



**SACRED HEART AND ST TERESA'S CHURCH,**  
**WILMSLOW**



**PARISH NEWSLETTER**

Reg. Charity No. 234025

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**8<sup>th</sup> November, 2020 – The Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Please note that there will be no public Mass celebrated in church until the new restrictions are lifted (currently expected to be Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December). However, the church will again be available for private prayer on the days & times listed below. The church will also be reverting back to 2 metre social distancing, with a limit of no more than 10 people in church at a time, and with a time limit of 15 minutes in church for each worshipper. All worshippers must continue to wear face coverings & adhere to the strict rules in church at this time, including sanitising hands on entering & leaving. Please do not enter church if you are symptomatic.

Until further notice, the church will be open for private prayer on the following days & times:

Wednesdays from 10 am – 12 pm

Sundays from 10 am – 12 pm

***Father Anthony continues to celebrate daily Mass privately in church and prays for all of us. Please also keep him in your prayers.***

**New Rules & Guidance in Church at this time:**

- Church at two metre social distancing with compulsory face mask wearing.
- Please do not enter church if you are symptomatic.
- Short private prayer permitted (15 minutes per person).
- The maximum number of visitors able to attend at any one time to be no more than 10 visitors.
- Please sanitise hands on entering & before leaving church.
- Visitors should not touch or physically venerate statues, relics, or the church stoop.
- Whilst in church, or the surrounding grounds, all people should adhere to strict social distancing rules at all times.
- Please follow one-way system & guidance in church – please enter by the church side door & leave by the left aisle and main entrance door. Please wait to be seated by the stewards who will seat you safely in designated areas.
- People from the same household can sit together but those not from the same household should maintain social distancing while in church. Children may attend, but parents or guardians must manage them appropriately, particularly ensuring that they touch as few surfaces as possible.
- Visitors should take away with them any printed material that they have picked up while in the church.
- Please note the toilet facility in church is closed.

**Parish Updates – Any parish update can also now be viewed at our Facebook page:**  
<https://www.facebook.com/StTeresasWilmslow> (No Facebook account required to view page)

## **Father Anthony's Homily for the Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*"Today's Gospel is Saint Matthew's account of the wise and foolish bridesmaids, all waiting for the arrival of the bridegroom. Five were unprepared - as they had brought no oil for their lamps and the five sensible ones took flasks of oil as well as their lamps. The latter were prepared for the coming of the bridegroom; the others were not. The account is, of course, a parable. The bridegroom is the Lord; the bridesmaids represent all those who have been called to follow Him and the teaching is that we be ready for his coming; for each of us that is at the moment of death. Just as the coming of a bridegroom to a wedding is an occasion of joy; so is our dying in the Lord. Very simply, we should be prepared.*

*November is the month when we pray especially for the Holy Souls; in this country, there is a commemoration of the armistice, which is remembered (inaccurately) as the day the 1914 war ended. We pray for all the war dead that they - and all the faithful departed, may rest in peace."*

### **NOTICES**

**The Eucharistic Congress**, scheduled to take place in Bucharest in 2020, has been deferred to September, 2021. As part of the preparation for this event, the International Organising Committee is inviting all Catholics to mark the Feast of Christ the King by joining in a time of adoration and prayer on Saturday, November 21st, 2020. All the information needed to do so can be accessed via this link: <https://www.iec2020.hu/en/news-press/7th-worldwide-adoration-and-prayer-21st-november>

**Christmas 2020 - Update** Many people want to come to Mass at Christmas and normally there is no problem in welcoming everyone. This year circumstances are likely to be different, as numbers who can be accommodated in the church are limited. Father Anthony's thoughts are that there should be four Masses, one on Christmas Eve in the afternoon (say 4.00 pm), one in the evening of the same day (say 6.00 pm), no Mass at midnight, but Mass at 9.00 am and 10.30 am on Christmas Day. Nothing has been decided, but comments would be welcome – **we are currently exploring a booking type system where parishioners can email us to indicate which Mass they would like to attend to ensure no oversubscribing occurs.**

**Parish First Holy Communion 2020 – Upcoming Masses Note** Regrettably, owing to the new restrictions in place, all scheduled First Communion Masses have now been postponed.

**Caritas at Christmas – Upcoming Retiring Collection** The Bishop has asked that a collection be taken for the support of the poor of the Diocese before the end of November. This retiring collection, formally known as the crib appeal, will take place next week on 15<sup>th</sup> November and helps to provide food and gifts for those most in need in the Shrewsbury Diocese this Christmas. ***If you are visiting Church for private prayer, please leave your donation in the basket provided near the entrance.***

**Food Link, Colshaw – Food Appeal** The need to contribute food continues. Could you help to donate food to struggling families? We are very grateful to receive the following food donations: dried pasta, pasta sauces, cereals, tea, coffee, sugar, and tinned foods (pies, soups, beans, fruit, veg, meat, fish, etc.). Please leave donations in the box at the back of church when open or please leave by the presbytery front door and then ring the bell.

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**Please Pray for Persecuted Christians in the Middle East**