

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				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	18 th	4.00 pm	St Patrick's	Vigil		Special Intention	
		6.00 pm	St Anne's	Vigil		Jim Behan RIP	
Sun	19 th	9:00am	St Patrick's	Fourth Sunday of Lent (Laetare Sunday)		People of the Parish	
		10:00am	St Anne's			Sheila Hird RIP	
Mon	20 th	9:30am	St Anne's	St Joseph Spouse of the BVM	Solemnity	Private Intention	
Tue	21 st	9:30am	St Patrick's		Lent Feria	Kevin Walsh RIP	
Wed	22 nd	10:00am	St Anne's	Communion Service	Lent Feria		
Thu	23 rd	9:30am	St Patrick's		Lent Feria	Margaret Douglas (well being)	
Fri	24 th	9:15am	St Anne's		Lent Feria	Private Intention	
		6:30pm	SA & SP	Stations of the Cross			
Sat	25 th	10:00am	St Anne's	Exposition, Holy Hour & Confession			
		4:00pm	St Patrick's	Vigil		People of the Parish	
		6:00pm	St Anne's	Vigil		Jane Parkes & Family	
Sun	26 th	9:00am	St Patrick's	Fifth Sunday of Lent		Bernard Lunberg RIP	
		10:00am	St Anne's			Ann Gormley RIP	
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, 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]. Jean Armstrong, Arthur Lake, Anthony Parton, Barbara Bayley, Kevin Walsh, Charlotte Millward, James Robinson, George Ball, Stephen O'Rourke, Gertrude Currin, Mary McGowan, Margaret Hawkins, Olive Loydall, Michael Sheehan, Richard Lalor, Jerry Sutton, Patrick Ward, Antonia Orfila, William Kearns, Patrick Edensor, James Wilkinson, Rudolph Valentini, John Jackson. [St Anne's] Gillian Holmes, Zoe Featherstone, Jim Behan, Alice Cunningham, Peter Farenden, Don Purcell, Anita Sandy, Helena Joret, Lucy Thomason, Alice Shackle, Peter Brown, John Moloney, John O'Loughlin, Lucy Moran, Hilda Nicholson.							
Income 12/3/23	Source	Gift Aid	Non-Gift Aid	Standing Order	Total	Attendance	
St Anne's	Offertory	£104.50	£194.11	£391.45	£690.06	Sat 66	Sun 65
St Patrick's	Offertory	£72.30	£322.55	£149.69	£544.54	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>

Winners of Parish Tote 150 Club February Draw.

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: Last weekend's collection 11th/12th March for CAFOD Lent Family Fast Day.....
St Anne's £716.57 St Patrick's £390.94 Thank You.

There will be a special second collection to alleviate our parish energy costs, next weekend, 25th/26th March. The present bills that our parishes face until Spring 'fully blossoms' are, as you can imagine, awesome but essentially unavoidable. Many thanks for your understanding, help and support. Fr. Bob

Our Deceased: Please pray for Bernard Lunberg, of St Anne's Parish, who died recently. We remember his family also at this time. *May Bernard rest in peace and rise in glory.*

Our Lenten Journey:

Every Friday during Lent the Stations of the Cross will be offered at the three parishes.

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

St Anne's Readers. The new rota up to the Triduum is on the notice board 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 would be most welcome.**

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]

+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 21st March.**

Votive Mass of Our Lady of Walsingham: this is every third Saturday of the month. 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 22nd April at 10:00am in St Anne's (Due to previous Saturday falling within the Easter Octave).

Exposition and Holy Hour: There will be Exposition and Holy Hour, including opportunity for the sacrament of reconciliation, at St Anne's: From 10:00am until 11:00am. This will be offered every Saturday, except the Saturday upon which the Mass of Our Lady of Walsingham will be celebrated.

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.

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 creating a “wildflower area” in St Anne’s garden to help support biodiversity by allowing bees, butterflies and other species to thrive. [This should be more evident through the Spring weeks].

FAIR TRADE GOODS Fairtrade is about better prices, safe working conditions, local sustainability, and fair terms of trade for farmers and workers. You can buy Fairtrade products at <https://www.fairtrade.org.uk/> 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. Many Thanks

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. Full training would be given. Thank you.

****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 this 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.

NB: There are 'flyers' at the back of Church showing where prayer meetings are held in various town churches.

Applying for Passion Play parts

This link is also on the Facebook page of Love
All of this can be



Stafford

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.

ST PATRICK’S BIG CLEAN Volunteers needed for our Spring ‘Big Clean’ on 1st April. Please come during the morning of this Saturday before our Easter celebrations. It will be a chance for us to clean and prepare the church for the central celebration of Holy Week, the Easter Triduum and Easter Sunday. Refreshments and some serious ‘bonhomie’ included. [Come when you can between 9am and 1pm]

CURSILLO

You are warmly invited to a **Cursillo** Encounter Day at **St Mary’s the Mount, in Walsall from 10.30am – 2.30pm on Saturday 25th March**. Attendance is free, although donations can be made for the apostolate and for the lunch which is provided by the team. **Cursillo** is for **everyone**

It is an inspiring experience, offering renewal and a deepening of **Christian** commitment and faith within our own lives. To find out more, and to book on this encounter day, please contact Paul at the Office for Mission: office.mission@rcaob.org.uk

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.

CAFOD have offered us an opportunity to reflect on how to make Lent a time of prayerful reflection.

You can sign up here <https://cafod.org.uk/pray/lent-prayers>

SYCAMORE

What do you believe?

Sycamore is an informal course about the Christian faith and its relevance for life today. It gives you space to meet other people, share ideas, explore your beliefs, and think about questions that really matter. Each session involves a short film and time for discussion.

In addition to the essential questions about life, SYCAMORE explains simply the central beliefs and practices of Catholic Christianity. Understand the seven sacraments, the moral and social teaching of the Church, the Christian vocations, the Virgin Mary and the saints, life after death, and the hope of heaven.

We meet every Monday Evening at 7pm in St Austin's Parish Meeting Room. Session 10: all welcome.

The Universe Catholic Weekly Newspaper

Order your Digital 4 weeks FREE introductory offer by calling Michelle on 0743 661 7650 or email

michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk.

ST PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION (Catholic Stafford) Thanks to all who attended this event, all who helped on the day and those who organised it. Thanks also go to St Anne's pupils who sang,,John Evans for Fish&Chips and those who donated raffle prizes. (The event was greatly appreciated by all).

Jewish Roots of Lent and Holy week (Presented by Fr. Steven)

Come and journey through the weeks of lent on Tuesday evening at 8pm by watching a short presentation on the Jewish roots of Lent and Holy Week, followed by discussion on Zoom if you go to St Austins website (saintaustins.org.uk) on Tuesday and Click on the link to the course. There it will full instruction please have a free zoom account to take full part in the course.

DEMENTIA

On Monday evening 20th March, 7.30 -8.30 p.m. there is an online Zoom session for anyone interested in how parishes can support older people and those who experience dementia. It has been prepared by Father Hudson's Care working with a number of local parish groups. The session is free. Please sign up at <https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/a-welcoming-church-1741579>

You will then be sent a reminder 2 days, 2 hours and 30 minutes before the start.

If you have any questions please get in touch, and thank you for your support.

Rebecca Jordan-Skinner [Father Hudson's Care]

MOTHERING SUNDAY

This Sunday, as most of us will know, is Mothering Sunday and I am sure it will be a family occasion in showing appreciation for all the mums.

William Emery & Sons (Funeral Directors) have very kindly delivered a large number of daffodils to each of our Catholic Stafford parishes, for the mothers of our communities. Please take a bunch after Mass at the weekend. We offer our warmest thanks to Emery's for their annual gift of these seasonal flowers; so fitting for this Sunday.

Archbishop Bernard's Pastoral Letter

The video and audio recordings of the Archbishop's Pastoral Letter are now available:

You can watch/show the video via YouTube: https://youtu.be/pHFN9aKo_gc or you can download the video

filehere: <https://www.dropbox.com/s/x4z3m9xmz64mz1l/4th%20Sunday.mp4?dl=0>

THREE PARISHES MEETING: In response to Archbishop Bernard's Pastoral Letter this weekend and its consequences, it has been decided to hold a meeting of our three Stafford parishes after Easter. The organisation of this meeting will enable our thoughts and feedback to input into the serious issues raised in the letter. Please be aware that our contribution and involvement, in the manner in which our parishes go forward, is not an option. A suitable date will follow in due course. Many thanks for your understanding.

END NOTE: This year we will hold the Holy Week Triduum in each church separately. This is a wonderful opportunity for the parishes of St Anne and St Patrick to become totally involved; within the liturgy, the readings, the choir/singing and operating a reliable musical accompaniment etc. I do ask all of you who can offer your assistance to do so and make our celebration worthy. ---- The sheets are ready! Just take a look on the table at the back of the church and see what you can help with. It would be a wonderful opportunity to bolster and rebuild our choirs. Sing for the Lord!