

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Sunday 5 January 2025

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

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

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	4 th	4:00 pm	St Patrick's	Vigil	Ned & Thelma Taylor RIP	
		6:00 pm	St Anne's	Vigil	People of the Parish	
Sun	5 th	9:00am	St Patrick's	The Epiphany Of The Lord	The Onuoha Family	
		10:00am	St Anne's		Steven Knowles RIP	
Mon	6 th	9:30 am	St Anne's	Christmas Feria	Silvio, Debbie & Family	
Tue	7 th	9.30 am	St Patrick's	Christmas Feria	Fr Christopher Greaney RIP	
		6:00pm	St Anne's	Reception of the Body of Bernard Fulton		
Wed	8 th	11.00 am	St Anne's	Funeral Mass for Bernard Fulton		
Thu	9 th	9:30am	St Patrick's	Christmas Feria	Holy Souls	
Fri	10 th	9:15 am	St Anne's School	MASS IS IN SCHOOL	Christmas Feria Fr Michael Ho-Huu-Nghia 40 th anniversary of Ordination	
Sat	11 th	10:00am	St Anne's	Exposition, Adoration & Confession		
		4:00 pm	St Patrick's	Vigil	Allan Clews RIP George & Emma Wood & all the Wood family	
		6:00 pm	St Anne's	Vigil		
Sun	12 th	9:00am	St Patrick's	The Baptism of The Lord	People of the Parish Patrick & Paul Toner RIP & The Murphy Family	
		10:00am	St Anne's			
<p>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.</p>						
<p>Prayers for the departed loved ones whose anniversaries occur at this time: [St. Patrick's] Rose Tyler, Alice Cull, Francis Fox, George Goulding, Frederick Millward, Edmund Taylor, Harriet Simms, Zenon Zawadka, Brenda Road, Rose Wright, Bernard Hussey, John Perkins, Cyril Adams, Ada Beeston, Ann Burghall, Christopher Dibb, Bernard Massey, Lilian Moore, Joseph Maguire, Joseph Meehan, Bernard Ryan. [St Anne's] Steven Knowles, Patrick Gilhooly, Elizabeth Gon zalez, John Murphy, Roy Roderick, Marie Rusinowski, William Conlin, Bernard Massey.</p>						
Income 29/12/24	Source	Gift Aid	Non-Gift Aid	Standing Order	Total	Attendance
St Anne's	Offertory	£82.00	£146.45	£408.25	£636.70	Sat 49 Sun 81
St Patrick's	Offertory	£39.30	£112.95	£152.16	£304.41	Sat 36 Sun 58

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

Thank you for your support. A lot of numbers are still available at £4 per number per month. Further details from Marie (parish secretary) on 01785 661012. Those who pay yearly, payments are due in January.

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

Our Deceased: Please pray for the soul of **Bernard Fulton** of **St Anne's**, who died recently. We remember his family at this time. *May Bernard rest in peace and rise in glory.* [Bernard's Reception and funeral Mass are included on the front page].

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: 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 always welcome.**

St Anne's Choir

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*].

Choir will meet on **this Tuesday 7th January 7pm in church**. Anyone who would like to join us for a sing will be very welcome. We are quite small in numbers now.

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 January 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 is up and running 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 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 in January. Pope Francis has declared this coming year to be a Year of Prayer and so all are very welcome to join in!!**

*** 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.

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 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) 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 [6:30PM TO 8:30PM] (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]*

* (From Monday 6th January the activity will be open to those from Year 5 to Year 9

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 in January.

ST ANNE'S PLAYGROUP

We are planning to hold a playgroup in St Anne's Church Hall every Friday morning (school terms) 9:15 am -11:00am. It will be 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, books and more. £1 per child, snack included and tea or coffee for carers.

The group will start on Friday 10th January 2025 and we would love to have volunteers to support us (where the usual application procedures apply). This is a Catholic Stafford initiative so it's for all parishes. Please contact: stannestpatrick.stafford@rcaob.org.uk 01785661012 OR Letalya 07848893395

The New Directories are available in the church porch priced at £3 each.

St Patrick's Christmas Flowers. Thank you to everyone who donated money and poinsettias to St Patrick's for the Christmas flowers. All gratefully received.

St Anne's & St Patrick's: The destination, for our Advent/Christmas Tree Gifts, as last year, include the 'House of Bread' and 'Womens' Refuge'; Crib donations are for Friends of the Holy Land.

House of Bread would be very grateful for socks, pants, sanitary products, shampoo and conditioner, shaving cream and razors, toothpaste, toothbrushes and soap.

The Women's Refuge would be very grateful for baby wipes, laundry detergent, toilet rolls, cleaning products, boxed tissues, long life milk, coffee, sugar, juice, ketchup, mayonnaise, crisps, ladies pants sizes 8 and 10.

NB: In order that we know the destination of the donated presents, please could you label them either: HOUSE OF BREAD or WOMEN'S REFUGE. (It's not too late to do this retrospectively if you haven't already. Apologies for not emphasising this at the start. Many Thanks Fr. Bob

****In this Jubilee Year we invite you to join a special event – the***

AWAKENING CATHOLIC EVANGELISATION AND HEALING CONVENTION.

This is on Saturday 25th January 2025 in West Bromwich. This full day convention will be a time of spiritual renewal and healing, featuring Holy Mass celebrated by Bishop David Waller, as well as:

Inspiring talks

Holy Adoration

Healing Services

Confession

One-to-One Prayer opportunities.

For those interested, you can drive to the venue. However, if there is enough interest, we are hoping to arrange a coach from the Stafford and Stone area to make it easier for everyone to attend. More details are available in the leaflet which will be handed out after Mass. We encourage you to come and be part of this special day of grace and healing.



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