

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2020**

## 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@gmail.com](mailto:stannestpatrick.stafford@gmail.com)

**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**

### **SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

Day	Date	Mass Time	Church	Liturgical Day		Mass Intention
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**Prayers for the departed loved ones whose anniversaries occur at this time: [St. Patrick's]** Ernest Bridgewood, Mary Byrne, John Galvin, Shaun Byrne, Teresa Newbold, Baden Arnold, Lottie Hards, Ellen Follows, James Lake, Teresa O'Brien, Daniel Hynds, Arthur Harborne, Luigi Vella [St. Anne's] Edward Bailey, Catherine Marden, Ada Miller, Mary Palmer, William Woodcock, Frank Woollaston, Maurice Harvey, Natalie Procter, Hilda Gough, Jack Lally, Honor Kirk, David Williams, Alfred Charlton, Francisca Gonzalez, Julia Murphy.

**Prayers for the sick: St Patrick's** Phylis Bowers, Kath Read, Susan Prince, Tim Tiernan, Gregory McKinlay, Linda Reavy, Martha Porter and Cecylia Kotara **St Anne's** Michael Glover, Patricia Walters, Thomas McCormick, Mary Terry, Bernard Lundberg, Cath Miles, Walter Rogers, Colin Wilkinson, Richard McMahon, Patsy Connelly Smith, Colin Wise and Shaun Gilbride.

Income 29 <sup>th</sup> March	Source	Gift Aid	Non-Gift Aid	Standing Order	Total	Attendance
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Blessings Fr Bob

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*A message from the Fellowship and Aid to the Christians of the East (FACE). This Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May is **INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR EASTERN CHRISTIANS**. Around 20 million Eastern Christians will be praying for Western Christians on Sunday; and conversely, a similar number of Catholics from Poland, Belgium, Monaco, France, Spain, Switzerland and Italy will be praying for Eastern Christians at the same time. Visit: <https://oeuvre-orient.com/the-international-day-of-prayer-for-eastern-christians>*

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Now just contrast this with what the Gospel of Jesus is telling us. True knowledge – the only knowledge that will sustain us through this life and beyond is the knowledge given to us by the Holy Spirit. This conversation between Jesus and His disciples continually emphasises this reality and promises that they'll be able to perform incredible things in Jesus' name and always know what to do and how to act in all situations they face. And Jesus' promises always have to be taken seriously. But the important thing to realise is that this knowledge is NOT private property; it's for everyone at all times and for all the situations we meet in our lives. How opposite this is to the concept of knowledge in our world. Knowledge is power and is seen as a possession, to be guarded by law and copyright. Going back to the very earliest times of the infant Church, there was a heresy that emerged called 'Gnosticism' and those who followed it were called Gnostics. They believed that only a few people received a special kind of spiritual knowledge and you could only be saved if you were one of the lucky few. The rest of us couldn't reach the heights of heaven but only be satisfied with a sort of 'second best'; a second rate paradise! Thankfully, this heresy didn't last too long. And Jesus' conversation with His disciples brings out everything we need to know about our true knowledge given free from the Father through the Son.

This knowledge is pure gift and belongs to us all for a special purpose. And that purpose is God's call to us to be responsible. We now need to see our own actions in relation to others and these will always call us to account. No good playing the 'blame game' or searching for scapegoats or looking for someone else to blame or sue, because the actions that we're a part of, the important choices we make really are our own. So, we certainly can call them our possession. Do you now see the 'turn around' in the way of thinking? The world tends to see knowledge as our own to be guarded and our choices as having consequences that can be blamed on others, whereas, Jesus offers us an alternative where He is now our common knowledge and our gratitude and response to that belongs to each one of us. But John's Gospel promises us the indwelling of God Himself because Jesus will send us the Advocate. So we can now make progress from talking about God 'out-there' to knowing the warm presence of God 'in-here'; to come from a cold impersonal attitude to God into a personal relationship with Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The question behind Easter is: "Where are we going to find Jesus?" And the answer: "Don't look for the outer, physical body of His presence" – He's no longer there for our eyes to see, but He's now within the believing community and in every one of us who's a member of that community. The Spirit of God dwells in the soul and is truly that spring of water which Jesus promised 'A spring inside welling up to eternal life'.

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## Weekly Newsletter

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Lynton Avenue Weeping Cross Stafford, ST17 0EA. Telephone: 01785 661012 - Website [www.st-annes-st.org.uk](http://www.st-annes-st.org.uk)

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

Email: [stannestpatrick.stafford@gmail.com](mailto:stannestpatrick.stafford@gmail.com)

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

**Deacon: Rev. Michael Horsnall**

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### **SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

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**Prayers for the departed loved ones whose anniversaries occur at this time: [St. Patrick's]** Ernest Bridgewood, Mary Byrne, John Galvin, Shaun Byrne, Teresa Newbold, Baden Arnold, Lottie Hards, Ellen Follows, James Lake, Teresa O'Brien, Daniel Hynds, Arthur Harborne, Luigi Vella [St. Anne's] Edward Bailey, Catherine Marden, Ada Miller, Mary Palmer, William Woodcock, Frank Woollaston, Maurice Harvey, Natalie Procter, Hilda Gough, Jack Lally, Honor Kirk, David Williams, Alfred Charlton, Francisca Gonzalez, Julia Murphy.

**Prayers for the sick: St Patrick's** Phylis Bowers, Kath Read, Susan Prince, Tim Tiernan, Gregory McKinlay, Linda Reavy, Martha Porter and Cecylia Kotara **St Anne's** Michael Glover, Patricia Walters, Thomas McCormick, Mary Terry, Bernard Lundberg, Cath Miles, Walter Rogers, Colin Wilkinson, Richard McMahon, Patsy Connelly Smith, Colin Wise and Shaun Gilbride.

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Blessings Fr Bob

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*A message from the Fellowship and Aid to the Christians of the East (FACE). This Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May is **INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR EASTERN CHRISTIANS**. Around 20 million Eastern Christians will be praying for Western Christians on Sunday; and conversely, a similar number of Catholics from Poland, Belgium, Monaco, France, Spain, Switzerland and Italy will be praying for Eastern Christians at the same time. Visit: <https://oeuvre-orient.com/the-international-day-of-prayer-for-eastern-christians>*

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**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2020**

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

Email: [stannestpatrick.stafford@gmail.com](mailto:stannestpatrick.stafford@gmail.com)

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

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**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2020**

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