

## St Gregory the Great, Stratford upon Avon

This Parish is served by the Benedictine Monks of Douai Abbey.

**The Sick and Housebound:** Steven Alford, Mary Barratt, Dennis Barratt, Mena Burn, Sophie Connor, Gary Denstone, Gabrielle Edwardes, Patricia Elliott, Mary Foster, Maciej Grudzinski, Ann Kingland, Anne Hamilton, Maureen Harper, Brian Harrison, Anthony Hathaway, Tony Jones, John Kemp, Phil Kendrick, Margaret Lamb, John Leary, Mildred Madden, Peggy Madden, Rory Mahon, Mary McCarthy, Mary Murphy, Helena Myczko, Anne Parkinson, Rachael Perks, Vera Roche, John Somers, Cristina Valentino, Sue Wilmore, Barbara Woodgates, Margaret Young, Kathleen Coleman, Kirsty Taylor, and all the sick in our hospitals, nursing homes, own homes and known to us.

**DATA PROTECTION REGULATIONS.** Personal consent is now needed for inclusion on the sick list as it will appear on the weekly bulletin in church and on the website. Please complete a form from the church notice boards and return to Parish office or contact the Parish office. Confirmation is needed if you, a relative or friend have consented for their name to be included on it. GDPR 2018 (General Data Protection Regulations 2018)

**Anniversaries in March:** Leslie Kay, Clem Rattigan, Charles Ramsey, Ellen Mahon, Katarzyna Sieczka, Val Tryer, Carol Oulton, Ted Cust, Eileen McLoughlin, Czeslaw Chetnik, Catherine Whateley, Jim Connor, Maureen Martyn, Raymond Jack, Thomas Armstrong, Fiona Collins, Ryszard Werbel, Pat Petty, Mike Zygmunt, John Taylor, Jennifer Harrison, Maggie O’Gara, Maureen McNally, Janie Moore, Mary Owen.

**Lately Dead and their bereaved:** John Palmer, Bridget O’Hagan.

**BEREAVEMENT TEAM** are here to support those who have lost precious ones and those who mourn. Parishioners can contact a member of the team on 07592572978 or email [stgregorysbt@gmail.com](mailto:stgregorysbt@gmail.com) or complete a form available in the church porch.

**Church Cleaning:** St Gregory’s: The Polish Group (please could cleaners contact Terry on 07719089110 for information about cleaning during renovation works)

**Recent Collections.**

Weekend 14/15<sup>th</sup> March 2020. Loose: £541.86 Gift Aid: £595.44 Boxes: £ CAFOD Lent Fast £473.39 Thank you for your generosity.

**VISITORS:** You are very welcome. Please make sure you introduce yourselves and sign the visitor’s book at the back of the church.

**NEW PARISHIONERS:** Please make yourselves known to the priest and fill in a New Parishioners Form.

**SAFEGUARDING OFFICER FOR St. Gregory’s Parish, Stratford-upon-Avon:**

Mark O’Connell Contact details: email: [mjoc61@icloud.com](mailto:mjoc61@icloud.com) Tel: 07732 686045

**The Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham, and Douai Abbey Parishes Trust.**

Registered Charity Number 1063237



**Parish Priest:**  
Fr. Alex Austin (OSB)

**Parish Office:**  
Open Tuesday,  
Wednesday, Thursday  
& Friday mornings

**Address:**  
St Gregory’s Church  
Warwick Road,  
Stratford-upon-Avon  
CV37 6UJ  
[stgregorysua@btconnect.com](mailto:stgregorysua@btconnect.com)  
**Telephone:** 01789 292439

Additional numbers for use in emergencies only: Alcester: 01789 762573, Bidford-upon-Avon: 01789 773291

21/22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2020, 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent.		
<b>Saturday 21<sup>st</sup></b> <i>Passing of St. Benedict</i>		All Public Masses for this week and all future Masses are suspended until further notice. Your intentions will be celebrated privately.
<b>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup></b>		
<b>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup></b>		
<b>Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup></b>		
<b>Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup></b> <i>The Annunciation of the Lord.</i>		
<b>Thursday 26<sup>th</sup></b>		
<b>Friday 27<sup>th</sup></b>		
28/29 <sup>th</sup> March 2020, 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent.		
<b>Saturday 28<sup>th</sup></b>		
<b>Sunday 29<sup>th</sup></b>		
<i>No confessions</i>		
<b>Our Lady of Peace, Shotton.</b>		
28/29 <sup>th</sup> March 2020, 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent.		
<b>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup></b>		Mass suspended.
21/22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2020, 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent.		
<b>Sunday 29<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9.30 am.</b>	Mass suspended

## **CORONAVIRUS SHUTDOWN**

Sadly All PUBLIC MASSES & PARISH ACTIVITIES ARE SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. However Fr Alex will celebrate a PRIVATE MASS, alone, DAILY AT 9.30am in which you might like to share spiritually.

Make an act of Spiritual Communion as we are now entering a time when we cannot attend Mass for a valid reason and are therefore exempt from our Sunday obligation. During this time we are encouraged to make a Spiritual Communion when we desire to be in union with Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist. This can be done whilst you watch a live stream of Mass being offered, or between 9.30 – 10.00am when Father Alex will be saying our parish Mass. You can make a spiritual communion by saying the following prayer,

*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.*

### **Our Lady of Peace CHURCH OPENING**

**Will be open daily between 10am and 4pm until further notice. There will be no parking charge.**

Dear Parishioners,

This extraordinary period of social distancing and for many isolation, is an opportunity for us to renew and deepen our faith. For most of us it provides time and space for prayer, scripture reading and devotions – a sort of home retreat and also an opportunity for works of charity as we care for each other, especially our families and immediate neighbours. Please make the most of this chance the Lord has given us and pray for spiritual renewal not just for our church but for the whole of society.

You will all be in my prayers, especially during Mass. Let us pray for each other, especially our sick and elderly, those most vulnerable and for a speedy end to this pandemic.

Do not hesitate phone me or the office if you need anything or just want a chat or reassurance and thank God.

Thank God that in these dark Lenten times of real penance the natural world around us continues its normal journey as everything bursts into Easter life. The new growth, the leaves, blossom and flowers appear, the birds sing and all is truly beautiful. God's creation fills us with hope as it reminds us of the covenant promise of better things to come.

Keep safe and stay well. Fr Alex

FIRST CONFESSIONS AND FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS have been postponed. FUNERALS will be restricted to the graveside or crematorium while a Requiem mass can be offered privately.

PRAY to St Joseph Guardian of the Church, to St Joseph and Our Lady, the Health of the Sick.

As well as the Rosary you might like to make the Novena to St Joseph which can be found at EWN.com as can the daily mass readings.

The final prayer of the Mass for the feast of St Joseph on Thursday was particularly apposite.

*“Defend with unfailing protection,*

*O Lord, we Pray,*

*the family you have nourished*

*with food from this altar,*

*as they rejoice at the Solemnity of Saint Joseph, and graciously keep safe your gifts among them.*

*Through Christ our Lord”*

**CAN'T GET TO MASS - NO FEAR - LIVESTREAM INSTEAD.** Watch on iphone, ipad on even TV daily or Sunday mass. Here is a selection for you to consider

:[www.walsingham.org.uk](http://www.walsingham.org.uk),[www.ourladyofknock.org.uk](http://www.ourladyofknock.org.uk),

[www.mcnmedia.tv](http://www.mcnmedia.tv) – daily mass from churches in Coventry, Birmingham, Whitnash.

[www.churchservices.tv](http://www.churchservices.tv) - have a daily schedule of mass from England and Ireland

[www.wordonfire](http://www.wordonfire) Daily Mass from Bishop Barron's private chapel in LA

[catholicstv.org](http://catholicstv.org) and [Vaticannews.va/en/pope-francis/mass-casa-santa-marta](http://Vaticannews.va/en/pope-francis/mass-casa-santa-marta) for Pope's Francis daily mass and homily. ENT – Sky channel 588

[www.birminghamdioceses.org.uk](http://www.birminghamdioceses.org.uk) Lists Birmingham church celebrations.

Heaven's Road Catholic Online Radio [www.heavensroadfm.com](http://www.heavensroadfm.com) is an online UK radio broadcasting over 250 live Masses a week and features like prayers, interviews and music to appeal to a Catholic audience. Follow on FB or twitter.

THE HOLY FATHER'S MARCH PRAYER INTENTION: **Catholics in China.** We pray that the Church in China may persevere in its faithfulness to the Gospel and grow in unity.

**DIOCESAN WEBSITE** at [www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk](http://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk)

**WARWICK DEANERY WEBSITE** at [www.warwick-catholicdeanery.org.uk](http://www.warwick-catholicdeanery.org.uk)

**GIFT AID:** To join the scheme, please contact Clive Hamilton on 01789 488047 or by e-mail [stgregorysgiftaid@aol.co.uk](mailto:stgregorysgiftaid@aol.co.uk). If you are already in the scheme, please contact him with any questions or any changes of address or tax status.

**PARISH OFFICE:** The office is open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday mornings. Telephone 01789 292439. Please note Monday is Fr. Alex's day off.