

Weekly Newsletter

Sunday 24th November 2024

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

Times of Holy Mass and Liturgies this week

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

Parish Mass Book page: 160

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	23 rd	4.00 pm 6.00 pm	St Patrick's St Anne's	Vigil Vigil	People of the Parish The Streeton Family & Carroll Family Deceased		
Sun	24 th	9:00am 10:00am	St Patrick's St Anne's	Christ the King Sunday	Mgr John Heslin RIP Stella Horsnall RIP		
Mon	25 th	9.30 am	St Anne's		Feria	Fr. Sandy Brown RIP	
Tue	26 th	9:30am	St Patrick's		Feria	Holy Souls	
Wed	27 th	10:00am	St Anne's	Communion Service	Feria		
Thu	28 th	9:30am	St Patrick's		Feria	Holy Souls	
Fri	29 th	9:15 am	St Anne's		Feria	Holy Souls	
Sat	30 th	10:00am 4.00 pm 6.00pm	St Anne's St Patrick's St Anne's	Exposition, Holy Hour and Confession Vigil Vigil	Tony Ruttledge RIP Ann Morris RIP & Intentions of Joan Collins		
Sun	1 st	9:00am 10:00am	St Patrick's St Anne's	First Sunday of Advent	People of the Parish Peter Smith RIP		
Prayers for the sick: St Patrick's: Susan Prince, Gregory McKinlay, Linda Reavy, Cecylia Kotara, Rebecca Kilkenny, Graham Burningham, Mary Kilkenny, Cheryl Price. St Anne's: Patricia Walters, Thomas McCormick, Richard McMahon, Patsy Connelly Smith, Andrea Hulse, Winifred Meehan, Pat McDonnell, Georgina Copp, Marie Geal, Molly Hukin, Joan O'Dowd, Nick Harrison, Annette Plant, Neve Collins, Matthew Connelly Smith.							
Prayers for the departed loved ones whose anniversaries occur at this time: [St. Patrick's] William Harrison, Frances Madden, John Tivenan, George Foster, Lastina Smith, Robert Bradley, John Hingerty, Shereen Slingsby, Paige Evans, Douglas Smyth, Gladys Emery, Walter Richardson, Stephen Godwin, Margaret Emery, Lilian Crewe, Ivan Horsnall. [St. Anne's] Marjorie Ferguson, Mollie Byrne, David Duggan, Edward Gray, William Ryan, Nicholas Tradamus, Clarena Williamson, Sheila Burton, Jack Emery, Freda Emery, Gregory Lakin, Kitty Pownall, Stan Rogers, Richard Thompson, Desmond Connelly, Patrick Healy, Eva Parsons, Susan Sharp, Ivan Horsnall, Peter Smith, Kassandre Leong-Son.							
Income 17/11/24	Source	Gift Aid	Non-Gift Aid	Standing Order	Total	Attendance	
St Anne's	Offertory	£115.00	£130.70	£408.25	£653.95	Sat 65 Sun 82	
St Patrick's	Offertory	£56.50	£252.60	£152.16	£461.26	Sat 55 Sun 98	

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: [Donate | Birmingham Diocesan Trust](https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk) (birminghamdiocese.org.uk) / <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/support-our-work>

Parish Tote 150 Club

Thank you for your support. A lot of numbers are still 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.*

Information cards [*gift-aid it*] can be found at the back of the churches for any parishioners who are not in the gift aid scheme. The cards explain how the system works (at no extra expense for the doner) and provide information as to how you can be part of the scheme. It is a simple, free and effective way to help our parishes increase our funds. Do consider this if you are not already gift-aiding. Many Thanks
The Second Collection this weekend is for Catholic Youth Service

Future Second Collections The weekend of 7th/8th December is for Poor Parishes Fund

The Drop in Group Do Come and join us on Wednesdays in the Meeting Room after the St Anne's 10 am Communion Service. All Welcome.

Wool donations – If anyone has any spare wool it can be left in St Anne's Church porch. It will be used for knitting hats and scarves for the homeless. Thank you.

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 valuable facility. **More volunteers always welcome.**

St Anne's Choir

At present we have no formal choir and lack a choir leader and an organist. Music plays an important part in our liturgy and enhances our worship. If you would be able to help with the music in any way please would you contact Fr Bob. [*The choir meets in church at 7pm (Tue) on particular dates so keep an eye out for the next one. If anyone would like to pop in we will be going through the hymns for the next few weeks*].

Parish Library St Anne's The parish library is in the parish meeting room. You may borrow any of the bibles, books, or CTS booklets.

Bible Alive. The latest editions have arrived and are in St Anne's Church porch for those who have ordered them.

MISSIO: The Autumn edition of 'Mission Today' is found at the back of church. Please help yourself to a copy. **ALSO, THERE ARE MANY 2025 CALENDARS – JUST TAKE ONE.**

+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 in January. Pope Francis has declared this coming year to be a Year of Prayer and so all are very welcome to join in!!**

St Anne's and St Patrick's: In both parishes, CHILDREN'S LITURGY is up and running every Sunday. This is due to our volunteers/leaders who generously assist our youngsters in their understanding. Please do come forward to help if you would like to become involved. All necessary safeguarding procedures are taken care of. Many thanks. [Those interested in helping please see Fr. Bob]

* **SAFEGUARDING** The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies & procedures at all times. Our St Anne's Parish Safeguarding Representative is Ann Kelly and can be contacted at sg.stanne.stafford@rcaob.org.uk. Our St Patrick's Safeguarding Representative is Geraldine Thickett and can be contacted at sg.stpatrick.stafford@rcaob.org.uk or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concern.

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

St Patrick's Eucharistic Minister Rota: St. Patrick's Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: this covers 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.
[The new rota for 2024 is now complete]

LIVING SIMPLY: Parishioners are invited to purchase Fair traded goods and to buy world gifts from CAFOD <https://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk>

We are developing a wildflower meadow at the side of St Anne's Church to help support biodiversity. We are inviting parishioners to donate wildflower seeds, plants or peat free compost. If you would like to look at the area, Liz and Ann will be available to show you the area on Sunday after Mass.+

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

New to the Parish? If you are new to either of the parishes of St Anne or St Patrick you are very welcome. Please let Fr Bob know (on 01785 661012 OR stannestpatrick.stafford@rcaob.org.uk) There are numerous aspects of our parish life that might be of interest to you. We hope that you will feel 'at home' within our parish community.

YOUTH CONNECT

A regular youth activity is held at St Anne's; Mondays [6:30PM TO 8:30PM] (for school years 6 – 13)
FREE PIZZA, SPORTS AND GAMES, FRIENDSHIP, BELONG, PRAYER, WORSHIP. So if anyone would like to become involved in any way or wishes to join our Youth Ministry Team please contact Fr. Stephen on 07458629296
[PLEASE SEE POSTER IN THE CHURCH PORCH] *[Please note that letters to parents, together with consent forms are in the parish office – just contact Fr. Bob or the secretary Marie in order to take one]*
(From 6th January the activity will be open to those from Year 5 to Year 9)

Christmas Celebration

To be held next Saturday 30th November. The Grand Draw tickets are now available at £1 per book. Please would you return the completed stubs and money to the presbytery by this Friday 29th November. The draw will take place on the morning of Saturday 30th November and announced at the Pre-Christmas Celebration in the Church Hall after the 6 pm Mass. Thank you for your support.

CAN YOU HELP? on Friday 29th November after 6 pm to decorate the hall, put out tables and chairs and to help organise the Grand Draw Donations. Thank You.

News from the Bishops' Conference

We are calling on Catholics in England and Wales to unite in prayer and compassionate action to oppose assisted suicide.

In early September 2024, when parliament returned and a Bill on assisted suicide – so-called assisted dying – started its passage through the House of Lords, our Lead Bishop for Life Issues, Bishop John Sherrington, called for Catholics to unite in prayer and compassionate action.

That call is renewed now as on Wednesday, 16 October, the House of Commons will hear the first reading of a new bill on assisted suicide tabled by Labour MP Kim Leadbeater.

This is another attempt to legalise assisted suicide and we need you to contact your MP to voice your opposition. *Act now! Contact your MP*

The charity 'Right to Life' has a simple online mechanism to do this. It takes little more than a few minutes to input your postcode, make sure the suggested text suits your viewpoint and submit your message to ask your MP to stop assisted suicide being rushed into law.

[Click here to contact your MP](#) via the 'Right to Life' website.

* Please take a card from the back of church "ASSIST US TO LIVE, NOT TO DIE" and send it to our MP [Leigh Ingham]. All you need to do is to write your name and address, as well as writing the MP's name on the right hand side and DON'T FORGET TO AFFIX A STAMP.

NOVEMBER, THE MONTH OF THE DEAD During our month of November we dedicate our prayers for those, especially of our families, who have died. You will find envelopes at the back of church, into which you can include names of those you wished to be remembered at the altar. Just bring the envelope to the sanctuary and place it in the basket which will be put in front of the altar at every Mass.

[A Requiem Mass will be said for all those of our Stafford parishes who have died within the last year. It will be at St Austin's this coming Thursday at 7pm.]

Christ the King (Youth Sunday)

This weekend we traditionally celebrate the Youth of our parish communities and pray for them especially in their role of passing on the faith. We pray for their guidance, through the Holy Spirit, to be able to act as evangelisers and missionaries within their schools, colleges, universities and work places. We hope to have younger members speaking at the end of Mass in our parishes. Please encourage them.

Our second collection contributes greatly to the work done for youth within our archdiocese and especially to the invaluable input of 'Kenelm Youth'. Please be generous.

ST ANNE'S PLAYGROUP

We are planning to hold a playgroup in St Anne's Church Hall every Friday morning (school terms) 9:15 am - 11:00am. It will be for ages 0 - 5 years old.

It is a chance to connect with other parents and bring your little one for nursery rhymes, sensory play, books and more. £1 per child, snack included and tea or coffee for carers.

The group will start on Friday 10th January 2025 and we would love to have volunteers to support us (where the usual application procedures apply). This is a Catholic Stafford initiative so it's for all parishes.

Please contact: stannestpatrick.stafford@rcaob.org.uk 01785661012 OR Letalya 07848893395

New Missal! Hodder & Stroughton are publishing a brand-new edition of the Sunday Missal for use with the new ESV-CE lectionary from Advent this year. It is available from all good bookshops and online, priced at just £18.99, and available in an attractive blue or red binding. An easy-to-follow Order of Mass, introductions to all the seasons and readings as well as extra devotional material – a true spiritual companion.

(It is always useful to have a personal missal to prepare for the great feasts of Christmas and Easter)

NB Most of the missals ordered have now been delivered except that we are still waiting on 20 Blue ones that should be with us next week.

If possible, please could you have the exact amount £13 in cash or, of course, a cheque (made payable to St Anne's).

St Anne's parishioners please note that from the weekend of the First Sunday of Advent we shall be using the Jerusalem missalettes every week, just like St Patrick's. They are clear and the whole Mass can be followed and they will, of course, contain the new translation. However, if you would prefer your own missal then please see above.

The First Sunday of Advent is next Sunday 1st December. The crib and the tree should be ready for placing then, so it would be great if we could have some help in erecting the tree, maybe after Mass and crib figures brought down from the tower room. Unless there are alternative suggestions, we can continue with the destination, for our Advent Tree Gifts, being 'House of Bread' and 'Womens' Refuge'; Crib donations are for Friends of the Holy Land.

CHRISTMAS MASSES IN CATHOLIC STAFFORD:

Christmas Eve	6pm	St Patrick's	8pm	St Austin's	10pm	St Anne's
Christmas Day	9am	St Patrick's	10am	St Anne's	11am	St Austin's

- A Penitential Service will be held at St Austin's on Monday 16th December at 7pm. This will be an opportunity for individual confessions in preparation for our Christmas celebration. Other priests should be able to assist us.

