

Services from Shrewsbury Cathedral:

The Chrism Mass will be live-streamed from Shrewsbury Cathedral at 3pm on Wednesday 31st March. This year watching at the Altar of Repose will not be possible in our parish churches due to Covid safety measures. However, on Holy Thursday evening there will be an opportunity to share in watching before the Tabernacle of Shrewsbury Cathedral via the livestream from 8.30pm to 10.30pm that evening. Both of these services will be available to watch at: www.churchservices.tv/shrewsburycathedral

Attention all Gift Aid Donors: The tax year 2020/21 will end on 5th April and the Parish will then undertake the process of claiming back the Gift Aid refunds on donations made in the tax year. If your circumstances have changed and you no longer pay income tax (or if for any other reason you do not wish to remain in the Gift Aid Scheme) please contact Mary McPeake on 0161 432 3284 or by e-mail: m.mcpeake@btinternet.com by 5th April, otherwise it will be assumed you have paid sufficient income tax for the Parish to reclaim Gift Aid on donations made in the tax year.

As an *indication* for each £1 per week that you donate through Gift Aid, you must have paid £13 per year in income tax; for each £5 per month that you donate through Gift Aid you must have paid £15 in income tax. Additionally, if you are in the Gift Aid scheme and have moved house in the last year, please will you contact Mary McPeake.

Wellspring Donations: Please leave your donations in the box at the back of church. Thank you.

Please pray for all those who are sick and all those who have died recently. We remember Catherine Kearney, Mary Appleby, William Richardson, Henrietta Gorna, John White, William Summerfield, Francis Baker, Elsie Thompson, Mary Harford, Owen Campbell, Maureen Hughes, Catherine Davies, Ernest Pimm, Mary Hayes and all those who anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace.

Parish Safeguarding Reps: Noel Russell and Bernadette McCrory. If you have any concerns about safeguarding of children or vulnerable adults, please speak to them or contact them via the presbytery, in the strictest confidence.

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Office Hours: Thursday 11am-1pm

The Catholic Parish of St Chad, Cheadle
Priest: Fr. Sean Davidson



Sunday 28th March – Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Dear brother and sisters in Christ,

As we approach the holiest of all weeks in the Catholic year, I wanted to remind you about the nine-day novena to the Divine Mercy which begins on Good Friday in anticipation of Divine Mercy Sunday (the Sunday after Easter Sunday). Divine Mercy Sunday came about as a result of the mystical experiences granted to Saint Faustina Kowalska. The Lord made known to her his desire for this feast and promised extraordinary graces to those who would celebrate it.

Here are the words which St Faustina recorded in her diary as having been addressed to her by Jesus himself:

“Mankind will not have peace until it turns with trust to My mercy. (...) I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. On that day, the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day all the divine floodgates through which grace flow are opened. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet.”

It is generally understood that it is sufficient for a person to go to Confession in the weeks before the feast in order to obtain the special graces which the Lord grants on that day. What is essential is to make sure to be in a state of grace on the day itself. Some have likened the grace promised on Divine Mercy Sunday to the grace of Baptism which completely renews the soul and purifies her in such a way that she would go straight to heaven were she to die just afterwards. It would be wise to listen to the message of this great saint. We have nothing to lose and everything to gain.

Jesus also taught her to pray the “Chaplet of Divine Mercy” which is now recited daily at 3pm by millions of Catholics around the world, using rosary beads. It only takes a few minutes to pray but also comes with the promise of

eternal blessings. I have provided you with a prayer card with this week's newsletter which explains both the novena and the chaplet. We are especially urged to pray the chaplet for the dying, and if possible, in their presence. Jesus said:

“Say unceasingly the chaplet that I have taught you. Whoever will recite it, they will receive great mercy at the hour of death. Priests will recommend it to sinners as their last hope of salvation...”

“It pleases me to grant everything souls ask of me by saying the chaplet. When hardened sinners say it, I will fill their souls with peace, and the hour of their death will be a happy one. Write this for the benefit of distressed souls; when a soul sees and realises the gravity of its sins, when the whole abyss of the misery into which it immersed itself is displayed before its eyes, let it not despair, but with trust, let it throw itself into the arms of My mercy, as a child into the arms of its beloved mother... Write that when they say this chaplet in the presence of the dying, I will stand between My Father and the dying person, not as the Just Judge but as the Merciful Saviour.”

May God bless you all.

Fr. Sean

Our EASTER SERVICES will take place as follows:

Holy Thursday 1st April - 7pm,

Good Friday 2nd April – 3pm **FULLY BOOKED**

Good Friday Stations of the Cross - 7pm,

Easter Vigil 3rd April – 8pm **FULLY BOOKED**

Easter Sunday 4th April – 9am **FULLY BOOKED**

As there are still some spaces for Holy Thursday and the Stations of the Cross, you are now able to book in for those if you wish (even if you have already booked in for two services). The Church doors will open 30 minutes before each service. We will have a seating plan for all services, so please wait for the stewards to show you to your seat.

If you have booked for a service and can no longer attend, please let us know as soon as possible, even on the day of the service, as we may be able to reallocate your space. Please do not come to a service unless you have booked, as we cannot guarantee there will be a space.

All the services will be available to watch on the live-stream.

Mass Times & Intentions

Sat 27 th	Vigil	St Ann's	5pm	Chris Dinnage RIP
		St Chad's	7pm	Barbara Lee RIP & Tony Lee
Sun 28 th	Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord	St Chad's	9am	The Whalley & Morrissey Families
		St Ann's	11am	Fr Vincent Tobin RIP
Mon 29 th		St Ann's	10am	Fred Johnson RIP
Tues 30 th		St Ann's	10am	Pat Freebody RIP
		St Chad's	1pm	Funeral of Peter Danson – family only
		St Chad's	6.30pm	Anne Pearce RIP
Wed 31 st		No Mass		
Thurs 1 st	Holy Thursday	No Morning Mass		
		St Chad's	7pm	For all Priests
Fri 2 nd	Good Friday	St Chad's	3pm	
	Stations of the Cross	St Chad's	7pm	
Sat 3 rd	Easter Vigil	St Chad's	8pm	The People of the Parish
Sun 4 th	Easter Sunday	St Chad's	9am	Pat Scott RIP

Mass Intentions: Envelopes are available at the back of the church. Please post the envelope through the presbytery door once completed. Please note that we are now into July with Mass intentions.

Confessions: Available on on request. Please telephone the presbytery a minimum of 24 hours in advance to arrange.