



## THE PARISH OF OUR LADY & ST. WULSTAN

WOOD STREET, SOUTHAM CV47 1PP

Parish Priest: Fr Arul Samy Deacon: Rev. Terry Hum (Rtd)

Parish Safeguarding Representative: Angela Scull, Phone: 07847611013

Parish School: St. Mary's Catholic Primary & Nursery School, Daventry Road, Southam CV47 1PS

Tel. No. 01926 812512 Head Teacher: Mrs. Price

Tel: (01926) 812351 E-mail: [stwulstan.southam@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:stwulstan.southam@rcaob.org.uk) [www.stwulstan-southam.co.uk](http://www.stwulstan-southam.co.uk)

The parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No 234216



### 07.03.2021 - Third Sunday of Lent

#### *Day of Prayer for the Candidates for the Sacraments*

Welcome to guests visitors and parishioners.

#### Christ, the Wisdom of God

Today, we celebrate the foolishness of God that is wiser than any human wisdom: the utter folly of his love that allowed the destruction of the temple of the body of his Son. And we dedicate ourselves anew to the Law of the Lord which gives wisdom to the simple.

#### Masses & Intentions

<b>Saturday 06</b>	Canon Peter Taylor RIP (1 <sup>st</sup> Anniversary)
<b>Sunday 07</b>	<b>THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT</b> People of the Parish
<b>Monday 08</b>	<b>Lent Feria</b> Margaret Freel
<b>Tuesday 09</b>	<b>Lent Feria</b> Sr. Sharon Peters (Intentions)
<b>Wednesday 10</b>	<b>Lent Feria</b> Valerie Berridge Intentions (80 <sup>th</sup> Birthday)
<b>Thursday 11</b>	<b>Lent Feria</b> Bea Henry (RIP)
<b>Friday 12</b>	<b>Lent Feria</b> , Fr. John Laybourn's Intentions (70 <sup>th</sup> Birthday)
<b>Saturday 13</b>	<b>Lent Feria</b> Elisabeth & Family (Intentions)
<b>Sunday 14</b>	<b>Fourth Sunday of Lent</b> People of the Parish

#### Weekend Masses via YouTube

Hope you had a very good week! Attempts are being made to restart public Mass in our church from **Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> March at 10.00am**. It will be the Fifth Sunday of Lent.

**The following Sunday (28<sup>th</sup> March) will be Palm Sunday, and we hope to have both Saturday (Vigil) Mass at 5.30pm and the 10.00am Mass on Sunday. We shall confirm this as soon as possible.**

Until then, please continue to access the weekend Masses from our church on YouTube searching for: **Our Lady & St. Wulstan RC Church, Southam (live stream)** or from any other church of your choice from across the deanery and beyond.

**We are immensely grateful to Andrew Hughes for helping our parish with this facility. May God bless him and his family. Please remember, this is still a work in progress, but we are getting there!**

Thank you very much indeed to all who have contributed generously towards this effort. It is very much appreciated.

The clergy will be discussing the guidelines from the Bishops Conference about celebrating the Holy Week and the Easter Triduum at the deanery meeting on Tuesday. Parishioners will be kept informed of this as soon as possible.

During this Lent, we are encouraged to start / restart the habits like personal & family prayer, scripture reading... Let us make an effort!

The following websites might be of help to you to nurture and sustain our spiritual life.

<https://pray-as-you-go.org/> [www.sacredspace.ie](http://www.sacredspace.ie)

<https://catholic-daily-reflections.com>

Let us remember that all true devotions and spiritual exercises are bound to lead us to encounter the Lord in the Eucharist. Wish you a happy lent!

**RIP:** Please pray for **Fr Oliver Kemp, Fr John Fallon, Fr. Giles Goward, Fr. Patrick Joyce, George Derek Watson, Stacy Reed, Kay Griffin, Kathleen Healy** and all those who died recently and for all the faithful departed. *May they all, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen*

**Sick:** Please pray for all those who are unwell at this time, especially all those who are affected by Covid-19, those who are in isolation and all who help / take care of them as well as all those who serve our communities in frontline jobs.

**Cathedral Maintenance:** This weekend there will be a Second Collection for Cathedral Maintenance.

**Telephone support:** Some of our parishioners are supporting each other by telephone. Please phone 811703 (Shirley) or email ([shirley@shirleyrush8.plus.com](mailto:shirley@shirleyrush8.plus.com)) if you want a chat or to receive calls or if you would like to join those who are calling others.

**The Cleansing of the Temple (John 2:13-25):** According to John, this scene took place at the beginning of Jesus' ministry, on the first of Jesus' four visits to Jerusalem. At each subsequent visit the Temple authorities lay in wait for Jesus, increasingly keen to eliminate him, but unable to do so till his Hour had come. The other gospels place both this incident and all other scenes of Jesus in Jerusalem as the final climax of Jesus' ministry. Whichever is correct, the incident is the basic cause of Jesus' arrest and his tortured death. By his action Jesus had demonstrated that the worship carried out in the Temple had become vain in God's eyes owing to its lack of integrity and must be superseded. To the Temple authorities this was intolerable, and he must be removed. Again, Jesus demanded a complete reversal of standards. His puzzling saying about building the Temple anew in his body was at last understood by his disciples after his resurrection when they realised it meant the Temple that was his Body, the Church. The material building which had been the centre of worship was no longer important. Henceforth all worship would take place in any place, but within the Christian community. The community - or the Church - was now the place of sanctification and of prayer to God.

**What does it mean to think of the Church as Jesus' Body? What does it mean to you to be a member of Christ's Body, the Church?**

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

#### Pope's Prayer Intention for March

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Let us pray that we may experience the sacrament of reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the infinite mercy of God.

**Miriam's Walk for Water:** Inspired by a video in her school about Cafod's effort in providing drinking water to people in hot countries like Ethiopia, our parishioner Miriam Lambe is doing Cafod's 'Walk for Water Challenge' this Lent. Parishioners are encouraged to support Miriam's and Cafod's effort. The following is the sponsor link:

<https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/miriam-s-lent-challenge>

Thank you in anticipation for your generous support.

**Unleash the Gospel:** The following is a lovely website with week by week activities for families, prayers and exploration of the Gospel. Hope you will find it helpful. (This week):

<https://www.52sundays.com/sundays/february-28-2021>

**Weekly Rosary:** Thanks to the Isaacs Family for their Rosary initiative. Parishioners could now join with other parishioners for praying the Rosary via zoom, on **Wednesdays at 7.30pm**. Many thanks to all who have joined this initiative.

You can use the same link each week to join which is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84132920743?pwd=NXRoUVJQTQVVlanUwVzYxNk9kbGFrUT09>

Meeting ID: 841 3292 0743 Passcode: S0AQyb

*We are very grateful to Mike Brown for his paintings on the Joyful Mystery of the Rosary and the reflections. These will be incorporated into the prayer this week.*

Be encouraged to pray the Rosary regularly (even if a decade or two), especially for the deliverance from the pandemic. Your prayers are much appreciated.

**Lent - Sycamore Course:** For the last two weeks this zoom Lent course has been taking place on Thursdays at 7.30pm. Anyone is welcome to join in at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89638056659?pwd=aE9JMUxNaXNoZ21qZDJJaeGdKeDVYdz09>

Meeting ID: 896 3805 6659 Passcode: C4wa3B

### **National Novena to St. Joseph (10 – 18 March 2021)** **Year of St. Joseph**

(Edited excerpts from the Novena Director, Mill Hill Missionaries)

There can be few, if any, of us who have not been in some way impacted by the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic over the last 12 months. Many of us will have endured the double grief of not being present when a loved one has died, either alone, or in intensive care, surrounded only by sophisticated medical equipment and hard-pressed medical staff. Even the pain of self-isolation, separation from family and friends, the shattering of our hopes and dreams, can feel like its own form of death.

For all of us, the events of the past year have forced us to cancel or change our plans, to accept challenges we would never otherwise have dreamed of accepting, whether it is home-schooling our children or grandchildren, or caring for a shielding and vulnerable loved one or neighbour. At the very least, this past year has given us pause to reflect, to reassess our priorities, and to ask what our true values in life are.

On the 8th of December last year, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, and with the current pandemic very much in mind, Pope Francis proclaimed a Year of St. Joseph, to mark the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Pope Pius IX of St. Joseph as the Patron of the Universal Church. In his Apostolic Letter, *Patris Corde* ("With a Father's Heart"), inaugurating the Year, Pope Francis acknowledges that during this pandemic we have experienced how "our lives are woven together and sustained by ordinary people, people often overlooked... men and women working to provide essential services and public safety... How many fathers, mothers,



grandparents and teachers are showing our children, in small everyday ways, how to accept and deal with a crisis by adjusting their routines, looking ahead and encouraging the practice of prayer. How many are praying, making sacrifices and interceding for the good of all."

He adds, "Each of us can discover in Joseph — the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence — an intercessor, a support and a guide in times of trouble. Saint Joseph reminds us that those who appear hidden or in the shadows can play an incomparable role in the history of salvation. A word of recognition and of gratitude is due to them all."

*Patris Corde*, which inaugurates The Year of St. Joseph, forms the basis this year for our Novena reflections on the life of Jesus' earthly father. May the praying of our Novena in this Year of St. Joseph guide and inspire us into a closer relationship with this model of all earthly parenthood. May this model be, as Pope Francis puts it, a "sign" pointing to a greater fatherhood, that of the "heavenly Father".

***May this Novena of 2021 be a means of grace and consolation to all who have suffered bereavement and loss during this pandemic.***

**Novena Prayer to St. Joseph (from the Apostolic Letter of Pope Francis, *Patris Corde*—With a Father's Heart)**

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,  
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.  
To you God entrusted his only Son;  
in you Mary placed her trust;  
with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too,  
show yourself a father  
and guide us in the path of life.  
Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage,  
and defend us from every evil.

*Please call to mind your special intentions...*

St. Joseph, Pray for us.  
Our Father..., Hail Mary...,  
Glory be to the Father..., Amen.

#### **Prayer of Spiritual Communion** **(St Alphonsus Liguori)**

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in this Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love you above all things and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever. Amen.

#### **A Prayer of Spiritual Communion** **for Vocations to the Priesthood**

Lord Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest,  
offered as a Sacrifice on the Cross  
to take away the sins of the world:

I unite myself with your sacrifice on the altar,  
with the Eucharist which I cannot receive.  
You have given to your Church the Sacrament of Baptism  
through which your people are made holy.  
You have given to your Church the Sacrament of the  
Priesthood by which the banquet of the Eucharist is set  
before us. I pray today for all priests,  
who through their consecration  
make present in your Church  
your real and abiding presence.

I thank you for the gift of the Priesthood.  
I praise your wonderful presence in the Eucharist.  
Amen.