

# St. Joseph the Worker

## Solemnity of St. Peter & St. Paul, Apostles

28<sup>th</sup> June, 2020



Fr Harry Curtis, Parish Priest

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We are a parish with a clear identity and purpose: to be a Catholic community, formed by the Holy Spirit in the name of Jesus, for the glory and praise of God the Father and the service of His Kingdom, and also for the mutual up-building and support of its members. The core message that we feel called to live is contained in Jesus' words:

*I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. (John 10:10)*

Sunday, 28 <sup>th</sup> June <b>Solemnity of St. Peter &amp; St. Paul, Apostles</b>	<p>UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE ALL MASSES WILL BE CELEBRATED WITHOUT A CONGREGATION.</p> <p>Live streaming of Sunday Mass and other Masses when a time is printed here is on Youtube. Go to our website (<a href="http://www.sjtwcoventry.org.uk">www.sjtwcoventry.org.uk</a>)</p>	10.00 am Ron Jones RIP (Anniversary)
Monday, 29 <sup>th</sup> June		Sr. Leena (Birthday)
Tuesday, 30 <sup>th</sup> June <i>Optional Memorial of the First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church</i>		The People of the Parish
Wednesday, 1 <sup>st</sup> July <i>Op. Mem. of St. Oliver Plunkett, Bishop, Martyr</i>		Private Intention
Thursday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> July		Cora Lanigan
Friday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> July <i>Feast of St. Thomas, Apostle</i>		Anthony Armstrong
Saturday, 4 <sup>th</sup> July <i>Optional Memorial of St. Elizabeth of Portugal</i>		Holy Souls
Sunday, 5 <sup>th</sup> July <b>Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>		10.00 am Anna Dalli

Today we are celebrating the (transferred) Solemnity of St Peter and St Paul – two of the great saints of the Church, who were very different characters, but who were united in their love and faith, and who both gave witness to Jesus by the shedding of their blood in Rome.

Please pray for those we know who are sick including: John Foliard, George Morton, Josie Dekkers, Kevon Perry, Bridget Cherry, Chris Mullen, Peter Kennedy, Jennifer Shaw, Danny and Mary Harrington, Paddy Beausang, and all the sick.

Please pray for Nora Fitzpatrick, Elizabeth Carr and all those who have died recently, and for all whose anniversaries occur about this time: Mgr. Patrick Corrigan, Canon Francis Dudley, Frs. John Joseph McMorro, William O'Malley and Michael Cullinan, and also, Mary Bowen, Cecilia (Sheila) Byrne, Arthur Townend, Ronald Jones, Mary Breen, Patrick Daly, Jeremiah Cronin, Edward (Ted) Rodgers, Kathleen Toms, Teresa Calvert, Martin Clifford and May Lilley. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. May they rest in peace.

**Livestreaming of Sunday Mass from St. Joseph's** on Youtube each week at 10.00. Go to our website ([www.sjtwcoventry.org.uk](http://www.sjtwcoventry.org.uk)) and click on "Sunday Mass". While you watch a live stream of Mass say this 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."*

**First Friday.** This Friday is the First Friday of the month. If you need a copy of the Novena Prayers to the Sacred Heart, please ask me.

## Re-opening St. Joseph's for the celebration of Mass

I expect that, like me, you were overjoyed during the last week when it was announced that churches could once again open for public services from 4<sup>th</sup> July onwards. My joy, however, was quickly tempered by the realisation that it is not going to be straightforward and is going to take a lot of thought and work.

At the time of writing, I have just received official guidance from the Diocese about how this should be done (and there is quite a lot to digest). What I am sure of is that it will be a larger task than it was to open the church for private prayer. We shall have to refine our risk assessment form, identifying all the potential dangers and showing how we shall overcome them; we shall have to assemble a larger team of stewards and cleaners than we already have; we shall have to train them in all the aspects of their roles. Only when everything is in place shall we be able to open. I am sorry to disappoint you, but all of that means we shall not be ready to open for Mass next Sunday. We *might* be ready for Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> July, but I think it is more likely to be the following Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> July.

So, let me make a few points now:

- If you would be able and willing to help either as a steward or a cleaner at either the 9.00 or the 5.00 Mass, please contact the Parish Office THIS WEEK, identifying which job and which Mass you would be available for.
- When we do open we shall have restricted numbers of people in the church. To make sure that there will be a place for you, you will have to “book” your place. Please let me know by telephone, email, letter, note through the letterbox, carrier pigeon, etc., which Mass you would like to attend.
- The Bishops have said that the Sunday obligation to attend Mass is still suspended. You don't *have* to come to Mass on Sunday. This is especially the case if you are shielding or vulnerable in any way. I shall continue to stream the Mass and give as much support as I can so you can join in at home.

You may be pleased to hear that one piece of advice that has been given is that groups should not spend more time together than necessary and that Masses should be kept short. The homilies especially should not be too long. It's an ill wind . . . .

**I shall be “away” on Retreat this week.** This is an annual clergy Retreat that was arranged a long time ago. Of course, the situation makes it impossible to gather as we usually would, but it is being done through the wonders of modern technology (hmmmm!!!). I shall not be available from Monday to Friday this week. Please pray for me and for the clergy who will be taking part, and I shall pray for you.

**Because I shall be away, St. Joseph's will NOT be open for Private Prayer on Thursday this week.**

*Almighty and eternal God, our refuge in every danger, to whom we turn in our distress; in faith we pray: look with compassion on the afflicted, grant eternal rest to the dead, comfort to mourners, healing to the sick, peace to the dying, strength to healthcare workers, wisdom to our leaders and the courage to reach out to all in love, so that together we may give glory to your holy name. 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. Amen.*

**The Sanctuary Candle is burning this week for those working in Health Care.**  
**The Sacred Heart Candle is burning this week for Ronald Jones RIP (Anniversary).**  
**Our Lady's Candle is burning this week for the Sick and the Dying.**  
**St. Joseph's Candle is burning this week in Thanksgiving (SD).**  
**St. Anthony's Candle is burning this week for a Special Intention (Lawless).**

**Weekly Giving To The Parish.** I am very grateful for the great generosity of those who have offered to make donations to the Parish or have left offertory donations in my letterbox. If you wish to set up a Standing Order, please email me. It is also possible to set up a regular or a single donation to the parish via the diocesan website. Visit [www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk](http://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk), click on Donate (top right) and follow the instructions. When asked which church you're donating to, please select 'Coventry: Canley'. If you give by weekly envelope or cash, perhaps you might put your offering aside at home each week as part of your Sunday worship, and then when we are able to gather for Mass again, place it in the offertory during Mass or bring it to the presbytery.

**Diocesan Trust Secretary.** The Archdiocese is seeking a voluntary part time Trust Secretary to assist the Trustees in good “corporate practices”. Details can be found on [www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/jobs](http://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/jobs).

**Tailpiece:** After the birth of his baby brother, a little boy was thoroughly annoyed at all his crying and screaming. “Where did we get him from anyway?” he asked his mother. “He came from heaven!” his mother replied. “Well I can see why they threw him out!” the boy said thoughtfully.

**May God bless you and all those whom you love, and keep you safe. Fr. Harry.**