

# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2025

St. Anne's Catholic Church  
Lynton Avenue Weeping Cross Stafford, ST17 0EA. Telephone: 01785 661012 – Website [www.st-annes-st.org.uk](http://www.st-annes-st.org.uk)

St. Patrick's Catholic Church

48 Sandon Road, Stafford ST16 3HF. Telephone 01785 661012 - Website [www.stpatricksstafford.co.uk](http://www.stpatricksstafford.co.uk)

Email: [stannestpatrick.stafford@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:stannestpatrick.stafford@rcaob.org.uk)

Parish Administrator: Father Robert Devaney - Parish Secretary: Marie Badger

Deacon: Rev. Michael Horsnall

**The parishes are part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham. Registered Charity No.234216**

## Times of Holy Mass and Liturgies this week

### THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

#### ST. ANNE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Lynton Avenue, ST17 0EA  
Telephone: 01785 663128 Fax: 01785 662987  
Email: [office@st-annes-weepingcross.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-annes-weepingcross.staffs.sch.uk)  
Executive Head: Mrs K Bennett

#### ST. PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Marston Road, ST16 3BT  
Telephone: 01785 413275  
Email: [office@st-patricks-stafford.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-patricks-stafford.staffs.sch.uk)  
Principal: Mr. M. Brandon

Day	Date	Mass Time	Church	Liturgical Day	Mass Intention
Sat	22 <sup>nd</sup>	4:00pm 6:00 pm	St Patrick's St Anne's	Vigil Vigil	Patty&Tim Tiernan RIP Special Intention
Sun	23 <sup>rd</sup>	9:00am 10:00am	St Patrick's St Anne's	Third Sunday of Lent	People of the Parish John Ronan
Mon	24 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	St Anne's		Fr David Catterall.
Tue	25 <sup>th</sup>	NO MASS	St Patrick's	The Annunciation of The Lord	
Wed	26 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am	St Anne's	Communion Service	
Thu	27 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	St Patrick's	Lent Feria	Holy Souls
Fri	28 <sup>th</sup>	9.15 am 6:30pm	St Anne's St Anne's	Lent Feria Stations of the Cross	Thanksgiving (M Duke)
Sat	29 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am 4:00 pm 6:00 pm	St Anne's St Patrick's St Anne's	Exposition, Holy Hour & Confession Vigil Vigil	People of the Parish Private Intention
Sun	30 <sup>th</sup>	9:00am 10:00am	St Patrick's St Anne's	Fourth Sunday of Lent (Laetare)	Mgr. John Heslin RIP Michael Collins RIP

**Prayers for the sick:** St Patrick's: Susan Prince, Gregory McKinlay, Linda Reavy, Cecylia Kotara, Rebecca Kilkenny, Graham Burningham, Mary Kilkenny, Matty Fury, Mark Douglas. St Anne's: Patricia Walters, Thomas McCormick, Richard McMahon, Patsy Connelly Smith, Andrea Hulse, Winifred Meehan, Pat McDonnell, Georgina Copp, Marie Geal, Molly Hukin, Joan O'Dowd, Nick Harrison, Annette Plant, Neve Collins, Matthew Connelly Smith, Stan Curwen.

**Prayers for the departed loved ones whose anniversaries occur at this time:** [St. Patrick's] Michael Sheehan, Richard Lalor, Jerry Sutton, Patrick Ward, Antonia Orfila, William Kearns, Patrick Edensor, Bishop David McGough, James Wilkinson, Rudolph Valentini, John Jackson, Helena Gage, Reginald Concar, Harold Leslie Wilkes, Violet McCarthy, Joanne O'Brien, Mary McKiernan, Frederick Cull. [St Anne's] Peter Brown, John Moloney, John O'Loughlin, Bishop David McGough, Lucy Moran, Hilda Nicholson, Geoff Green, Michael Collins, Robert Hunt, Annie Shelly, Sarah McHugh, Betty Cunningham.

Income 16/03/25	Source	Gift Aid	Non-Gift Aid	Standing Order	Total	Attendance
St Anne's	Offertory	£161.00	£175.95	£408.25	£745.20	Sat 65 Sun 90
St Patrick's	Offertory	£84.40	£205.50	£152.16	£430.08	Sat 70 Sun 100

On the Archdiocese website there is a standing order and Gift Aid form for parishioners so they can transform the way they donate. Please direct any such enquiries to:

<https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/pages/FAQS?category/finance-resources>

**Parish Tote 150 Club** Thank you for your support. A lot of numbers are available at £4 per number per month. Further details from Marie (parish secretary) on 01785 661012.

**Gift Aid** If anyone wishes to make a commitment; whether weekly, fortnightly, monthly or annually, it would make such a difference. You remain in control for as long as you want. Switching your giving via Standing Order mandate would be a great help also.

Information cards [gift-aid it] can be found at the back of the churches for any parishioners who are not in the gift aid scheme. The cards explain how the system works (at no extra expense for the doner) and provide information as to how you can be part of the scheme. It is a simple, free and effective way to help our parishes increase our funds. Do consider this if you are not already gift-aiding. Many Thanks

**SECOND COLLECTION** Last weekend's collection for CAFOD Family Fast Day

St Anne's £454.37. St Patrick's £252.72 Thank You.

**Future Second Collections:** Good Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April: For the Holy Places in the Holy Land

**The Drop-in Group** Do Come and join us on Wednesdays in the Meeting Room after the St Anne's 10 am Communion Service. All Welcome.

Wool donations – If anyone has any spare wool it can be left in St Anne's Church porch. It will be used for knitting hats and scarves for the homeless. Thank you.

**Refreshments after Mass:** Join us after the 10:00am Sunday Morning Mass for tea and coffee in St Anne's Hall. Many thanks to those who prepare this valuable facility. More volunteers always welcome.

#### St Anne's Choir

The Choir will be meeting this coming Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March at 7.00 pm in church. We hope to have a run through of hymns for the weeks up to Holy Week and also Easter. It would be great if we could have some more voices to join us for this special time. You will be very welcome.

At present we have no formal choir and lack a choir leader and an organist. Music plays an important part in our liturgy and enhances our worship. If you would be able to help with the music in any way please would you contact Fr Bob. [The choir meets in church at 7pm (Tue) on particular dates so keep an eye out for the next one. If anyone would like to pop in we will be going through the hymns for the next few weeks].

**Parish Library St Anne's** The parish library is in the parish meeting room. You may borrow any of the bibles, books, or CTS booklets.

**Bible Alive.** The Lent editions have arrived and are in St Anne's Church porch for those who have ordered them. The cost is £2.97 per quarter. Money can be put in the envelopes marked Bible Alive in St Anne's Church porch. Thank You.

**St Anne's and St Patrick's:** In both parishes, CHILDREN'S LITURGY runs every Sunday. This is due to our volunteers/leaders who generously assist our youngsters in their understanding. Please do come forward to help if you would like to become involved. All necessary safeguarding procedures are taken care of. Many thanks. [Those interested in helping please see Fr. Bob]

**+BIBLE STUDY:** St Anne's Bible Study Group will meet on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 10-11 am in the hall parish room. We meet fortnightly to look at the bible readings for the coming Sunday. We dig into the background of the readings and draw out their relevance for today. It's a good way to deepen your interest in scripture and join in what can be wide ranging chats about faith. All are welcome, just turn up on the day.

\* **SAFEGUARDING** The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies & procedures at all times. Our St Anne's Parish Safeguarding Representative is Ann Kelly and can be contacted at [sg.stanne.stafford@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.stanne.stafford@rcaob.org.uk). Our St Patrick's Safeguarding Representative is Geraldine Thickett and can be contacted at [sg.stpatrick.stafford@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.stpatrick.stafford@rcaob.org.uk) or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) if you have any concern.

**St Anne's Reading Rota** If anyone is interested in reading at Mass there is a list in the church porch for you to add your name. Full training will be given.

**Exposition and Holy Hour:** There is Exposition and Holy Hour, including opportunity for the sacrament of reconciliation, at St Anne's: From 10:00am until 11:00am. This is offered every Saturday, except the third Saturday of the month, upon which the Mass of Our Lady of Walsingham will be celebrated.

**St Patrick's Eucharistic Minister Rota:** St. Patrick's Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: this covers both Saturday Evening and Sunday Morning. If you are an extraordinary minister and would like to be included in the rota, please contact Angela Russell (07765560153) or Fr Bob; please confirm which weekend mass you would be able to assist at. Also, if you are not yet a Eucharistic minister and may have thought of becoming one, please do give it thought and have a word with Fr. Bob. Full training would be given. [The new rota for 2024 is now complete]

**LIVING SIMPLY:** Parishioners are invited to purchase Fair traded goods and to buy world gifts from CAFOD <https://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk>

We are developing a wildflower meadow at the side of St Anne's Church to help support biodiversity. We are inviting parishioners to donate wildflower seeds, plants or peat free compost. If you would like to look at the v area, Liz and Ann will be available to show you the area on Sunday after Mass.+

**CHRISTIAN FOOD HELP:** Due to the ever increasing problem of food poverty, nationally and locally within many families, there is a continual need for donations. At the back of each church we have clearly marked boxes for your donations of food items. Please deposit them there so that they can be taken regularly to St Austin's, where the CFH team can arrange for their distribution. Many Thanks

**New to the Parish?** If you are new to either of the parishes of St Anne or St Patrick you are very welcome. Please let Fr Bob know (on 01785 661012 OR [stannestpatrick.stafford@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:stannestpatrick.stafford@rcaob.org.uk)) There are numerous aspects of our parish life that might be of interest to you. We hope that you will feel 'at home' within our parish community.

#### **YOUTH CONNECT**

A regular youth activity is held at St Anne's; Mondays [6:00PM TO 7:30PM] (for school years 5 – 9)  
**FREE PIZZA, SPORTS AND GAMES, FRIENDSHIP, BELONG, PRAYER, WORSHIP.** So if anyone would like to become involved in any way or wishes to join our Youth Ministry Team please contact Fr. Bob on 01785 661012  
[PLEASE SEE POSTER IN THE CHURCH PORCH] *[Please note that letters to parents, together with consent forms are in the parish office – just contact Fr. Bob or the secretary Marie in order to take one]*  
\* (The activity is now open to those from Year 5 to Year 9)  
[Because of the road closure of Radford Bank after 8pm for the coming weeks, the group's times will be: 6pm till 7:30pm.]

#### **ST ANNE'S PLAYGROUP**

Our playgroup is now up and running in St Anne's Church Hall every Friday morning (school terms) 9:15 am -11:00am, [for ages 0 - 5 years old].  
It is a chance to connect with other parents and bring your little one for nursery rhymes, sensory play,

- The Archdiocese is recruiting for the following four positions, which will all be closing for applications shortly: Operations Director, IT Manager, Finance Manager and Gift Aid Officer. Full details and closing dates can be found at [www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/jobs](http://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/jobs). If you think you have the skills, please do apply.



Please note this message from Fr. Philip Newbold. (many of you will remember Fr Philip from his Hednesford days, as well as his supply work in Catholic Stafford)

"I am undertaking a Sponsored Walk of 10,000 paces for the 40 days of Lent. It is to support the work of "Aid to the Church in Need" & a project on the border area between Lebanon/Syria. The project provides a hot meal each weekday for 1500 people. Many are refugees from Syria & displaced Lebanese, after their own country was bombed.

You may like to sponsor me? If so, there are sponsor sheets at the back of church, so include your address & postcode if you wish to Gift Aid your donation. You may prefer to donate online at

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/fr-philip-newbold-2>

Monies will be collected AFTER Easter. Thank you for your prayerful & financial offerings" Fr. Philip .

#### **SAINT AUSTIN'S LENT LUNCHEES (Every Friday in the Meeting Room, following the 12 Noon Mass)**

We raise money for our ongoing support of community outreach projects that were initiated by the Loreto Day School in Sealdah, Kolkata. They focus in different ways on the care of children, as well as helping marginalised communities in West Bengal. Many thanks, Maggie Brocklebank

**His Grace's Milestone:** A splendid special birthday card, for His Grace Archbishop Bernard Longley, has been produced by a young parishioner of St Anne's, Katie Harland. The card will be made available in the porch at the weekend's Masses so that parishioners may have the chance to sign it before it is sent off around 30<sup>th</sup> March. Thank you and well done Katie .

**CELEBRATION OF St Patrick's Day:** A big thank you to all those in our parish who helped make possible our celebration of St Patrick's Day last Monday. It was enjoyed by the capacity number of guests who were entertained wonderfully through the afternoon. Not forgetting thanks to John for producing so many portions of fish&chips and the pupils of St Anne's for their singing. Happy Days!