

CHRIST HAS RISEN

Weekly Newsletter

Sunday 1st May 2022

St. Anne's Catholic Church

Lynton Avenue Weeping Cross Stafford, ST17 0EA. Telephone: 01785 661012 – Website 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

Email: 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

ST. ANNE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL Lynton Avenue, ST17 0EA Telephone: 01785 663128 Fax: 01785 662987 Email: office@st-annes-weepingcross.staffs.sch.uk Principal: Mr. M. Killeen	ST. PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL Marston Road, ST16 3BT Telephone: 01785 413275 Email: office@st-patricks-stafford.staffs.sch.uk Principal: Mr. M. Brandon
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TIMES OF HOLY MASS AND LITURGIES THIS WEEK

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Day	Date	Mass Time	Church	Liturgical Day	Mass Intention
Sat	30 th	4:00pm	St Patrick's	Vigil	Keith Price RIP & Marriamma & Alex RIP
		6:00pm	St Anne's	Vigil	People of the Parish
Sun	1 st	9:00am	St Patrick's	Third Sunday of Easter	Michael Burns RIP
		10:00am	St Anne's		Sheila Hird RIP
Mon	2 nd	9:30am	St Anne's	St Athanasius	Memorial Mr&Mrs Connelly
Tue	3 rd	9:30am	St Patrick's	Ss Philip & James	Feast 'Patty' Tiernan RIP
Wed	4 th	10:00am	St Anne's	Communion Service	English Martyrs Feast
Thu	5 th	No Mass	St Patrick's		Easter Feria
Fri	6 th	10:00am	St Anne's	Communion Service	Easter Feria
Sat	7 th	4:00pm	St Patrick's	Vigil	Tony Norton RIP
		6:00pm	St Anne's	Vigil	Patrick Bayliffe RIP
Sun	8 th	9:00am	St Patrick's	Fourth Sunday of Easter	People of the Parish
		10:00am	St Anne's		Gordon Lee RIP

Prayers for the sick: St Patrick's: Phylis Bowers, Susan Prince, Tim Tiernan, Gregory McKinlay, Linda Reavy, Martha Porter, Cecylia Kotara, Rebecca Kilkenny, Jacqueline Simpson, Graham Burningham. **St Anne's:** Patricia Walters, Thomas McCormick, Mary Terry, Bernard Lundberg, Walter Rogers, Richard McMahon, Patsy Connelly Smith, Colin Wise, Hal Lindop, Andrea Hulse, Winifred Meehan, Ian Burnside, Pat McDonnell, Georgina Copp.

Prayers for the departed loved ones whose anniversaries occur at this time: [St. Patrick's] John Pettit, Mary Hardy, Patrick Lee, Bridget Duffy, Harry Rothwell, Patrick Scanlon, Isabella Palmer, Mary Matthew, Dorothy O'Shea, Ian Milward, Lawrence Dillon and Martin Murphy. **[St Anne's]** Ada George, Beryl Scott, Roy Burton, Jean Higgins, Mary Murphy, Madeline Sweet, Gordon Truckel, Mary Wharton, Edith Hird, Margaret Kiberd, Thomas Callaghan, Monica Scriven and Noel O'Sullivan.

Income 24/4/22	Source	Gift Aid	Non-Gift Aid	Standing Order	Total	Attendance
St Anne's	Offertory	£137.50	£83.02	£391.45	£611.97	Sat 57 Sun 78
St Patrick's	Offertory	£96.30	£198.00	£149.69	£443.99	Sat 43 Sun 70

On the Archdiocese website there is a standing order and Gift Aid form for parishioners so they can continue to give at this time. Please direct any such enquiries

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

***This email is from the archdiocese:** Just to let you know, there is a donate **BUTTON (TOP RIGHT)** on the home page of the diocesan website – www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk

The Second Collection next weekend 7th/8th May is for the Clergy Training Fund.

Parish Tote 150 Club Winners of Draw on 26th April 2022

£100 R Fletcher – 88, £50 D Cycles - 116, £20 C Price - 24, £10 G Ogram - 110, £10 N Shammas - 134, £10 M Ross - 146, £10 P O'Neill - 78, £10 M Owen - 122, £10 P Harland - 96, £10 M Hughes - 30, £10 R O'Toole - 81, £10 J Corr - 77, £10 R Ayirebi - 4.

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. Those who use gift aid envelopes will find new ones for this financial year, labelled and numbered at the back of each church. Switching your giving via Standing Order mandate would be a great help also. Some parishioners might like to know that the parish office (St Anne's) can always be used as a 'drop-off' for envelopes. There are large collection bins placed on entry and exit* Expenses (maintenance, consumables, utilities and fabric upkeep, not to mention health and safety) are ongoing. Very many thanks

St Anne's and St Patrick's Church maintenance: Much appreciation to those who have already given so generously. Upcoming tasks include remedial H&S work required for making St Patrick's old boiler house safe. **Important remedial work is also needed on St Patrick's upper front roof.** My grateful thanks for any donations.
Fr. Bob

Drop in at St Anne's on Wednesday mornings: All are welcome (from around 10:25am) in St Anne's Church Hall.

*** Quiz – Quiz Master Thomas Kelly. Saturday 21st May at 7.30 pm in St Anne's Church Hall.**

Teams of 4 or come on the night and make up a team. £5 per person, bring your own food and drink.

The "Bishops' Statement: Honouring Sunday" is published. Given that there remains a degree of caution within society, our bishops are nevertheless fundamentally asking us to consider the central importance of the meaning of Mass and the central place that Sunday -- the Eighth Day / Resurrection Day has in our Catholic Faith. So, although the obligation to attend Sunday Mass may not yet have been re-imposed, we are asked seriously about our priorities for Sunday, this special and unique day for us. Giving serious consideration as to where we place Mass attendance in the hierarchy of other Sunday activities, whether sporting, leisure, entertainment, shopping and so on should impact on the coming synodal experience and our Diocesan Vision: "Behold I am making all things new."

Refreshments after Mass: All are welcome to join us in the Hall for tea and coffee after the 10am Mass at St Anne's. Many thanks to those who have offered their help.

St Anne's Choir: Do you like to sing? We would love you to come and see if it would interest you to be "one in the Spirit" here @ St Anne's. Our very small choir could do with a "little support" to be "one in the Lord". Male and female voices provide such harmony. Do come along to our meeting in church 7pm Tuesday. Even if you can just come now and then for the pleasure of singing you will be most welcome.

St Patrick's Music: May I ask for volunteers who attend regular Mass at St Patrick's (Sat or Sun) to operate our phone/Bluetooth system so that our parish may once more sing hymns at Mass. It would be great to have a team taking care of this. I thank those who have volunteered already, so if others could come forward and begin to form a rota it would be great. I will explain it all. Just phone/email Fr. Bob. With gratitude.

Mgr. Heslin's Memorial Mass: A heart felt thank you to all those who attended Fr John's memorial Mass on Friday and to those who helped with the preparation and refreshments. It was such a welcome and worthy occasion since many could not have attended his requiem in February. We thank, also, His Grace, Archbishop Bernard who was the main celebrant and Bishop Stephen, who spoke so well of Mgr. John in his eulogy. I am sure Fr John would have felt particularly Blessed.

St Patrick's Choir: Now we have more or less reached that stage in our return to normality, where musical accompaniment and hymn singing can 'flow' with gusto, our parish needs the choir to 'regroup'. Volunteers please (male, female, young, senior). Just add your name to the sheet at the back of church and let me know. Many thanks
Fr. Bob

BIBLE STUDY: Our parish Bible Study is now running on a regular **fortnightly** programme. The next meeting is on **Tuesday 10th May in St Anne's parish hall meeting room from 10 am – 11 am.** Welcome to those wishing to join us.

Receiving Holy Communion: Recently occasions have been noted when one or two, who have come to receive the Host, have walked away with it in their hand. Please could we all understand that when the Lord is received in Mass the Host must be consumed as soon as it is placed in the hand. Thank you.

Ukrainian Refugees: We have received an email from the diocese related precisely to this urgent issue and you will find all useful details on our diocesan website. Please see just how offers of help will be co-ordinated through **Caritas** and **Father Hudson's Care**. Our Catholic parishes will be in regular communication with the diocese in regard to this matter.

***Stafford Walsingham Association**

For many years the Stafford Walsingham Association arranged a yearly pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham. We are hoping to revive this in 2022 and invite anyone in our three parishes to become a member. Every third Saturday, a Votive Mass of Our Lady of Walsingham will be held. We hope to begin this from May. During the Mass, we shall offer the Litany of OLW, praying that Our Lady will, as the prayer says, '*look down in mercy upon England thy Dowry and upon us all who greatly hope and trust in thee.*' As membership of the Association is open to anyone within our three parishes, the Mass will alternate between the three churches. If you would like to be a member of the Walsingham Association, please fill in one of the forms at the back of church and return it to the Presbytery.

Pilgrimage to Walsingham: The Annual Diocesan Day Pilgrimage is taking place on Saturday 14th May. St Joseph's in Rugeley have asked if any parishioners from the local churches would be interested in joining them on a coach leaving Rugeley at 7.00am that day. Cost per person is £30.00. It seems a sensible idea to join with other parishes to fill a coach, rather than smaller groups making their own way. Anyone wishing to book a space on the coach needs to contact Caroline Richards on 07817 362601.

Hednesford Diocesan Pilgrimage is taking place on Sunday 3rd July. Any singers who would like to join the choir for the Mass are asked to contact Anne Tibke at tibkes@talk21.com or by phoning 07850 459563. Rehearsals will be held in Hednesford at 7.30pm on May 10th and 24th, June 14th and 28th. Further details of the pilgrimage will be advertised soon.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES Please be aware that the new financial year is imminent. New boxes of envelopes used by parishioners who gift aid their donations can be found in the porches of both St Anne's and St Patrick's. They are already named and ready for collection. If any parishioner would prefer to donate through STANDING ORDER please let Fr Bob or Marie (in the office) know so that the relevant form may be completed. Many thanks to all of you who support our parishes so generously; the material upkeep of the churches is ever increasing. Thanks to Mark and Margaret for their efforts in administering the Gift Aid facility

LIVE SIMPLY

"The 3 parishes Live Simply met last Wednesday and it was a great meeting. We are meeting again on Wednesday **25th May at 7.30 pm in St Anne's hall**. Our **Live Simply** award needs to involve as many people in the community as possible. From the youngest to the oldest, each person's different strengths and interests contribute to making it a success. So do try and come to the meeting. We discussed living in solidarity with the poor and this beautiful Easter prayer is very apt.

*Risen Lord,
shed your light on those who live in the shadow of death
and warm the hearts of those who have lost hope,
that they who daily bear the cross of hunger
may find your Promised Land,
and move from slavery to freedom.
As we proclaim your Easter song
help us to die to greed and rise to justice,
to abandon apathy and take up action,
that rich and poor together may travel the road to freedom,
and be restored to your resurrection life."*

*** Committees/groups Returning**

We are now at that stage where "touching base" with our parish committees and groups will be essential. I would hope that all of us would wish to see both parishes operating as we were in the early months of 2020 when Finance committees and Social committees and Health and Safety committees met periodically. These existed to enable each parish to function more completely and to keep parishioners informed of various requirements and opportunities for involvement in broader parish 'life'. Some may feel that a new 'model' is needed in order for parishes to continue maintaining themselves and evangelising. I would welcome ideas and particular insights/ vision as to how the parishes of St Patrick's and St Anne's might go forward. According to Canon Law, the bare minimum is for us to have Finance Committees. So, I shall email members of both St Anne's and St Patrick's FC's in order for us to home in on a date for meeting. As mentioned, if anyone has ideas for re-establishing some form of social/fund-raising group etc please let me know. We hope to hold a Quiz Night at St Anne's in due course.

PS: It would help greatly if St Patrick's re-established our regular counting teams. These used to carry out this important contribution following the Sunday Mass. If any parishioners could offer their time by becoming one of a counting team it would be much appreciated. As part of a team the counting task would not take long.

Also, if 'Refreshment' teams would like to be formed then let me know or sign up at the back of church. This would enable an important social facility following our Sunday Masses. Do give it some thought.

Many thanks Fr. Bob