

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 Executive Head: Mrs K Bennett	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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Parish Mass Book Pg. 90

Day	Date	Mass Time	Church	Liturgical Day	Mass Intention
Sat	17 th	4:00pm	St Patrick's	Vigil	Declan O'Sullivan
		6:00pm	St Anne's	Vigil	Kathleen McCann RIP
Sun	18 th	9:00am	St Patrick's	Fourth Sunday of Advent	People of the Parish Eileen Turvey RIP
		10:00am	St Anne's		
Mon	19 th	9:30am	St Anne's	Advent Feria	Ann Lee & Family
Tue	20 th	9:30am	St Patrick's	Advent Feria	Mgr. John Heslin
Wed	21 st	10:00am	St Anne's	Communion Service	Advent Feria
Thu	22 nd	9:30am	St Patrick's	Advent Feria	People of the Parish
Fri	23 rd	9:15am	St Anne's	Advent Feria	Bridie Toner RIP
Sat	24 th	4:00pm	St Patrick's	Christmas Children's Celebration (No Mass)	
		7:00pm	St Patrick's	Vigil Mass of the Nativity	Kevin Walsh RIP
		9:00pm	St Anne's	Vigil Mass of the Nativity	Bernadette Sharp
Sun	25 th	9:00am	St Patrick's	The Nativity of the Lord	Patrick, Kitty & Mary Daly RIP Winifred Meehan's Intentions
		10:00am	St Anne's		

Prayers for the sick: St Patrick's: Phylis Bowers, Susan Prince, Gregory McKinlay, Linda Reavy, Cecylia Kotara, Rebecca Kilkenny, Graham Burningham. St Anne's: Patricia Walters, Thomas McCormick, Bernard Lundberg, Walter Rogers, Richard McMahon, Patsy Connelly Smith, Colin Wise, Andrea Hulse, Winifred Meehan, Pat McDonnell, Georgina Copp, Marie Geal, Molly Hukin.

Prayers for the departed loved ones whose anniversaries occur at this time: [St. Patrick's] James Crossan, Joyce Wynter, Simon Collins, Bertram Shotton, Stanislaw Gackowski, Winifred Cotton, Dom Krsul, Francis Ackland, Clifford Hewitt, Violet Melvin, Wasil Hrynieccko, Joseph Meehan, Geoffrey Bowes-Lyon, Bridget Myatt, James McEwan, Egizia Valentini, Nicholas Byrne, Austin Read. [St Anne's] Mary Chatterley, Alec Gourley, John Grennan, John Helks, Monica Beardmore, Kathleen McMahon, Lottie Riley, Vincent Eardsley, Noel Joret, Esther Martin, Peter Rice, Delia Brough, Ronnie Thomason, Eliza Baldwin, Frances Curran, John Freeman, Elsie Papworth, Pepita Pinney, John Taylor, Joyce Muriel, Bernard Hadley, Robert Sartory, Catherine Hammond.

Income 11/12/22	Source	Gift Aid	Non-Gift Aid	Standing Order	Total	Attendance
St Anne's	Offertory	£58.50	£169.99	£391.45	£619.94	Sat 48 Sun 84
St Patrick's	Offertory	£61.50	154.59	£149.69	£365.78	Sat 41 Sun 52

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:

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

Parish Tote 150 Club

Thank you for your support. 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. Very many thanks.*

SECOND COLLECTIONS: The second collection next weekend is the Christmas offering for the clergy.

Our Deceased: Please pray for **Sebastian Paulose** former parishioner of **St Anne's** who died recently. We remember his family also at this time. May Sebastian rest in peace and rise in glory.

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

St Anne's: Christmas Cards are on sale in the Church Porch.

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 welcome facility. **More volunteers to help here please!**

St Patrick's: Anyone who would like to be involved in some way in the following: **Sacristy team, Music/hymns in Mass, Cleaning Team, Counting teams, Health and Safety, Gardening and Environment and Catechesis**, please contact Fr. Bob who will be delighted to hear from you. Once again, many thanks for those who can help.

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]

St Patrick's Repository Stand: Don't forget some of your Christmas needs may be met through the availability of: Christmas cards, calendars, diaries, children's Nativity, books etc. At the back of church.

+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**.

Every third or fourth Saturday, a Votive Mass of Our Lady of Walsingham is hoped to be held. During the Mass, we 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. 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.

Our Next Mass is on Saturday 17th December at 10:00am in St Anne's.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES 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. Thanks to Mark and Margaret for their efforts in administering the Gift Aid facility.

LIVING SIMPLY (Update) Preparing for Christmas:

Do you have a family member or friend who you would like to buy a special gift for? If so, look at the World Gift catalogue which has ideas of gifts which can change lives for the better.

We also have a list of names of prisoners of conscience for you to send a Christmas card to, so that they know they are not forgotten.

Latest: the group met recently and discussed activities linked to our “Live Simply” Project.

- Over Advent parishioners are invited to purchase Fair traded goods and to buy world gifts from CAFOD <https://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk>
- We are creating a “wildflower area” in St Anne’s garden to help support biodiversity by allowing bees, butterflies and other species to thrive

FAIR TRADE GOODS If anyone is interested in buying Fair Trade goods, Ann Kelly, of St Anne’s, will be happy to speak to you and to explain the process. If you text: 07914788247 Ann will get back to you. Orders are all done on line at the moment but some catalogues will be ordered. Tradecraft find online more cost effective. It is hoped that we might have a stall at the next meeting. Many Thanks

*You can buy Fairtraded christmas gifts here <https://www.fairtrade.org.uk/media-centre/blog/ethical-christmas-gifts-for-2022/> Don’t forget to take a CAFOD ‘World Gift’ Christmas catalogue (at the back of the churches)

Advent/Christmas Giving Tree: We are inviting parishioners to bring in gifts around the tree for two charities: ‘The Women’s Refuge’ and ‘House of Bread’.

The Refuge have indicated welcome donations such as: Deodorant and hair products, small toys and games, socks and pants childrens and womens, umbrellas, kitchen utensils.

House of Bread would welcome Deodorant and toiletries, socks and pants (men’s), towels. [Both charities would be grateful for supermarket gift vouchers also]. The need is even greater this year and they are happy to receive other donations too. Anything not needed by one will be passed to the other local charities. **Please note:** Since two charities are involved in the Giving Tree, could you please **indicate CLEARLY** on your gift which charity it is destined for. Thank you. Ann.

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

Social Evening and Draw.

Thank you to everyone who supported the Grand Draw by buying tickets and donating prizes. The Grand Draw raised £695.20 and the tickets for the Social Evening raised £295.

St Patrick’s Eucharistic Minister Rota: St. Patrick’s Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: we are re-establishing 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. It is a simple but wonderful ministry and your services would be very much appreciated. Full training would be given. Thank you.

FROM FR SIMON’S PARENTS: A huge thank you to all those at St Austin's, St Anne's and St Patrick's who came to Fr Simon’s Induction as Parish Priest. Your presence there made it a very special and memorable evening for us, and we were humbled by your kind comments and compliments. With all best wishes for the future, **Linda and Michael Baker** THANK YOU to all those who attended my Induction Service a few weeks ago and for your generosity in the many cards and gifts you so kindly gave. Please continue to pray for me, as I will for you all. **God bless, Fr Simon**

St Patrick’s parishioners are invited if they wish to donate a poinsettia to St Patrick’s in memory of a loved one at Christmas. Further details from Carmel 07981392274.

***For your diary:**

Stafford Passion Play 2023: As most of you may be aware, it is planned to put on a Stafford Passion Play in the town next Easter. 'Love Stafford' has invited the 'Saltmine Theatre Company' (made up completely of Christians who are professional actors) to perform on the streets of Stafford at Easter 2023. All churches in and around Stafford are invited to help finance this event in whatever capacity can be offered. Looking ahead, there will be opportunities for those who would like to offer their time and interest in being an active part of the performance, eg. Members of the wider cast, musicians, singers, etc. There is also planned, locally, prayer meetings, enabling us to focus on such an important event.

NB: There are 'flyers' at the back of Church showing where prayer meetings are held in various town churches. There are monthly meetings until January then weekly prayer gatherings from February until March 23rd.

Applying for Passion Play parts

This link is also on the Facebook page of

PS: Our next prayer gathering is on Baptist Church (The Green), Bailey



Love Stafford

Thursday 24th November at 7pm in Stafford Street ST17 4BG.

All of this can be found at <https://saltminetrust.org.uk/passionplaystafford>.

We now need to begin to build a team of stewards. There is no application form. Applications are by email using volunteer@lovestafford.org.uk. This address can also be accessed through the website above by selecting the 'Become a volunteer' option. As you will be aware there are four performances of the play 11am and 3pm on both Good Friday and Holy Saturday (Eve), 7 & 8 April 2023. It would be very helpful if in the email, volunteers can show which performances they will be able to steward. Many Thanks to you all.

Children Christmas Celebration

[A Catholic Stafford Initiative]

*Early on Christmas Eve this year we plan to have a **4pm Christmas Children's Celebration** at **St Patricks Church**. This will be a Christmas production of the **Nativity** which will consist of drama lights, videos and, hopefully, representatives of our **4 primary schools of Stafford** forming a Choir as well as backing from our secondary school. This will be a **key event** that will help bring young families that are not necessarily part of weekly members of congregations into Church and present to them the true **Christmas message**. **(Spaces will be limited so come in good time).***

Help is needed to pull this ambitious event off;** people to help in all sorts of ways from welcoming, to assist moving props, decorations, costume making to acting whatever your skill and amount of time you can offer we need your support. **Be part of something Amazing this Christmas.** **[Mathew 28: 19-20]

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age."

There are fliers at the back of church for parishioners to take two each and give to friends or relations.

TIMES of CHRISTMAS MASSES

DEC		<u>St Patrick's</u>	<u>St Austin's</u>	<u>St Anne's</u>
24 th	EVE	7:00pm	8:00pm	9:00pm
25 th	MORNING	9:00am	11:00am	10:00am

Appeal to St Patrick's and St Anne's parishioners: *Offers of your help at the 4pm Children Christmas Celebration on Christmas Eve are in deep need. As well as welcomers and stewards, we would be grateful if a team could help with distributing very simple refreshments in the school hall afterwards: (no hot beverages; we will provide pop, juice, water and mince pies/cakes). **Many thanks,***

