



## **St John the Evangelist RC Church**

13 Northgate, Bridgnorth,

Shropshire WV16 4ER

01746 762348

Email: [iaingriffiths@hotmail.com](mailto:iaingriffiths@hotmail.com)

Website: [www.stjohnsbridgnorth.co.uk](http://www.stjohnsbridgnorth.co.uk)

### **3<sup>rd</sup> January 2021 – Second Sunday of Christmas**

A very Happy New Year to you all. Let us hope and pray that we can return to some semblance of normality before too long. We are, however, still in a rapidly changing situation and if there are any changes which affect how we operate as church, I will of course let you know as soon as possible. This Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> January, we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany at 12.00noon. Please remember to book a place if you would like to attend this Mass. As we are now in the middle of winter, I am aware that people may be reluctant to come to church in the evening when it is cold and dark. I have, therefore, decided to move the Wednesday Mass to midday for the foreseeable future. If you are still apprehensive about coming to church because of the pandemic, please do not worry. You will be with us in spirit and we will keep you in our thoughts and prayers. It is a much greater act of faith and charity that we help each other to stay safe and well.

May I take the opportunity to thank you all for your generous gifts, cards, and donations to Mary's Meals at Christmas. Please forgive me if I do not find the opportunity to thank you individually.

Belated Christmas and New Year greetings from Canon Harrington, and also from Clare James who has asked me to offer a Mass for all her friends in Bridgnorth.

Given the origin of certain coronavirus vaccines and the way they are produced, some people have questioned whether it is ethical for Catholics to receive it. Bishop Moth, chair of the Department of Social Justice recently issued a statement on behalf of the Bishops Conference of England and Wales, declaring that it is morally acceptable for Catholics to receive the vaccination. If you have any concerns, I can let you have a copy of the statement.

### **Mass times and intentions**

\*Sat 6.30pm Mary Winstanley

\*Sun 9.00am Maureen Hughes

11.00am Parishioners

Mon 10.00am Mass Private Intention

Tue No Mass

### **Feast of the Epiphany**

\*Wed 12.00noon Parishioners

Thu 10.00am Mass Private Intention

\*Fri 12.00noon Freda Sleigh

\*Sat 6.30pm Parishioners

\*Sun 9.00am Gerry Winwood

11.00am Stefan & Jadwiga Kolodynski

\* Denotes public Mass

Live Stream Masses from our Cathedral are available on the Diocese of Shrewsbury Website. The **revised schedule** is: Sunday – 8.00am Mass, 11.00am Mass, 4.30pm Eucharistic Adoration and Evening Prayer. Monday to Saturday – 7.30am Mass, 4.30pm Eucharistic Adoration and Evening Prayer. Other Masses may be found from churches throughout the UK and Ireland by going to <https://www.churchservices.tv>.

In January, Pope Francis asks us to keep in mind the following prayer intention: “may the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.”

The drama displayed: a journey of salvation – a free series of online talks given by the Christian Heritage Centre (Stonyhurst). A range of speakers will examine the key moments of salvation history with the aid of great works of art. At 7.30pm every second Thursday from 14<sup>th</sup> January to 25<sup>th</sup> March. For further information and to register, please go to: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/the-drama-displayed>.

**Bridgnorth Food Bank** would be grateful for donations of reusable carrier bags, coffee, rice pudding, jams, squash, toilet rolls, nappies, and pet food. Any Christmas items should not contain alcohol. If you have items to donate, collection may be arranged if you contact John Gilbert. Alternatively, you may choose to make a cash donation. Your support is much appreciated.

Finally..... my stomach is flat, it's just that the L is silent.



Happy New Year!