sick and the housebound Father Paul: St John Vianney	EF
Wed 25 December <b>The Nativity of the Lord</b>	8.30am 9.30am 10.45am 11.15am	Cathedral St Winefride, Monkmoor Cathedral St Winefride, Monkmoor	John and Joyce Brindley Norah Donnelly Darrell Smith	EF
Thu 26 December <b>St Stephen, M</b>	12.15pm	Cathedral	Jacqui Lacey	
Fri 27 December <b>St John, Ap, Ev</b>	<b>9.30am</b> <b>10.00am</b>	<b>St Winefride, Monkmoor</b> Cathedral	All the Parish Peter Cooney	
Sat 28 December <b>The Holy Innocents, Mm</b> <i>Vigil of the following:</i>	<b>10.00am</b>  6pm	Cathedral  Our Lady of Pity, Harlescott	Stella Griffiths  People of the Parish	
Sun 29 December  <b>The Holy Family</b>	8.30am 9am 9am 9.30am 9.30am 10.30am 10.45am 11.15am 6pm	Cathedral Our Lady of Pity, Harlescott St Mary, Shifnal St George, Whitchurch St Winefride, Monkmoor St Joseph, Albrighton Cathedral St Winefride, Monkmoor Cathedral	Hoy-Wenlock Family  A. Taylor  Patrick Treadwell  Jane Clarke	Polish       EF



# HOLY MASS SCHEDULE IN THE WEEK AHEAD: 29 December 2019

Sat 28 December <b>The Holy Innocents, Mm</b> <i>Vigil of the following:</i>	10.00am 6pm	Cathedral Our Lady of Pity, Harlescott	Stella Griffiths People of the Parish	
Sun 29 December <b>The Holy Family</b>	8.30am 9am 9am 9.30am 9.30am 10.30am 10.45am 11.15am 6pm	Cathedral Our Lady of Pity, Harlescott St Mary, Shifnal St George, Whitchurch St Winefride, Monkmoor St Joseph, Albrighton Cathedral St Winefride, Monkmoor Cathedral	Hoy-Wenlock Family  A. Taylor Patrick Treadwell Jane Clarke	Polish   EF
Mon 30 December <b>Sixth Day of the Christmas Octave</b>	10.00am	Cathedral	Helen Kelleher	
Tue 31 December <b>Seventh Day of the Christmas Octave</b>	10.00am	Cathedral	Rose Maidment	
Wed 1 January <b>Mary the Mother of God</b>	10.00am	Cathedral	Norah Donnelly	
Thu 2 January <b>Ss Basil the Great B, D &amp; Gregory Nazianzen, B, D</b>	10.00am	Cathedral	Joseph Glynn	
Fri 3 January <b>Friday of the Christmas Season</b>	10.00am	Cathedral	Paola Dyfnallt	
Sat 4 January <b>Saturday of the Christmas Season</b> <i>Vigil of the following:</i>	9.30am 6pm	Cathedral Our Lady of Pity, Harlescott	Margaret Hamrogue People of the Parish	
Sun 5 January <b>Epiphany of the Lord</b>	8.30am 9am 9am 9.30am 9.30am 10.30am 10.45am 11.15am 6pm	Cathedral Our Lady of Pity, Harlescott St Mary, Shifnal St George, Whitchurch St Winefride, Monkmoor St Joseph, Albrighton Cathedral St Winefride, Monkmoor Cathedral	Fr R Milton  Hellen Kelleher  Peter Cliever All the sick and the Housebound	Polish   EF

# HOLY MASS SCHEDULE IN THE WEEK AHEAD:

## 5 January 2020

Sat 4 January <b>Saturday of the Christmas Season</b> <i>Vigil of the following:</i>	9.30am 6pm	Cathedral Our Lady of Pity, Harlescott	Margaret Hamrogue People of the Parish	
Sun 5 January  <b>Epiphany of the Lord</b>	8.30am 9am 9am 9.30am 9.30am 10.30am 10.45am 11.15am 6pm	Cathedral Our Lady of Pity, Harlescott St Mary, Shifnal St George, Whitchurch St Winefride, Monkmoor St Joseph, Albrighton Cathedral St Winefride, Monkmoor Cathedral	Fr R Milton  Hellen Kelleher  Peter Cliever  All the sick and the Housebound	Polish       EF
Mon 6 January <b>Monday after Epiphany</b>	7.30am 12.15pm	Convent Chapel Cathedral	Sister Dorothy, Felicity and Regina Margaret Hamrogue	
Tue 7 January <b>Tuesday after Epiphany</b>	12.15pm	Cathedral	Brenda Robinson	
Wed 8 January <b>Wednesday after Epiphany</b>	9.30am 12.15pm	St Winefride, Monkmoor Cathedral	Anna Ezugwu and Family Pope Francis	
Thu 9 January <b>Thursday after Epiphany</b>	12.15pm	Cathedral	Colin and Ann Muluihill	
Fri 10 January <b>Friday after Epiphany</b>	12.15pm	Cathedral	Helen Kelleher	
Sat 11 January <b>Saturday after Epiphany</b> <i>Vigil of the following:</i>	9.30am 6pm	Cathedral Our Lady of Pity, Harlescott	Jenny Sheffield People of the Parish	
Sun 12 January  <b>The Baptism of the Lord</b>	8.30am 9am 9am 9.30am 9.30am 10.30am 10.45am 11.15am 6pm	Cathedral Our Lady of Pity, Harlescott St Mary, Shifnal St George, Whitchurch St Winefride, Monkmoor St Joseph, Albrighton Cathedral St Winefride, Monkmoor Cathedral	Jim Fogarty  Mrs Virginia Duhu  Margaret Hamrogue  All the sick and the housebound	Polish       EF

### ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Every day 5-6pm concluding with Evening Prayer and Benediction

### CONFESSION

Confession available before every weekday Mass and every Sunday Mass for one hour. On a Saturday confessions are after Mass for one hour.

### SAFEGUARDING

Bridie Croucher, Parish safeguarding co-ordinator, 07946 735289  
Andrew O'Brien, Diocesan safeguarding co-ordinator, 0151 6529855

### CATHEDRAL CLERGY

Rev Fr Edmund Montgomery, Administrator of the Cathedral  
Rev Fr Owen Gallagher, Rev Fr Isidore Madueke, Assistant Priests, Rev Fr Gerard McGuinness (retired Priest)  
Rev Fr Tom Cunnah, Judicial Vicar, Vice-Chancellor, Administrator of Shifnal and Albrighton  
Rev Canon Scott Smith, Rev Fr Anselm Gribbin, Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest  
Rev Ron Ball, Ben Tomnay, Fred Beddow, Andrew Morrow, Parish Deacons

**CATHEDRAL OFFICE** (Current office hours: Monday to Friday 9.30am-3pm)

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*Happy Christmas to all the Parish from the  
Cathedral clergy*