



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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Parish Mass Book pg 90

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	4:00pm 6:00pm	St Patrick's St Anne's	Vigil Vigil		People of the Parish Bridie Toner RIP	
Sun	24 th	9:00am 10:00am	St Patrick's St Anne's	Fourth Sunday of Advent		Joye Simpson RIP Geoff Owen RIP & Kitty Ronan & Mary Picking	
		6:00pm 7:00pm	St Patrick's St Anne's	Vigil (Christmas Eve) Vigil		Kevin Walsh RIP Anne & John Murphy & Family Intentions	
Mon	25 th	9:00am 10:00am	St Patrick's St Anne's	Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Day)		Solemnity	Patrick, Kitty & Mary Daly RIP Winifred Meehan's Intentions
Tue	26 th	9.30am	St Anne's	St Stephen		Feast	Jack Devaney (Ann.)
Wed	27 th	2:15pm	St Patrick's	Funeral Mass for Joye Simpson			
Thu	28 th	9:30 am	St Patrick's	The Holy Innocence		Feast	Michael & Eileen McHugh
Fri	29 th	9:15am	St Anne's	St Thomas Becket		Feast	Geoff Owen RIP
Sat	30 th	10.00am 4:00pm 6:00pm	St Anne's St Patrick's St Anne's	Exposition, Holy Hour & Confession Vigil Vigil		Private Intention Ned & Thelma Taylor RIP Peggy Ogram RIP	
Sun	31 st	9:00am 10:00am	St Patrick's St Anne's	The Feast of the Holy Family		People of the Parish Sr Assumpta (50 th Ann. of Profession)	

Prayers for the sick: St Patrick's: 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, Andrea Hulse, Winifred Meehan, Pat McDonnell, Georgina Copp, Marie Geal, Molly Hukin, Imelda Moore.

Prayers for the departed loved ones whose anniversaries occur at this time: [St. Patrick's.] James McEwan, Egizia Valentini, Nicholas Byrne, Austin Read, Norah Lennon, James Scullion, Catherine Gask, Francis Ralph, Patricia Bradfield, Mary Devine, Margaret Leigh, George Storr, Alfred Simpson, Gertrude Vaughan, Brenda Read, Anthony Dykta, Norma Hussey, Nicolino Petrini, Thelma Taylor. **[St Anne's]** Bernard Hadley, Robert Sartory, Catherine Hammond, Mary Rogers, Laurence Baker, Robert Glover, Peggy Ogram, John Glover, Margaret Loftus, Deirdre Wilkinson, Louise Harley.

St Anne's: CHILDREN'S LITURGY is up and running and held on every Sunday. This is due to the number of kind parishioners who have volunteered to help put on this much appreciated facility. It means we can form teams and a rota. Please do come forward to help if you would like to become involved. Ann Kelly is kindly looking after the necessary safeguarding procedures. Many thanks.

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 in January 2024. Pope Francis has declared this coming year to be a Year of Prayer and so all are very welcome to join in!!

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: we have re-established 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.

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

Our local co-ordinators, Adam and Clare (St Austin's), send their thanks.

Take a look at our latest graph showing the numbers of meals provided (at the back of church)

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.

Parish Library St Anne's

Thank you to everyone who has donated bibles and books (and a bookcase).

The parish library is in the parish meeting room. You may borrow any of the bibles, books, or CTS booklets.

Donations to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal: at cafod.org.uk/ipc or call 0303 303 3030 to support those affected and get funds to local trusted experts in Gaza and southern Israel who have been working alongside communities helping those most in need. Your donation will help support aid workers providing urgent humanitarian aid including food, water and emergency shelter to those in need. Thank you for your prayers."

ADVENT / CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

St Anne's & St Patrick's

Parishioners may bring in gifts around the tree for two charities: 'The Women's Refuge' and 'House of Bread' **The Refuge** would be grateful for donations such as: Washing powder, cleaning materials and Tesco and Asda supermarket vouchers to buy food.

House of Bread would welcome donations of Ladies underwear, men's pants, men's and women's socks, men's and women's deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, razor blades, shaving cream and flannels.

They have plenty of towels but anything that people give would be greatly appreciated.

Please note: Since two charities are involved in the Giving Tree, could you please indicate **CLEARLY** on you gift which charity it is destined for.

The gifts will be delivered mid-January so don't need to be wrapped for Christmas but maybe in gift bags instead.
Many Thanks.

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

<u>Catholic Stafford:</u>	<u>VENUES AND MASS TIMES OVER THE CHRISTMAS PERIOD</u>		
	St Anne's	St Patrick's	St Austin's
CHRISTMAS EVE (Sunday 24 th)	7pm	6pm	9pm
CHRISTMAS DAY (Monday 25 th)	10am	9am	11am

Please note that the weekend of 23rd/24th December is the Fourth in Advent and so the Masses for Saturday and Sunday will be at the usual times within the three parishes. Don't forget to take a "walk with me" booklet (at the back of church)

GRATEFUL THANKS: Many thanks to both our parishes for all the good wishes and help I have received over the year, not to mention the Christmas cards and blessings. I hardly need to mention how important it has been to have such generous and selfless volunteers helping out in so many areas of church life. It is what allows parishes to run smoothly. A big welcome also to our visitors attending Masses over Christmas and any new parishioners who may have moved into the area.

**Now we minister as a team, popularly known as 'Catholic Stafford, all three parishes will need to give careful thought as to how we grow and develop our ministry and support, in order to draw in and welcome the many local Catholics who are not a part of our worshipping community, as well as those who might be thinking of joining us in faith. 2024 should be the year in which we meet the challenge as it will be a "Year of Prayer" in preparation for the "Jubilee Year" in 2025 (called by His Holiness, Pope Francis). Please let us all pray deeply for wisdom and the guidance of the Holy Spirit as we approach a new chapter. Whatever trepidation we may feel, it is always through our faith in the Lord that we can meet the New Year.*

On behalf of Deacon Michael and myself: May I wish all our parishioners and visitors a Blessed and Joyful Christmas and New Year and may God bless all our families.
Fr. Bob

