

Weekly Newsletter



Sunday 3rd December 2023

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

Times of Holy Mass and Liturgies this week

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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ST. ANNE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL				ST. PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL			
Lynton Avenue, ST17 0EA Telephone: 01785 663128 Fax: 01785 662987 Email: office@st-annes-weepingcross.staffs.sch.uk Executive Head: Mrs K Bennett				Marston Road, ST16 3BT Telephone: 01785 413275 Email: office@st-patricks-stafford.staffs.sch.uk Principal: Mr. M. Brandon			
Day	Date	Mass Time	Church	Liturgical Day		Mass Intention	
Sat	2 nd	4:00pm 6:00pm	St Patrick's St Anne's	Vigil Vigil		Alan Begley RIP Peace in the Middle East	
Sun	3 rd	9:00am 10:00am	St Patrick's St Anne's	First Sunday of Advent		TonyRuttledgeRIP Ann People of the Parish	
Mon	4 th	9:30am	St Anne's	Advent Feria		Geoff Owen RIP (Birthday)	
Tue	5 th	9.30am	St Patrick's	St Birinus		Feast Fr Sean Turley RIP	
Wed	6 th	10:00am	St Anne's	Communion Service	St Nicholas	Memoria	
Thu	7 th	9.30 am	St Patrick's	St Ambrose		Memoria Kathleen McCann RIP	
Fri	8 th	9:15am 7:00pm	St Anne's St Anne's	Immaculate Conception of the BVM Solemnity <u>Penitential Service & Individual confession</u>		People of the Parish	
Sat	9 th	10.00am 4:00pm 6:00pm	St Anne's St Patrick's St Anne's	Exposition, Holy Hour & Confession Vigil Vigil		Special Intention Mrs Eileen Ahearn	
Sun	10 th	9:00am 10:00am	St Patrick's St Anne's	Second Sunday of Advent		Deceased members of the Walsh Family Lawrence McKie RIP	
Prayers for the sick: St Patrick's: Susan Prince, Gregory McKinlay, Linda Reavy, Cecylia Kotara, Rebecca Kilkenny, Graham Burningham. St Anne's: Patricia Walters, Thomas McCormick, Walter Rogers, Richard McMahon, Patsy Connelly Smith, Andrea Hulse, Winifred Meehan, Pat McDonnell, Georgina Copp, Marie Geal, Molly Hukin, Joan Collins, Imelda Moore, Pam Knowles.							
Prayers for the departed loved ones whose anniversaries occur at this time: [St. Patrick's] Ann Batkin, Anne Boyd, John Pinder, Joanna Curry, James McConnell, Frederick Eley, Betty Allman, Frances Pinnington, Jane McDonald, Brian Begley, Tony Ruttledge, Elizabeth Bance, Michael Collins, Ronald Betteridge, Frederick Cartwright, Wasył Bojczuk, Maurice McCarthy, Gertrude Garibaldi, Honora Passey, Anthony Josephs. [St Anne's] Anne McPaul, Sebastian Paulose, George Neilson, Linda Pooler, Monica Thomas, Marie Usher, Kathleen Bullock, Violet Donohoe, Edward Smith, Samuel Stott, Cathie Miles, Stephen Wright.							
Income 26/11/23	Source	Gift Aid	Non-Gift Aid	Standing Order	Total	Attendance	
St Anne's	Offertory	£56.00	£170.77	£408.25	£635.02	Sat 55	Sun 81
St Patrick's	Offertory	£76.30	£123.27	£152.16	£351.73	Sat 64	Sun 91

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: [Donate | Birmingham Diocesan Trust](https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk) (birminghamdiocese.org.uk) / <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/support-our-work>

Parish Tote 150 Club November Draw Winners

£100 J Stamyard - 64, £50 P Gormley - 102, £20 M Simpson - 36, £10 C Porter - 98, £10 W Meehan – 54, £10 J Walsh - 20, £10 R Ayirebi - 4, £10 A Cheetham - 32, £10 M Owen - 76, £10 E Turner - 137, £10 A Whyte - 163, £10 K Tivenan - 150.

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. Very Many Thanks.

Last Weekend's Collection for Catholic Youth Service St Anne's £394.62 St Patrick's £145.88
Thank You.

Future Second Collections: Next Weekend 9th /10th December Poor Parishes of the Diocese

Our Deceased: Please pray for the souls of **Carmel Dickens** of Catholic Stafford, **Joy Morrice**, formerly of St Austin's and **Fr. Sean Turley**, a priest of the archdiocese, who have died recently. We remember their families at this time. May **Carmel, Joy and Sean** rest in peace and rise in glory.

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.

Bible Alive

If you would like to subscribe to Bible Alive, please put your name on the list in St Anne's Church porch. The cost will be £2.97 per quarter. The money can be put in the envelopes marked Bible Alive and pushed through the presbytery letter box.

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: Do 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 would be most welcome.**

* **CATHOLIC STAFFORD PENITENTIAL SERVICE:** *On this Friday, 8th December, there will be a penitential service in St Anne's at 7pm. Beginning with a short introductory service, there will follow an opportunity for individual confession during which the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed. Benediction will conclude our service. A number of priests will be in attendance. [This period of reflection and penance should comfort us on our Advent journey, in preparation for welcoming the Lord Jesus at His Nativity].*

***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. Our St Patrick's Safeguarding Representative is Geraldine Thickett and can be contacted at sg.stpatrick.stafford@rcaob.org.uk or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concern.

St Anne's: CHILDREN'S LITURGY has restarted, and it will now be held on every Sunday. This is due to the number of kind parishioners who have volunteered to help put on this much appreciated facility. It means we can form teams and a rota. Please do come forward to help if you would like to become involved. Ann Kelly is kindly looking after the necessary safeguarding procedures. Many thanks.

St Patrick's: (SUNDAY CHILDREN'S LITURGY) The Children's Liturgy Group is running and much appreciated. Open to children of primary school age and under. If you think you can help come along to a session and see what we do [Those interested in helping please see Fr. Bob]

+BIBLE STUDY: St Anne's parish Bible Study usually meets on a regular fortnightly programme, in St Anne's parish hall meeting room from 10 am – 11 am. The next meeting will be on Tuesday 12th December. Through Advent the bible study will focus on prayer. There will be opportunity to engage in prayerful reflection on the weeks readings and to come together in praying the rosary. Pope Francis has declared this coming year to be a Year of Prayer and so all are very welcome to join in!!

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.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES The Gift Aid Envelopes [for this tax year] are ready for your collection at the back of church. If any parishioner has transferred to donating through STANDING ORDER then still please collect your envelope, because it can be used for second collections. If anyone would like to Gift Aid their offering 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.

St Patrick's Eucharistic Minister Rota: St. Patrick's Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: we have re-established the rota, for 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. Thank you.

LIVING SIMPLY (Update):

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 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

Our local co-ordinators, Adam and Clare (St Austin's), send their thanks.

Take a look at our latest graph showing the numbers of meals provided (at the back of church)

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) 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.

The Bible Timeline® study program takes us on a guided journey through salvation history. Presenter Jeff Cavins will show you how fourteen of the Bible's narrative books tell the biblical story from beginning to end and will give you the keys to understanding the amazing story woven throughout Scripture. (Please bring a Catholic Bible and the Catechism of the Catholic Church) [The Bible Timeline program takes place on Mondays in St Austin's Meeting Room at 7pm. All welcome].

Parish Library St Anne's

Thank you to everyone who has donated bibles and books (and a bookcase).

The parish library is in the parish meeting room. You may borrow any of the bibles, books, or CTS booklets.

GRAND DRAW

The Grand Draw tickets are available at £1 per book. Please return completed stubs and money to the presbytery by this Friday 8th December. Also thank you all for your donations of prizes for the Grand Draw. Please could they be delivered to the presbytery by this Friday 8th December. The Draw will take place on the morning of next Saturday 9th December and announced at the Pre-Christmas Celebration in the Church Hall after the 6pm Mass on 9th December.

CAN YOU HELP?

We will be putting out tables and chairs and organising the donations for the Grand Draw on Friday 8th December, St Anne's Church Hall from 6 pm. Thank you for your support.

"CAFOD Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal

Donate to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal at cafod.org.uk/ipc or call 0303 303 3030 to support those affected and get funds to local trusted experts in Gaza and southern Israel who have been working alongside communities helping those most in need. Your donation will help support aid workers providing urgent humanitarian aid including food, water and emergency shelter to those in need. Thank's for your prayers."

ADVENT / CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE (From the First Sunday in Advent)

St Anne's & St Patrick's

We are inviting parishioners to bring in gifts around the tree for two charities: 'The Women's Refuge' and 'House of Bread'

The Refuge would be grateful for donations such as: Washing powder, cleaning materials and Tesco and Asda supermarket vouchers to buy food.

House of Bread would welcome donations of Ladies underwear, men's pants, men's and women's socks, men's and women's deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, razor blades, shaving cream and flannels.

They have plenty of towels but anything that people give would be greatly appreciated.

Please note: Since two charities are involved in the Giving Tree, could you please indicate **CLEARLY** on you gift which charity it is destined for.

The gifts will be delivered mid-January so don't need to be wrapped for Christmas but maybe in gift bags instead. Many Thanks.

This year's Crib Donations will be destined for Friends of the Holy Land.

<u>Catholic Stafford:</u>	<u>VENUES AND MASS TIMES OVER THE CHRISTMAS PERIOD</u>		
	St Anne's	St Patrick's	St Austin's
CHRISTMAS EVE (Sunday 24 th)	7pm	6pm	9pm
CHRISTMAS DAY (Monday 25 th)	10am	9am	11am

Please note that the weekend of 23rd/24th December is the Fourth in Advent and so the Masses for Saturday and Sunday will be at the usual times within the three parishes.

Don't forget to take a "walk with church)

me" booklet (at the back of



Advent