

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2022**

## Weekly Newsletter

### **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**

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

#### **The Sixth Sunday of the Year**

Day	Date	Mass Time	Church	Liturgical Day	Mass Intention
Sat	12 <sup>th</sup>	4:00pm	St Patrick's	Vigil	People of the Parish Janet Kendrick (Thanksgiving)
		6:00pm	St Anne's	Vigil	
Sun	13 <sup>th</sup>	9:00am	St Patrick's	<b>The Sixth Sunday of the Year</b>	Thomas Flood RIP Personal Intention
		10:00am	St Anne's		
Mon	14 <sup>th</sup>	9:30am	St Anne's	Ss Cyril & Methodius	Feast Rosalind Wilson (Thanksgiving)
Tue	15 <sup>th</sup>	<b>NO MASS</b>	St Patrick's		Feria
Wed	16 <sup>th</sup>	10:00am	St Anne's	Communion Service	Feria
Thu	17 <sup>th</sup>	9:15am	St Patrick's		Feria Seamus Lavelle
Fri	18 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am	St Anne's		Feria In Thanksgiving
Sat	19 <sup>th</sup>	4.00 pm	St Patrick's	Vigil	Mgr. John Heslin RIP Michael Broderick RIP
		6.00 pm	St Anne's	Vigil	
Sun	20 <sup>th</sup>	9:00am	St Patrick's	<b>The Seventh Sunday of the Year</b>	People of the Parish Andrew Boucher
		10:00am	St Anne's		

**Prayers for the sick:** St Patrick's: Phylis Bowers, Susan Prince, Tim Tiernan, Gregory McKinlay, Linda Reavy, Martha Porter, Cecylia Kotara, Rebecca Kilkenny. 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]. Amy Hall, Leonard Morgan, Frank Smith, Cyril Birch, Thomas Flood, Elizabeth Moore, Jack Smith, Mary Thomas, Patrick Collins, Edgar Harper, Florence Hawkins, Jan Stopka, Patricia Strong, John Tyson, Irwin Whitlock, Thomas Willett, Philip Ilsley, Nina Jackson, William Lake, Philip Porter, Mary Managhan, Zofia Myskowski and Mary Rattigan. [St Anne's]. Lena Wjitaker, Alice Burns, John Meehan, Mary Cheetham, Cyril Moore, Albert Blissett, Mary Blissett, Robert Hankinson, Philip Ilsley, Dilys Holmes, Baby Brandon Harland, James Heneghan and Sheila Bartle.

Income 6/2/22	Source	Gift Aid	Non-Gift Aid	Standing Order	Total	Attendance
St Anne's	Offertory	<b>£56.00</b>	<b>£167.76</b>	<b>£391.45</b>	<b>£615.21</b>	<b>Sat 47 Sun 59</b>
St. Patrick's	Offertory	<b>£110.30</b>	<b>£89.13</b>	<b>£149.69</b>	<b>£349.12</b>	<b>Sat 40 Sun 47</b>

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](http://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk)

### **Parish Tote 150 Club**

Thank you for your support during 2021. Just a reminder for those who pay yearly that your monies are due this month. Envelopes can be put in the collection or handed into St Anne's presbytery. Thank you.

***Gift Aid*** At this critical time, 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

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Please be assured that the Church's communication on this is still valid from the beginning of 2020's lockdown, and that provided we are fully contrite in our hearts, we can confess our sins to the Lord within our own 'private prayer space'. **If notice is given, and at convenient times, before or after Mass, we priests of Catholic Stafford will hear confessions and this will continue.** Fr. Bob

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

***The recent "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."***

**Our Deceased:** Please remember in your prayers **Mgr. John Heslin** who died last Tuesday. Mgr. John had been Parish Priest of **St Patrick's** for 24 years and served as Prison Chaplain to Stafford Prison, before retiring in 2000. Also please remember **Mary Bamber**, a parishioner of **St Anne's**, who died on Thursday. *May they rest in peace and rise in glory.* We pray also for their families at this time.

### **SECOND COLLECTION:**

Last weekend's collection for Pro Life St Anne's £89.40 St Patrick's £19.00 Thank You.

**Up-coming Second Collections:** First Sunday in Lent 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> March Cathedral Maintenance  
Second Sunday in Lent 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> March CAFOD Lent Fast Day  
*[Envelopes for Fast Day in church porches]*

**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. 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 the two 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.

Parishioners of both St Anne's and St Patrick's are now encouraged to use our alternative email account which is: [stannestpatrick.stafford@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:stannestpatrick.stafford@rcaob.org.uk) (Also at the top of the bulletin)

### CURSILLOS IN CHRISTIANITY: SUPPORTING THE DIOCESAN VISION

'Cursillo' began in Spain in the 1940's, a name simply meaning 'a short course.' It has become a world-wide, tried and tested method of adult faith development. It is a way of making our discipleship effective and furthering the mission of the Church. The movement has papal approval and the support of our Archbishop. You are invited to discover Cursillo at two exciting events taking place in the next few weeks and months in our Archdiocese. If you would like to be involved in either or both of these events, and for further information, please contact: Canon Michael Leadbeater at [canon.michael.leadbeater@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:canon.michael.leadbeater@rcaob.org.uk)

**3-Day Cursillo Weekend** from Thursday 24th March (evening) to Sunday 27th March (afternoon). This will be held at Shallowford House, near Stafford. Experience community, formation and prayer with a warm and friendly welcome!

### The Synod: Now's the time to get talking

Momentum to take part in the Synod is building across the Archdiocese as more and more parishes kickstart their conversations.

The Synod was launched in Rome last October by Pope Francis and the Diocesan phase is now underway. The **deadline to receive feedback** from parish conversations is **Monday 28 February**.



*"We stand before you, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in your name"*

\* In response to Archbishop Bernard's Pastoral Letter last year on the Diocesan Vision and Pope Francis' call to the whole Church on the Synodal Pathway, the three parishes of Catholic Stafford held our combined meeting last Wednesday in St Anne's Hall. We were most grateful and encouraged by the high turnout and friendly and positive reaction to the important questions tabled. We all realise that such a consultation will inevitably have a broad remit and collating and processing the feedback will be an involved task. But it is a task that will bring its own satisfaction as the Church, locally, nationally and globally, receives the views, frustrations and hopes of members of the Catholic Church. Our grateful thanks go especially to Enga and Joe McCormick (of St Austin's) for their excellent presentation and guidance through the meeting.

On a practical note, there are **two sheets** that we would like parishioners to take (at the back of Church). The first presents the **questions** and the second, two-sided sheet, allows for the **answers**. Those who attended the meeting will know about this and should have taken them already. **DEADLINE:** Please could you make sure you return the answer sheets to church by next weekend **19<sup>th</sup> / 20<sup>th</sup>**. This is so that we can send off the parish feedback by **Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February**. Many thanks.

### What's New?

#### Covid-19 update

Dear parishioners, we are all aware that from 27<sup>th</sup> January the Government's "Covid Plan B" was lifted and restrictions withdrawn. Following from this, the latest guidance for churches has been issued by the Catholic Bishops' Conference. From now on the restrictions placed on public worship and the celebration of Mass, social activities and home visits have been reduced considerably. [If you wish to see the complete guidance just click the link on our two parish's home page. But, 'in a nutshell':

Advice to the Catholic Church in England and Wales from the government has since advised that for churches, keeping records is optional.

For Acts of Worship, the main mitigation against serious health issues arising from covid infection is to be fully vaccinated; this means two doses plus a booster for anyone aged 16 or over. The scientific consensus is that society is moving from the pandemic phase to the endemic phase.

Those attending an act of worship **may** continue to wear a face covering (but not compulsory) whilst in the church building, but there is no need for formal social distancing in church buildings.

Evidence indicates that transmission from surfaces (touch transmission) is now minimal and so the use of



hymn books, missals and other worship aids can be resumed with immediate effect. Whilst it is still good practice to sanitise hands on entry and exit of churches, there is no need for readers (or other ministers) to sanitise their hands before reading or performing other ministries in the church, except those helping distributing Holy Communion. The Sign of Peace may be offered again if felt appropriate. Congregational singing may continue and there is a general encouragement to wear face coverings while singing, but not an absolute must.

Parish Social Activities can resume (if they have been suspended). It is recommended that the normal Health and Safety risk assessment for the activity is reviewed for these types of gatherings.

Whilst this reduction of restrictions brings about a more normal way of living, the Covid-19 virus is still in circulation, and this should be in the mind of those participating in the life of the Church as time goes forward, but recognition needs to be given to balance of accepting the need to live with the virus.

So, bearing in mind the above, I would like to ask both parishes to consider resuming these important aspects of parish life:

<i>Altar Servers returning to the sanctuary (Both St Patrick's and St Anne's)</i>	<i>[This can happen now]</i>
<i>Refreshments after Sunday Mass</i>	
<i>Expanding our teams of readers</i>	
<i>Reconstituting our parishes' social team for organising future events</i>	
<i>Forming a parish 'Liturgy Team' to help priest in organising principal calendar celebrations such as Easter etc.</i>	
<i>Building up our choir and musicians for regular liturgy.</i>	<i>[This can start happening now]</i>

### **Stafford Walsingham Association**

For many years the Stafford Walsingham Association arranged a yearly pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham. Now restrictions have been lifted, 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. 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.