

Sunday 27th March 2022

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

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Day	Date	Mass Time	Church	Liturgical Day	Mass Intention
Sat	26 th	4:00pm 6:00pm	St Patrick's Sr Anne's	Vigil Vigil	Kevin Walsh RIP Sylvia Gibson
Sun	27 th	9:00am 10:00am 5:00pm	St Patrick's St Anne's St Austin's	The Fourth Sunday of Lent Solemn Stations of the Cross	Laetare Robert Wilson RIP Geoff Green RIP
Mon	28 th	9:30am	St Anne's	Lent Feria	Michael Collins RIP (10 th Ann.)
Tue	29 th	9:30am	St Patrick's	Lent Feria	Eddie&BridieHunt RIP
Wed	30 th	10:00am	St Anne's	Communion Service	Lent Feria
Thu	31 st	9:15am 4:00pm	St Patrick's St Anne's	Lent Feria Reception of the body of Sheila Hird	Kevin Walsh RIP
Fri	1 st	12Noon	St Anne's	Requiem Mass for Sheila Hird	
Sat	2 nd	4:00 pm 6:00pm	St Patrick's St Anne's	Vigil Vigil	People of the Parish Jane Yarnold RIP
Sun	3 rd	9:00am 10:00am 5:00pm	St Patrick's St Anne's St Patrick's	The Fifth Sunday of Lent Solemn Stations of the Cross	'Patty' Tiernan RIP Sheila Hird RIP

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: Patricia Walters, Thomas McCormick, Mary Terry, Bernard Lundberg, Walter Rogers, Richard McMahon, Patsy Connelly Smith, Colin Wise, Hal Lindop, Andrea Hulse, Winifred Meehan, Ian Burnside, Pat McDonnell, Georgina Copp.

Prayers for the departed loved ones whose anniversaries occur at this time: [St. Patrick's] Frederick Cull, Catherine Owens, Timothy Vella, Mrs Morgan, Fr Thomas Cockburn, James Bratt, Mary Daly, Daniel Sullivan, James Emery, Eileen Murphy. [St Anne's] Geoff Green, Michael Collins, Robert Hunt, Annie Shelly, Sarah McHugh, Betty Cunningham, Jack Bilton, Amy Geoghegan, John Helks, Eva Brown, Bernard Hayward.

Income 20/3/22	Source	Gift Aid	Non-Gift Aid	Standing Order	Total	Attendance
St Anne's	Offertory	£48.00	£ 120.50	£391.45	£559.95	Sat 59 Sun 48
St. Patrick's	Offertory	£73.05	£127.65	£149.69	£350.39	Sat 56 Sun 60

Collection for CAFOD St Anne's £599.30 St Patrick's £281.21. Thank You.

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. Numbers are available at £4 per number per month. Further details from Marie 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. Those who use gift aid envelopes will find new ones for this financial year, labelled and numbered at the back of each church. Switching your giving via Standing Order mandate would be a great help also. 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*

<p>St Anne's and St Patrick's Church maintenance: Much appreciation to those who have already given so generously. Upcoming tasks include remedial H&S work required for making St Patrick's old boiler house safe. Important remedial work is also needed on St Patrick's upper front roof. My grateful thanks for any donations. Fr. Bob</p>
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Sacrament of Reconciliation: We priests of Catholic Stafford will be hearing confessions as usual. Fr. Bob

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

The "Bishops' Statement: Honouring Sunday" is published. Given that there remains a degree of caution within society, our bishops are nevertheless fundamentally asking us to consider the central importance of the meaning of Mass and the central place that Sunday -- the Eighth Day / Resurrection Day has in our Catholic Faith. So, although the obligation to attend Sunday Mass may not yet have been re-imposed, we are asked seriously about our priorities for Sunday, this special and unique day for us. Giving serious consideration as to where we place Mass attendance in the hierarchy of other Sunday activities, whether sporting, leisure, entertainment, shopping and so on should impact on the coming synodal experience and our Diocesan Vision: "Behold I am making all things new."

Our Deceased: Please pray for **Sheila Hird**, a parishioner of St Anne's, who died recently. We remember Ian and his family at this time. **Sheila's Requiem will be held at St Anne's at 12Noon on Friday 1st April.** *May Sheila rest in peace and rise in glory.*

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". Male and female voices provide such harmony. Do come along to our meeting in church 7pm Tuesday. Even if you can just come now and then for the pleasure of singing you will be most welcome.

St Patrick's Music: May I ask for volunteers who attend regular Mass at St Patrick's (Sat or Sun) to operate our phone/Bluetooth system so that our parish may once more sing hymns at Mass. It would be great to have a team taking care of this. I thank the two who have volunteered already, so if others could come forward and begin to form a rota it would be great. I will explain it all. Just phone/email Fr. Bob. With gratitude.

The Mayor's Invitation: The Mayor of Stafford is inviting residents who were born in the same year as Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, to join him for a special afternoon tea to celebrate her 70 years on the throne. The Mayor's Office is now asking friends and relatives to get in touch if they know of someone born in **1926** who would like to attend. **Please see the poster and letter in the church porch.**

HOLY WEEK PLANS: Both St Patrick's and St Anne's will be able to celebrate their own Holy Week Liturgy this year. This is welcome news and provides a focus for each of the parish communities to 'journey' with the Lord through His Paschal Mystery. However, for such a liturgy to do justice to the occasion and become a worthy celebration, I am calling on all those (of both St Anne's and St Patrick's) to give what help they can in the following areas:

SERVING IN THE LITURGY / MASSES
READING
OPERATING THE MUSIC SYSTEM
FLOWERS (for Altar of Repose and Easter)



CHOIR / SINGING
WASHING OF FEET (Maundy Thursday)
PRACTICAL HELP (eg EASTER VIGIL FIRE, CANDLE DISTRIBUTION, LIGHTS)

Please do give consideration to how you may be able to assist since we have a wonderful opportunity to reset and re-establish our worshipping communities now we have been able to live as we did in 2019 [remember that time?]

At the back of each church you should find sheets to enable you to choose a particular service/Mass at which you can assist.

Many Thanks Fr. Bob

LENT: OUR 'COMBINED' PARISHES' PROGRAMME FOR THE LENTEN PERIOD CONTINUES WITH A PROGRAMME OF REFLECTIONS THROUGH THE AID OF DVD'S, CD'S, SPECIAL STATIONS OF THE CROSS, AND A 'THREE PARISHES PENITENTIAL SERVICE' WILL ALLOW US TO FULLY ENTER INTO THIS KEY MOMENT IN OUR CHURCH'S LIFE.

Parishioners of both St Anne's and St Patrick's are now encouraged to use our alternative email account which is: stannestpatrick.stafford@rcaob.org.uk (Also at the top of the bulletin)

Altar Servers returning to the sanctuary (Both St Patrick's and St Anne's) [This can happen now]

Refreshments after Sunday Mass

Expanding our teams of readers

Reconstituting our parishes' social team for organising future events

Forming a parish 'Liturgy Team' to help priest in organising principal calendar celebrations such as Easter etc.

Building up our choir and musicians for regular liturgy. [This can start happening now]

Finance Committee reactivated.

Ukrainian Refugees: A number of our parishioners have broached the subject of offering hospitality/homes to Ukrainian refugees. I am happy to relate that we have received an email from the diocese related precisely to this urgent issue and you will find all useful details on the A5 blue sheets found at the back of our churches. Please do take one and see just how offers of help will be co-ordinated through **Caritas** and **Father Hudson's Care**. Our Catholic parishes will be in regular communication with the diocese in regard to this matter.

***Stafford Walsingham Association**

For many years the Stafford Walsingham Association arranged a yearly pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham. We are hoping to revive this in 2022 and invite anyone in our three parishes to become a member. Every third Saturday, a Votive Mass of Our Lady of Walsingham will be held. We hope to begin this from May. During the Mass, we shall 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, the Mass will alternate between the three churches. 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.

St Patrick's Parish: Please note the date in your diary. We will be celebrating a Memorial Mass for the late Mgr John Heslin at 7:00pm on Friday 29th April in St Patrick's. We welcome His Grace, Archbishop Bernard Longley, who will be the main celebrant. This would be a wonderful opportunity for us to re-establish our choir after such a prolonged break. [Parishioners who would be willing to help with light refreshments following the Mass please see Fr Bob or place your name on the sheet at the back of church]. I thank all those who can be of assistance in helping to take part in such a worthy celebration of Mgr John's time in the parish.

Wednesday Drop in have sent £150 to CAFOD 's Ukraine appeal.

The raffle for MacMillan Cancer Care raised £140. Thank you to all who supported this.

Winners were:-

Father Bob. Tin of biscuits,

Geraldine (Peter's sister) Box of chocolates.

Bernadette Roberts. Bottle of wine.

Annette Plant. Tin of Roses chocolates.

We will have another raffle for Easter and the proceeds will be for the Holy Land collection.

Please join us on Wednesday morning after the Eucharistic Service for tea, coffee and a chat.

Pilgrimage to Walsingham: The Annual Diocesan Day Pilgrimage is taking place on Saturday 14th May. St Joseph's in Rugeley have asked if any parishioners from the local churches would be interested in joining them on a coach leaving Rugeley at 7.00am that day. Cost per person is £30.00. It seems a sensible idea to join with other parishes to fill a coach, rather than smaller groups making their own way. Anyone wishing to book a space on the coach needs to contact Caroline Richards on 07817 362601.

Hednesford Diocesan Pilgrimage is taking place on Sunday 3rd July. Any singers who would like to join the choir for the Mass are asked to contact Anne Tibke at tibkes@talk21.com or by phoning 07850 459563. Rehearsals will be held in Hednesford at 7.30pm on April 26th, May 10th and 24th, June 14th and 28th. Further details of the pilgrimage will be advertised soon.

Mothering Sunday: As it will not have escaped the attention of most of you, this Sunday (Laetare) is a special day for all mothers. I am sure you will all be indulged with special treats and relief of chores. A special thanks to Emery's Funeral Services for their kind and generous donation of flowers for mothers this Sunday. Just help yourself to a bunch of Daffs in the church porches of St Anne's and St Patrick's as you leave. Hoping you enjoy a relaxing weekend.

SYNODAL PATHWAY QUESTIONNAIRE (ANALYSIS AND FEEDBACK): Please find a number of printed copies at the back of the churches.



Don't forget to put your clocks forward 1Hour this weekend