

Diocese of  
Shrewsbury  
*Ad Clerum*

2022/05 March





Dear Fathers and Deacons,

## PASTORAL LETTER AND THE RE-START OF LENT

My pastoral letter was sent to all the parishes yesterday 'On the Re-Start of Lent.' Lent always represents a re-start in our Christian lives. However, I was conscious writing this letter, that Lent and Easter 2022 will especially represent a time of re-starting in all our parishes and communities following the long restrictions of a pandemic. We also cannot forget the unfolding tragedy in the Ukraine at this time. I have sought in the letter to take up Pope Francis's call to draw upon the spiritual resources of Lent in our greater prayer, penance and generosity.

## GUIDANCE FOR LENT AND EASTER 2022

I received from the secretariat of the Bishops Conference this morning guidance for the celebration of Lent and Easter as we emerge from Covid restrictions. I attach the advice for your assistance from Ash Wednesday onwards. Much of the wise guidance provided will be familiar to us and you will be glad to see the possibility of the *Mandatum* restored on Holy Thursday and the full Vigil Liturgy of Holy Saturday. On Good Friday the veneration of the Cross is also restored, however, I suspect at least some of the faithful might still be nervous of kissing the Cross or even touching the Cross in succession. I would propose for your consideration that this year the priest might kiss the Cross in veneration and the faithful

be invited to come forward to genuflect or bow in devotion.

## CLERGY

### FATHER DAVID CRAIG RIP

The funeral for Father David Craig will be celebrated at Saint Anne's, Nantwich on Thursday and Friday:

**Thursday 3rd March**, Reception of the Body and Vigil Mass at St Anne's, Nantwich at 7.00pm.

**Friday 4th March**, Requiem Mass St Anne's, Nantwich at 11.00am followed by interment at Tasley Cemetery, Bridgnorth. Please bring an alb and purple stole if you wish to concelebrate.

Tea, coffee and biscuits will be available on arrival at St Anne's. Vesting will take place in the presbytery.

Please note there is limited parking at Saint Anne's Church. Council car parking is available near to the church at Love Lane Car Park, 15 Love Lane, Nantwich CW5 5BH at £1.20 for 2 hours. Parking at Morrisons supermarket incurs a penalty charge after 1 hour 30 minutes. There is also street parking near the church.

### FATHER PETER RYAN RIP

I was grateful to receive the sad news of the death of a missionary priest from our Shrewsbury Diocese, Father Peter Ryan, Mill Hill Missionary. May he rest in peace. I have



enclosed the obituary sent to me from Father Dermot F Byrne MHM.

## FATHER MARTIN ONUOHA

I am pleased that Father Martin Onuoha at Our Lady and the Apostles, Stockport has published two books on Mariology at the beginning of this year. "Mary Daughter of Zion" and "The Marian Mystery of the Church in the Theology of Joseph Ratzinger." These two books are published by Peter Lang and should be available from Amazon Books.

## SAINT JOSEPH'S MISSION

We have received from Father David Marsden details of two mission days on March 18th and 19th 2022 at Saint Joseph's Stockport. For further information, please visit [www.genesismission.co.uk](http://www.genesismission.co.uk)

## LORETO SPIRITUALITY CENTRE RETREATS

Loreto Spirituality Centre is based in Llandudno, North Wales, five minutes' walk from the west shore and at the base of the Great Orme. It is run by the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Loreto Sisters) whose Founder is Mary Ward. Mary Ward said: "I listened to God's deep dream for me and felt ready to respond". The Centre offers space for people to come away and rest awhile with God, by offering individually guided retreats, preached retreats, themed retreats and conferences. There is a well-equipped conference room which can be booked on a day or live in basis.

Groups who would like to 'come away and rest awhile' are welcome, whether for a retreat or a short break. Individuals are invited to come for a few days on a self-catering or B&B basis enabling them to spend time with us in a peaceful, quiet atmosphere. Groups can also book their own conferences on a full board basis.

For the programme of events please visit our website: [www.loretocentre.org.uk](http://www.loretocentre.org.uk)

## PACT MASS

02/22 Rev David Craig  
Died 11/02/22

(Shrewsbury)

## FINALLY ...

*It has been good to be with you again in so many of the parishes during these past weeks and to see the joy, not without some nervousness and caution, as we have returned to greater normality.*

*Let us be united in prayer as we begin the days of Lent and look forward to the Chrism Mass together and the celebration of Easter 2022.*

+ Mark

*Bishop of Shrewsbury*

Enc:

- *Guidance for Lent and Easter 2022*
- *Father Peter Ryan MHM*
- *St Joseph's Mission Flyer*