



**HOLY
FAMILY** R.C. CHURCH

OUR
LADY
& ST. JOHN R.C. CHURCH



Coronavirus

Information Booklet

Correct as of Wednesday 25th March 2020

Contact Telephone Numbers & Email Addresses

Parish Website

- www.rcchp.org.uk

Diocesan Website

- <http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/>

Father Stephen Coonan

- 0151 342 6851
- father.stephen@ourladyandstjohn.org.uk

Deacon Jeff Telford

- jefftelford1@icloud.com

Parish Secretary – Victoria Hanlon

- 0151 342 8839
- 07748831317
- contact@ourladyandstjohn.org.uk

The Curial Offices in Prenton are now closed until further notice.

Measures in Place in our Churches

- No Masses will be said at either church from Friday evening (20/03/20) until further notice.

- Both Holy Family AND Our Lady and St John's church will be CLOSED until further notice.

- Holy Water has been removed from the fonts as you enter Church. This is to avoid cross contamination, and a possible source of infection.

- All group meetings (church and non-church related) have been suspended until further notice. This includes:
 - Stitch Craft Group
 - Monday Coffee Mornings
 - Rainbows
 - Yoga
 - Songbirds
 - Over 55's Afternoon Tea

Group leaders will keep in touch and will let you know when activities resume.

Newsletters and Update Bulletins

Newsletters will be issued via email and also posted onto the website.

www.rcchp.org.uk

No paper newsletters will be printed, as paper could harbour the virus if touched by an infected person.

Parishioners are encouraged to sign up to receive the parish newsletter electronically. To sign up send an email to the Parish Secretary, Victoria Hanlon at contact@ourladyandstjohn.org.uk giving consent to receive information electronically.

Weekday and Sunday Mass

All public Masses have been suspended until further notice.

Live streaming of the Mass from Shrewsbury Cathedral and Wythenshawe can be watched from our Diocesan website:

<http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/live-masses>

Alternatively, the website <https://www.churchservices.tv/> offers Mass from a whole host of Catholic churches across Ireland, Northern Ireland, England and Scotland.

The Catholic Churches of England and Wales also have a YouTube channel which has interesting uploads to view. This can be found at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCknR9Qdz8f_T4Mi6bHpVH3w

The Diocesan website, also has details of Morning and Evening prayers which can be said, as well as Sunday Mass readings and Meditations of the week.

<http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/>

Confession

Confessions are NO LONGER being heard, as both churches are closed until further notice.

Weddings

If possible, the celebration of the sacrament of Matrimony should be deferred until such time that people can gather in numbers safely. However, if this is not possible and only in the most pressing of circumstances, then those present for the marriage should be restricted to the celebrant, bride and groom and immediate family, and if necessary, the legal Registrar.

Baptisms

Baptisms should be deferred until such time that the public health advice is that congregations can gather safely. In case of necessity, baptisms should be celebrated with all the hygiene precautions that have been laid down by the Church in its COVID-19 advice

Funerals

Funeral services should now only take place at the graveside or at the crematorium, subject to the conditions being laid down by the cemetery or the crematorium authorities. Arrangements should be made for a Mass to be celebrated in memoriam when congregations are allowed to gather.

First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion & Confirmation

These celebrations should be postponed until a time that allows for families and friends to gather safely within our churches.

Anointing of the Sick

No pastoral visits will be made to people who are self-isolating until the isolation period ends.

Offertory Collections

If you would still like to donate your offertory collection on a weekly basis, you can sign up to a Standing Order. For further details please contact Bernard Larkin via email bernard.larkin@btinternet.com or telephone 342 5517.



Although many of you will have already given to the CAFOD collection at the beginning of Lent, some of you may still have CAFOD envelopes that you would like to hand in. Please, just keep hold of them until normal collections resume.



The collection of goods for the Food Bank at both churches has been suspended. The Food Bank is still reliant, more than ever, on donations of food, so please carry on donating food at collection points in local supermarkets.

What can we do as a Parish to help?

We are asking all parishioners to keep in telephone contact with anyone they may know, who is elderly or alone. That phone call could be the only contact they have with the outside world that day!

The Parish Secretary, Victoria Hanlon, is setting up a list of parishioners who are willing to help those more vulnerable in the Parish, who may need help with their shopping or even just a chat on the telephone. If you would like to volunteer, please let her know by email contact@ourladyandstjohn.org.uk or telephone 342 8839.

Equally, if you or know of a parishioner that needs help or a friendly call, please do let Victoria know, so that we can ensure that they get the help they need.

By working together, we can look after each other.

Current NHS Guidelines as of 20/03/2020

- If you live alone and have symptoms of coronavirus illness (COVID-19) however mild, stay at home for 7 days from when your symptoms started. If you live with others and you or one of them have symptoms of coronavirus, then all household members must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days. The 14-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill. It is likely that people living within a household will infect each other or be infected already. If possible, you should not go out even to buy food or other essentials, other than exercise and in that case at a safe distance from others.
- Staying at home for 14 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community.
- For anyone in the household who starts displaying symptoms, they need to stay at home for 7 days from when the symptoms appeared, regardless of what day they are on in the original 14-day isolation period.
- Do not go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital.
- You do not need to contact 111 to tell them you're staying

at home. Testing for coronavirus is not needed if you're staying at home.

- Wash your hands regularly for 20 seconds each time, using soap and water, or use hand sanitiser.
- All routine medical and dental appointments should be cancelled whilst you are staying at home. If you are concerned or have been asked to attend in person within the period you are home isolating, discuss this with your medical contact first (for example, your GP, local hospital or outpatient service), using the number they have provided.
- If you feel you cannot cope with your symptoms at home, or your condition gets worse, or your symptoms do not get better after 7 days, then use the NHS 111 online coronavirus service: <https://111.nhs.uk/covid19>; if you do not have internet access, call NHS 111. For a medical emergency dial 999.
- Drink water to keep yourself hydrated; you can use over the counter medications, such as paracetamol, to help with some of your symptoms. Use these according to the instructions on the packet or label and do not exceed the recommended dose.