

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Please contact Rose if you would like your child or grandchild to take part in children's liturgy classes and / or children's masses in the future. Contact: 07377712740

THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

Henryka Stachowska, Chris Wrighton, Willie Carr, Joy Jones, Cathy Duffell, Annette Fallon, Ann, John Boden, Norah Hunter, Cath Donovan. We commend them to the prayers of St. Mary & St Joseph.

PARISH FINANCE Last Sunday Collection £231.65. Thank you for your generosity.

ANNUAL MASS COUNT The annual Mass count takes place over four Sundays beginning from 3rd and 4th Sunday of September and 1st and 2nd Sunday of October. Counters area asked to note the numbers including children attending each Mass. The annual Mass count is part of the statistical information the parish submits to the Diocese at the end of the year. Thank you.

There will be a Children's Liturgy before Mass on 27th September at St Joseph's Church Albrighton.

PARISH CENSUS FORM You're requested to submit the filled form by 1st week of October.

NEPAL DISASTER COLLECTION will be next week. Funds will be sent to CAFOD.

ADVERT FOR ROMAN CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN VACANCY AT HMP &YOI STYAL

Do you feel called to a ministry that brings hope, healing and transformation? We are seeking a compassionate and committed Roman Catholic Chaplain (Priest or Lay) to join our multi-faith chaplaincy team in a women's prison. This is a unique opportunity to support women in custody and prison staff through spiritual leadership, pastoral care and ministry. Alongside providing faith-based care to Roman Catholic prisoners and staff, you will work collaboratively with colleagues to meet the pastoral needs of people of all faiths and none. Through your ministry, you will help create an environment where women can rediscover dignity, purpose and hope. We are looking for someone who is empathetic, resilient and committed to serving others with respect and integrity. This role provides an opportunity to live out your vocation in a setting where your faith and pastoral gifts can have a profound and lasting impact. If you are interested in helping people build brighter futures, we would love to hear from you. This is a one day a week post (8hrs). Please contact Managing Chaplain Jo Hirst for further information 01625 553015 Joanna.hirst1@justice.gov.uk.

PARISH CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Place: **Shrewsbury Arms, Albrighton**

Time: **Sunday 13th December 2026 at 12 noon.**

The cost per person is **£25.95 for 2 courses / £30.95 for 3 courses.**

This year numbers are limited to 40 (20 for each Church) and will be on a " First Come " basis and furthermore a £10 non-refundable deposit is requested by the venue to be paid by 16th October please. There is a form and the menu details at the back of the Church for you to choose & register your interest. Please speak to Joe Mascarenhas, Shifnal & Tess Carr & Julie, Albrighton for further information.

Data Protection Privacy Notice The Parish of Saint Mary and Saint Joseph sometimes collects personal information about parishioners. All personal information is collected, processed and stored in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations. This is retained only as necessary and used by the Parish/Diocese for the benefit of the Parish and for legitimate reasons such as administrative and religious purposes. You can read our full privacy notice at www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/privacy-notice St Mary and St. Joseph is a parish of the RC Diocese of Shrewsbury, which is a Registered Charity No. 234025



**PARISH OF ST. MARY'S, SHIFNAL
& ST. JOSEPH'S, ALBRIGHTON**

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**20th SEPTEMBER 2026
25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Sun	20	25th Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.30am	Jason Jones RIP Samira Sakr RIP	Shifnal
			11.00am	Henryka Stachowska Ints	Albrighton
Mon	21	St Matthew, Ap, Ev			
Tue	22	Ferial	9.30am		Albrighton
Wed	23	St Pius of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio), P			
Thu	24	Our Lady of Walsingham	9.30am		Albrighton
Fri	25	Ferial	9.30am		Shifnal
Sat	26	Ferial	9.30am		Shifnal
Sun	27	26th Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.30am	Parishioners	Shifnal
			11.00am	Parishioners	Albrighton

Confession before Mass

COMMUNION ANTIPHON Jn 10:14

I am the Good Shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me.

BISHOP'S VISIT TO SHIFNAL & ALBRIGHTON

The Parish Family is honoured to welcome Most Reverend Bishop Mark Davies for an official pastoral visit on **11th October**. The Bishop will be the main celebrant on the day. Please join us in prayer for our parish and for the Bishop as we prepare for this joyful occasion.

HOME MISSION SUNDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 2026: This Sunday we ask our parishes to pray for the work of evangelisation and to support this vital work through a second collection. A few years ago. this day was re-named Evangelii Gaudium Sunday aner Pope Francis's Apostolic Exhortation the 'Joy of the Gospel'. Now, in 2026, we revert to using the original name— Home Mission Sunday. On this day, the bishops of England and Wales ask the faithful of our countries to look for ways in which we can all do our part in sharing the beauty and joy of knowing Jesus Christ. When we speak of 'Home Mission' we are not neglecting our sisters and brothers around the world (World Mission Sunday gives due attention to this important work), but we recognise that we are called to witness to Christ in our homes, at work, in our friendships and in every aspect of our daily life. Being part of the family of God means we should feel 'at home' but this also challenges us to be missionary disciples in England and Wales so that we can make a home for all who hunger and thirst for the God who loves them and wants them to come home to him.

FIRST READING Isaiah 55:6-9

Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. **The Word of the Lord.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 145(144):2-3. 8-9. 17-18. R 18a

The Lord is close to all who call him.

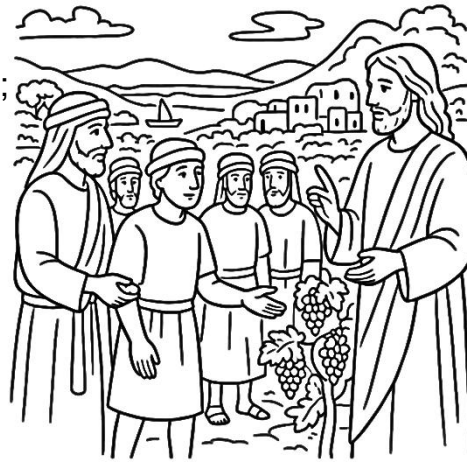
I will bless you day after day,
and praise your name for ever and ever.
The Lord is great and highly to be praised;
his greatness cannot be measured.

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in mercy.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures.

The Lord is just in all his ways,
and holy in all his deeds.
The Lord is close to all who call him,
who call on him in truth.

SECOND READING Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a

Brothers and Sisters: Christ will be honoured in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. Let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ. **The Word of the Lord.**



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Cf. Acts 16:14b

Alleluia, alleluia.

Open our hearts, O Lord,
that we may pay attention to the words of your Son.
Alleluia.

GOSPEL Matthew 20:1-16

At that time: Jesus told his disciples this parable, 'The kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market-place, and to them he said, "You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you." So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, "Why do you stand here idle all day?" They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You go into the vineyard too." 'And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his steward, "Call the labourers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first." And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?" So the last will be first, and the first last.' **The Gospel of the Lord.**