

Sunday 26th September 2021

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.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 Principal: Mr. M. Killeen	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

Twenty-Sixth Sunday of the Year

Day	Date	Mass Time	Church	Liturgical Day	Mass Intention
Sat	25 th	4:00pm	St Patrick's	Vigil	John Norton RIP
		6:00pm	St Anne's	Vigil	Monica&Jim Reynolds RIP &Winnie&Eric Parsons RIP
Sun	26 th	9:00am	St Patrick's	Twenty-Sixth Sunday of the Year	David Simpson RIP
		10:00am	St Anne's		Bridie & Paddy Toner RIP & Louise Bell RIP
Mon	27 th	9:30am	St Anne's	St Vincent de Paul	Memoria Celebrant's Intention
Tue	28 th	9:30am	St Patrick's		Feria Private Intention
Wed	29 th	10:00am	St Anne's	Ss Michael, Gabriel & Raphael	Feast
Thu	30 th	9:15am	St Patrick's	St Jerome	Memoria Private Intention
Fri	1 st	6:30pm	St Anne's	St Therese of the Child Jesus	Memoria John Ireson RIP
Sat	2 nd	4:00pm	St Patrick's	Vigil	David Simpson RIP
		6:00pm	St Anne's	Vigil	John Harland RIP
Sun	3 rd	9:00am	St Patrick's	Twenty-Seventh Sunday of the Year	Teresa Lennon RIP &Bridget Flood RIP
		10:00am	St Anne's		People of the Parish

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM By Appointment

Prayers for the sick: St Patrick's: Phylis Bowers, Susan Prince, Tim Tiernan, Gregory McKinlay, Linda Reavy, Martha Porter, Cecylia Kotara, Rebecca Kilkenny. St Anne's: Michael Glover, Patricia Walters, Thomas McCormick, Mary Terry, Bernard Lundberg, Cath Miles, Walter Rogers, Richard McMahon, Patsy Connelly Smith, Colin Wise, Hal Lindop, Anne Harvey, Andrea Hulse, Winifred Meehan.

Prayers for the departed loved ones whose anniversaries occur at this time: [St. Patrick's.] Peter Charlton, Vincenza Smith, Jack Burgess, David Ward, Elizabeth Shanley, Anne Clark, Harriet Begley, George Moorhouse, Agnes Spiers, Mary Bratt, Bernard Ryan, Charles O'Donnell, Fr William McGann and James Sedgley. [St Anne's.] Brian Maxwell, Lily Pritchard, Sandra Maxwell, Thomas Clarke, Faye Goodwin, Tony Ilsley, Anthony Phillips, Herbert Wilkinson, Maria Piatek, Winifred Ashton, George Crowley, Anne Meldon, Albert Scriven, Charlotte Whitmore and Ernest Geoghegan.

Income 19/9/21	Source	Gift Aid	Non-Gift Aid	Standing Order	Total	Attendance
St Anne's	Offertory	£133.00	£127.20	£283.84	£544.04	Sat 52 Sun 64
St. Patrick's	Offertory	£122.00	£62.10	£146.23	£330.33	Sat 44 Sun 49

On the Archdiocese website there is a standing order and Gift Aid form for parishioners so they can continue to give at this time. Please direct any such enquiries

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

***This email is from the archdiocese:** Just to let you know, there is a donate **BUTTON (TOP RIGHT)** on the home page of the diocesan website – www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk

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 on 01785 661012.

***Gift Aid** At this critical time, 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. Those who use gift aid envelopes will find new ones for this financial year, labelled and numbered at the back of each church. Some parishioners might like to know that the parish office (St Anne's) can always be used as a 'drop-off' for envelopes. There are large collection bins placed on entry and exit* Expenses (maintenance, consumables, utilities and fabric upkeep, not to mention health and safety) are ongoing. Very many thanks*

This weekend's second collection is for Fr Hudson's Society and there are special envelopes for gift aiding donations in the church porches. Please be generous to our major care charity within the archdiocese.

Also, you will find the usual envelopes for our annual Harvest collection next weekend for CAFOD. Many thanks.

Our Deceased: Please pray for **Alan Whiteside**, father of Karen Bennett, who died last week and **Kathleen Woodbridge** who died recently. We remember their families at this time. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

The Year of St Joseph. For this year we are honouring St Joseph (as this is the Year of St Joseph, initiated by Pope Francis). In St Anne's and St Patrick's churches the statue of St Joseph is prominent and we will endeavour to say the short prayer before each Mass.

St Anne's and St Patrick's Church maintenance: Much appreciation to those who have already given so generously. Upcoming tasks this year include remedial H&S work required for making St Patrick's old boiler house safe. **Important and involved remedial work is also needed on St Patrick's upper front roof.** Please accept my grateful thanks for any donations.
F.Bob

Sacrament of Reconciliation: [Easter Duties and Confession at this time]. Please be assured that the Church's communication on this is still valid from the beginning of last year's lockdown, and that provided we are fully contrite in our hearts, we can confess our sins to the Lord within our own 'private prayer space'. According to the teaching of the Church, the present ongoing situation would not warrant the 'Rite of General Absolution'. If notice is given, and at convenient times, before or after Mass, I have been hearing confessions and this will continue. God Bless. Fr. Bob

New Guidance: *Steps are gradually being reintroduced; the first being the distribution of Holy Communion during the traditional part of the Mass, before the post-communion prayer and blessing, after which communicants return to their seats. We have returned the benches at St Anne's to their original spacing position, which should allow more comfortable seating for increased congregation numbers. The vast majority feel comfortable with these arrangements. As we obtain further guidance, then we can continue to take a more relaxed approach; at the moment it is 'steady as she goes'*

Gift Aid Envelopes: Please be aware that the new 2021/22 GA boxes are available at the back of each parish church. They are numbered and named and began on 11th April (many thanks to Margaret [SP] and Mark [SA] for preparing these). They are ready for collection. If anyone would like more information concerning this method of giving (or, indeed, concerning donation by Standing Order) please see Fr. Bob

Bible Study resumes fortnightly at St Anne's on Tuesday 12th September 10 am – 11 am. Welcome to those wishing to join us.

Drop in at St Anne's on Wednesday mornings: This popular social gathering has now reopened. All welcome.

St Anne's Choir: Do you like to sing? We would love you to come and see if it would interest you to be "one in the Spirit" here @ St Anne's. Our very small choir could do with a little support to be "one in the Lord". Do come along to our meeting in church 7pm Tuesday. You will be most



welcome.

RCIA: This stands for the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults and the course is now up and running for those residing within St Anne's or St Patrick's parishes. Anyone wishing to become Roman Catholic and including relatives, friends or acquaintances of regular parishioners who may have expressed interest but don't know where to start are very welcome. Please approach Deacon Mike or Fr. Bob if you would like more information on the program.

Upcoming **Second Collections** include: (This weekend) **25th/26th September: Fr. Hudson's Society**
(Next weekend) **2nd /3rd October: CAFOD Harvest Festival**

Katherine House Cycling Challenge: 'Team St Austin' are once again taking part in the Katherine House Cycling Challenge next Sunday 3rd October. If anyone would like to be part of the team, please contact Carmel Heaton on 07753162790. Once again, the team are appealing for sponsorship, to help raise money for Katherine House Hospice.

Volunteers will be available after Masses this weekend and next to take the names of anyone who would like to sponsor 'Team St Austin's.' Sponsorship money can also be Gift Aided if you are a



UK Taxpayer. We thank you in advance for your support. Please find the official sponsor forms at the back of the churches and under the porch of St Anne's Hall.

Dear parishioners of St Patrick's and St Anne's. Over the last few months we have had the opportunity to pick up a prayer card entitled "Prayer for the Diocesan Vision". There are many in the porch. Together with these cards is an invitation from Archbishop Bernard Longley for us to think seriously and deeply about how we can help to 'unfold' God's plan for our diocese. In essence, for this to happen we must think about how to begin from our own parish life. Central to our parish life of course is the Sunday Mass from which our spiritual strength comes, together with all the ideas and initiatives that enable us to reach out to others and to 'bring Christ to the world'. Sunday is Resurrection Day; the Eighth Day, our central day. Gathering as church community is vital for us to sustain ourselves in so many ways. Since the reopening of churches we are more aware of those who felt unable to return to Mass. Just as a shepherd searches for lost sheep so too our priests and faith leaders are looking for those who are not coming to church as well as welcoming the many new faces. [It might be worth us pondering the fact that just three months ago over one hundred of our youngsters either promised to follow Jesus more closely in confirming their commitment or shared in His Body and Blood for the first time. Food for thought indeed]. It is good to meet our new parishioners but we also miss the familiar faces of those no longer with us. The weekend has always been the focus of our community gathering together for Mass. It is as much about meeting our friends and fellow parishioners as it is about worship and praise of God. A parish community needs to pray and worship, but also to meet and chat, socialise, to support parish initiatives. There is no doubt that the past eighteen months have taken their toll on so many aspects of people's lives and caution, rightly, has entered into all we do and plan for. Maybe as we enter the Autumn of our year, and schools and other routines (leisure and sporting) begin, we could pray for and with each other and encourage each other so that our parish communities can once more rebuild that 'oneness' in trust and above all, hope. The Lord never ceases to call us from wherever we are.

Fr. Bob

