



Weekly Newsletter

Sunday 27th December 2020

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 Head Teacher: 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

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Day	Date	Mass Time	Church	Liturgical Day		Mass Intention
Sat	26 th	1:00pm 6:30pm	St Patrick's St Anne's	Vigil Vigil		Jack Devaney (Ann) Pat Parsons RIP
Sun	27 th	8:00am 9:30am	St Patrick's St Anne's	Feast of the Holy Family		The McHugh Family People of the Parish
Mon	28 th	9:30am	St Anne's	The Holy Innocents (martyrs)	Feast	Peggy Ogram RIP
Tue	29 th	9:30am	St Patrick's	St Thomas Becket	Feast	Bernard Massey RIP
Wed	30 th	No Mass		Sixth Day	Octave of Christmas	
Thu	31 st	6:30pm	St Patrick's	Vigil		Fr. McGann & his sisters Kay and Win RIP
Fri	1st	10:00am	St Anne's	Mary Mother of God	Solemnity	Peggy Toner RIP
Sat	2 nd	1:00pm 6:30pm	St Patrick's St Anne's	Vigil Vigil		Ned Taylor RIP Private Intention
Sun	3 rd	8:00am 9:30am	St Patrick's St Anne's	Second Sunday after the Nativity		Bob & Damian 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 St Anne's: Michael Glover, Patricia Walters, Thomas McCormick, Mary Terry, Bernard Lundberg, Cath Miles, Walter Rogers, Richard McMahon, Patsy Connolly Smith, Colin Wise.

Prayers for the departed loved ones whose anniversaries occur at this time: [St. Patrick's] Catherine Gask, Francis Ralph, Patricia Bradfield, Mary Devine, Margaret Leigh, George Storr, Alfred Simpson, Gertrude Vaughan, Brenda Read, Anthony Dykta, Norma Hussey, Nicolino Petrini, Cynthia Scott, Phyllis Costello, Bernard McGurk, Edmund Taylor, Louise Byrne and Katarzyna Grabarek. [St Anne's] Laurence Baker, Robert Glover, Peggy Ogram, John Glover, Margaret Loftus, Louise Harley, Bernard Cunningham and Philip Godridge.

Income 20 th Dec	Source	Gift Aid	Non-Gift Aid	Standing Order	Total	Attendance
St Anne's	Offertory	£612.50	£371.00	£283.84	£1267.34	Sat 41 Sun 38
St. Patrick's	Offertory	£43.00	£55.00	£146.23	£244.23	Sat 35 Sun 28

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 December 2020 Winners. £100 J Pettit - 97, £50 A Rutledge – 135, £20 S Whyte – 139, £10 T Lawrence – 129, £10 J Walsh– 20, £10 M Massey – 154, £10 A Reck – 25, £10 J Price – 80, £10 C McHugh – 39, £10 M Porter – 40, £10 C Johnson – 70.

Thank you for your support during 2020. Hopefully we can count on your support again in 2021. Those who pay yearly please can you put your monies in a sealed envelope with your name on the outside marked for 150 Club and put into the collection bins. Cheques should be made payable to St Patrick's. Further details from Marie on 01785 661012.

John and Jean Pettit thank you all for your messages and prayers and send their best wishes for a Happy Christmas and New Year.

*A big thank you to those parishioners who have filled out new Standing Orders to help support the churches at this critical time. If anyone wishes to make such 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**

Without such donations, our ability to meet the ever mounting expenses (of maintenance, consumables, utilities and fabric upkeep, not to mention health and safety) will diminish. Also, for St Anne's, the regular income from Hall Hire has understandably been reduced. A significant amount of unavoidable work is also planned shortly for both parishes, so the outgoings remain significant. We continue to pay Council Tax; Water; Electricity; Gas. We are all in uncharted territory, an uncertain future, but if you are able please help in any way. Very many thanks

St Anne's Roof Appeal (Update)

The remedial work to the lower roof has now been completed. We are appealing for any donations St Anne's community can donate to this work; my humble appreciation to those who have already given so generously; we are gradually on our way - looking at a sum approaching £10,000. (We are well over a third of the way there). Next year we plan to try to remedy ongoing problems to the upper roof. Two special baskets are at the entrance and exit of the church dedicated to this special fund. Please accept my sincere and grateful thanks for any donations that you may be able to make. I am very conscious of the straitened times we are living through at present. F.Bob

Friends of the Holy Land: During the season of Christmas we continue our Crib Donations for Friends of the Holy Land. This year has been particularly 'ruthless' for them in terms of lack of pilgrims (especially during this coming Christmas period when Bethlehem would normally be packed) and lack of sales for their wonderful artefacts etc. This year's Crib donations run throughout the Christmas period. You can donate through their website (where our Christian brothers and sisters' desperate situation is made evident). It is: <https://www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk> They also take donations via internet banking. Their bank account details are Friends of the Holy Land Sort Code 600541 Account Number 24591211 Gift Aid forms are available in the porch. Any amount of assistance would be very welcome. Many thanks

Women's Refuge (gifts for the Christmas Tree): Donations continue through Christmastide. Rather than bulky gifts [such as bedding, towels etc.] the Refuge would really appreciate vouchers because it eliminates the need for storage, which becomes more problematic in these times. Vouchers or cash in envelopes can always be left at the presbytery and I shall place them under the trees. Mark them either St Anne or St Patrick. Many Thanks

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 and very generous gifts. I hardly need mention how important it was to have such wonderful and selfless volunteers for stewarding and cleaning once our Mass schedule returned. As usual, so many have simply 'got on' with things and this is what helps parishes run so smoothly. We have certainly profoundly missed the full complement of parishioners at our regular Masses and look forward to welcoming back all those who have had to shield for many reasons. Hopefully, by the end of Spring '21 a degree of near "normal" routine may have returned. A big welcome also to our visitors attending Masses over Christmas and any new parishioners.*

** St Anne's parish is now live-streaming Masses, so please go to the front web page and click on Mass Live at the top and you should be able to follow the Mass.

Now, as we have entered the Octave of Christmas, let us find some time to reflect and take in the mystery we have celebrated as we know that Christmastide can be appreciated right through to the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord on 10th January. Meanwhile, I wish you all a blessed New Year full of hope and that 2021 may be kind to you and your families.

[A pastoral letter from Archbishop Bernard Longley will be read out at all Masses this weekend]