

Sunday 22nd March 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**St. Patrick's Catholic Church**48 Sandon Road, Stafford ST16 3HF. Telephone 01785 661012 - Website www.stpatricksstafford.co.ukEmail: 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****FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT - Lectionary Cycle A, Weekday Mass Cycle 2 Psalter week 4**

| Day | Date | Mass Time | Church | Liturgical Day | | Mass Intention |
|-----|------------------|-----------|--------------|--|------------------------|---|
| Sat | 21 st | pm | St Anne's | Vigil Mass | <i>No Congregation</i> | Private Intention |
| Sun | 22 nd | am | St Patrick's | Fourth Sunday of Lent | <i>No Congregation</i> | Eddie & Bridie Hunt & Jackie Fong |
| Mon | 23 rd | am | St Anne's | <i>No Congregation</i> | Lent Feria | People of the Parish |
| Tue | 24 th | am | St Patrick's | <i>No Congregation</i> | Lent Feria | Bob&Damian McKinlay RIP |
| Wed | 25 th | am | St Anne's | The Annunciation of the Lord <i>No Congregation</i> | Solemnity | Peter Edwards RIP |
| Thu | 26 th | am | St Patrick's | <i>No Congregation</i> | Lent Feria | Jenny L Burke |
| Fri | 27 th | am | St Anne's | <i>No Congregation</i> | Lent Feria | Joseph Galvin |
| Sat | 28 th | pm | St Anne's | <i>No Congregation</i> | | Geoff Green RIP |
| Sun | 29 th | am | St Anne's | Fifth Sunday of Lent <i>No Congregation</i> | | Eddie, Teresa & Patrick Lennon + Michael Collins |

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM By Appointment

Prayers for the departed loved ones whose anniversaries occur at this time: *[St. Patrick's]* 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, Helena Gage, Reginald Concar, Harold Leslie Wilkes, Violet McCarthy, Joanne O'Brien and Mary McKiernan. *[St. Anne's]* Helena Joret, Lucy Thomason, Alice Shackle, Peter Brown, John Moloney, John O'Loughlin, Lucy Moran, Hilda Nicholson and Geoff Green

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 15 th March | Source | Gift Aid | Non-Gift Aid | Standing Order | Total | Attendance |
|-------------------------------|-----------|----------|--------------|----------------|---------|------------|
| St Anne's | Offertory | £186.00 | £128.18 | £179.65 | £493.83 | 123 |
| St. Patrick's | Offertory | £70.20 | £52.00 | £136.23 | £258.43 | 65 |

ST. ANNE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Email: office@st-annes-weepingcross.staffs.sch.uk**ST. PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL**

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Email: office@st-patricks-stafford.staffs.sch.uk**The Second Collection last weekend 14th /15th March for The Daughters of Divine Love St Anne's £453.35****Parishes Social (Fundraising Events) DATES UP TO SUMMER:****26th April: Sponsored Walk****19th June: BBQ (St Anne's Grounds)****STAFFORD RECORDED MUSIC SOCIETY** all meetings have been cancelled due to the Coronavirus crisis**Parish Tote 150 Club.** Thank you all for your support. Numbers are available at £4 per number per month. Further

Dear Parishioners of St Patrick's and St Anne's,

I hope and pray that we are gradually becoming aware of our new mode of living lives as Eucharistic faithful. For all of us, such a significant change in how we worship as Catholics is unprecedented. But, like every experience thrown to us in life, we take it as it comes. As our faith keeps telling us, and as we keep reminding ourselves, God's creation, God's universe, God's world and God's people fit in with His 'blueprint' for the kingdom He has prepared for us, no matter what turmoil or disaster afflicts our precarious lives -- we're all on a 'short lease' ultimately. If we keep steadfast and, most importantly, take advantage of the prayer time we will be offered, our Church will come through this 'crisis' humbled and with greater awareness of our utter dependency on God.

So, to parish practical matters:

As you see, the bulletin will appear on the websites of both parishes weekly and this space will give me a chance to share with you all sorts of concerns, from how we might keep in touch with the housebound, to how we might continue to provide food etc for those in great need. St Anne's Church will be open each day between 10am and 5pm and the parish office/presbytery will, as far as we are able, be a source of information for any who wish to know what is happening in regard to our two parishes. There is also little excuse now for me not uploading the bulletin earlier, at least by Friday at the latest (I'll see how I get on).

As you notice above, the Mass intentions are inserted and will be honoured as I celebrate Mass at both churches; but sometimes I will need to combine intentions from both parishes because I am only saying one Mass a day. Sunday Mass will be alternated each week between St Patrick's and St Anne's, as also the weekday Masses.

Regarding the **Drop-in** at St Anne's, some may need help now that it is closed. If any need help on Wednesday morning, for example shopping or collecting medication, please contact Liz Harrison between 10:30am and 12 Noon on 07802694580. Many thanks, Liz.

I know that all three Stafford parishes will work as closely as we can, and on that point, I received a request from Joe McCormack from St Austin's. He had returned from the charity BRUSHSTROKES and they are desperate for all supplies. If people wanted to drop donations off at St Anne's Joe can do a regular pick-up. Many thanks.

Palm Sunday is only two week's away and I am thinking of a way to "distribute" blessed palms. I am hoping to be able to bless them in church (on the Saturday vigil) then leave them for people to collect in a basket under the hall porch from Sunday. But more about how we cope with Easter later.

Regarding 'private' prayer in the opened church, it is essential to remind ourselves about the importance of "social distancing" (not easy, because it is counter-cultural for us) and to remember that if several parishioners happened to come at the same time, a common prayer could be said but individuals would need to keep at least two meters apart. We all need to exercise prudence in this respect.

It is obviously a great disappointment for us that the planned social events have had to be cancelled, especially the Quiz Night that we all look forward to - many thanks to Tom who 'does us proud' in his unique delivery of questions. I am sure we will make up for it when more settled times return. I am not sure about what is happening in respect to our sponsored walk. I know it is on the Chase but we may need clarification. So, if anyone can let me know, thanks.

HELP



Spring Time is upon us - it is **Mothering Sunday** tomorrow- and we heartily thank Emery & Sons for their wonderful gift of fresh daffodils for distribution TO THE 'MUMS' OF BOTH PARISHES. The only way I can think of getting them to you all is for me to leave them from NOW (Saturday Morning) in their boxes ready to collect UNDER THE PORCH of St Anne's. They are all in bundles ready. Please do come and help yourselves - please don't let them go to waste. Maybe they could be delivered and left on doorsteps of those who we know cannot come out.

Many thanks to Emery's.

Finally, I am very aware that our usual routine, as parish communities, will undergo a considerable change, and we do not know for how long, but nevertheless our parishes will still need supporting as best we can for the foreseeable future. The sustaining and maintenance of the buildings and parish administration has to continue. For those of you who use gift aid envelopes, the new ones for the coming financial year have arrived and Mark (St Anne's) and Margaret St Patrick's) are labelling them and for those who contribute this way. There are a number who regularly use standing order (this is the most efficient way of giving) and those who donate non gift aid. However parishioners wish to donate, be assured of our grateful thanks and know that the parish office (St Anne's) can always be used as a 'drop-off' for envelopes.

Once they are all labelled, the new year's envelopes will be left in the porch of St Anne's for collection.

I shall be remembering you all in my prayers during this most unprecedented of times and have faith that the Lord will be looking after us in a way only He can offer.

Blessings

Fr Bob

PS: please listen to Archbishop Bernard and Cardinal Vincent (found on the opening pages of our websites).

Also, I shall be printing several hard copies of these bulletins every week so that 'volunteers' may distribute them to the housebound.

Finally, I am in the process of trying (don't know how far I get) to set up a web-cam system / with youtube, in St Anne's so that, although on my own, I would know that some of you could be present electronically. And don't forget the plethora of websites you can access if you wish to follow Mass. A good start would be our own Archdiocese of Birmingham website.

