

CATHOLIC LEAMINGTON: 4th Sunday of Advent

Sunday 19th December 2021

St Joseph

47 Murcott Road East,
Whitnash CV31 2JJ
T: 01926 772712



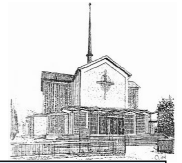
St Peter Apostle

3A Dormer Place
Leamington Spa CV32 5AA
T: 01926 423824



Our Lady

Valley Road
Lillington CV32 7SJ
T: 01926 423824



Parish Priest, St Joseph's
Fr Noel Breslin

Parish Priest of St Peter's & Our Lady's, Dean of Warwick
Deanery Fr John Cross
Assistant Priest: Fr Benedict Skipper
Retired Priest: Fr Christopher Greaney

Office: stjoseph.whitnash@rcaob.org.uk
Parish Priest: fr.noel.breslin@rcaob.org.uk
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Office: stpeterapostle.leamington@rcaob.org.uk
Parish Priest: fr.john.cross@rcaob.org.uk
Assistant Priest: fr.benedict.skipper@rcaob.org.uk
Website: catholicleamington.org.uk

St Joseph's

St Peter's & Our Lady's

Sunday 19th December

Fourth Sunday in Advent

9:00: Phil Shaw RIP;

People of the Parish

5:30: Joe & Rose McGreevy RIP

Monday 20th

7:00: Fred Cowell Birthday Wishes;
Private Intentions (M)

Tuesday 21st

9:30: Steve Whelan RIP;
Michael Gallagher RIP

Thursday 23rd

7:00: Graham Walsh RIP

Friday 24th

5:00: Ian Wilshire RIP;
Heather Long RIP
8:00: Kate Briddon RIP;
Meg Lewis RIP

Saturday 25th

Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord

9:00: People of the Parish

Sunday 26th

Feast of the Holy Family

9:00: John & Teresa Skinner;
Kathleen O'Shea
5:30: Mary McGarvey RIP

Saturday 18th December

SP 9:30: Paddy, Nancy, Finn, John & Patrick Murphy

OL: 5:00: Kitty & Jack Ryan RIP (Jack & Hannah Daly)

Sunday 19th

Fourth Sunday in Advent

SP 9:00: Christine Tam (John Collins)

SP 11:00: Mary & Tom Beirne RIP

SP: 7:00: St. Peter's Church Choir Carol Concert followed
by refreshments in the Hall

Monday 20th

SP: 9:30: John Dawson RIP

SP: 10:00—Coffee Morning after Mass and Holy Hour

Tuesday 21st

SP 11:00: Richard Chidzik

Wednesday 22nd

OL:10:00—Coffee Morning before Mass

OL: 12:00: Jack & Mary Ganglaw

Thursday 23rd

SP: 11:00: Emmanuel Toutoungi RIP

Friday 24th

SP: 9:30: Sarah O'Mullane

SP: 3.30: John Coombes RIP

SP: 9.00: Benito Anzalone RIP *Midnight Mass Liturgy*

OL: Midnight: Pro Populo

Saturday 25th

Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord

SP: 9.00: Maureen, Harry, Anthony, Jonathan Willis & Ann
Alexander

OL: 10.00: Frank McEvoy *Family Mass*

SP: 11.00: People of the Parish

Sunday 26th

Feast of the Holy Family

SP 9:00: Andrea La Barbera

OL: 10:00: Joanne Worrall

SP 11.00: Maria Alice Spencer

Confessions:

St. Peter's: Saturdays: 10:00 - 10:30

Our Lady's: After Mass if a priest is available.

St Joseph's : On Request

The recently deceased of our Churches:

Pasquale Santilli, Hazel Byrne, Michael Gallagher, Anne
Carter, John Tilley.

May they rest in peace.

Mass Intentions: Please be aware at St. Peter's and
Our Lady's the earliest availability for Intentions is in
mid January 2022

Advent Confessions

*Confessions are being heard in the Confessional at St.
Peter's Church on Monday 20th December in both the
morning and evening (see times below)*

10 am - 11am

5pm - 7pm

This is an excellent opportunity to prepare for Christmas

Items for the newsletter should be sent by 1 pm Wednesday to stpeterapostle.leamington@rcaob.org.uk
Or St Joseph's stjoseph.whitnash@rcaob.org.uk

Our prayers for the Sick: Margaret Smith, Peter Simmons, Sheila Ireland, Joe Graham, Flor Duckett, Denis O'Halloran, Caleb O'Neill, Anne Kirby, Anne Fraser, Bridie Daly, John Curran, Peter Curran, Rev Graham Coles, Portia Brightburn, Cyril Sheard, Giovanni Allurlino, Edward Behan, Pam Brambles, Mary Craig, Mario Fasi, Eileen Hiorns, Mist Johnson, David Kendall, Mgr Christopher Lightbound, Antonina La Spisa, Nathaniel Manning, Kate Miles, Paula Newton, Jim Olexa, Fr Malcolm Prince, Ann Reilly, Marie-Claire Banner, Patricia Robinson, Peggy Rowlands, Marjorie Smedley, Terena Tam, Terry Tam, George Wall, Elizabeth Weston, Peter Wright & all those at home, or in the nursing homes & hospitals of the Parish.
Lord Jesus, watch over all who suffer and are in pain. Bless all those who care for them.

St Peter's & Our Lady's

Seven-day candles:

The Our Lady Chapel Candle burns: **In Thanksgiving to Our Lady**

Dear Parishioners,

I have a number of different versions of the motivational poster Keep Calm and.... "Keep calm and eat biscuits" used to hang in the kitchen until the Clergy thought we might try a diet. "Keep calm, I'm a Priest" is printed on a cup in the crockery cupboard. However, most relevant for the moment is the original text "Keep calm and carry on". This would be the mantra for the moment.

Another good mantra would be "Keep the Faith". This was certainly what got us through the worst of the Lockdowns when the fear of Coronavirus caused our National Leaders to take emergency action. Our Christian Faith with it's rich message of salvation provides us with the where withal to keep calm through the hope we have received from the Lord.

During Advent the message of hope is spoon fed to the people of God. In the first week we heard how the people of Israel were inspired to hope for a Messiah. In the Second Sunday of Advent we heard the moment when the Messiah would be announced. In the Third Sunday we were reminded of the Prophecy of John the Baptist of the voice crying in the wilderness. Now the Fourth Sunday of Advent we hear a comparison story of Mary and Elizabeth and so the scene is set for the coming of Jesus at Christmas.

The first coming of Jesus reminds us that God is faithful to his promise of salvation which is our goal. Salvation helps us to look beyond the troubles of our present time and gives us the hope of something better—this is the meaning of Keep "Calm and Carry On".

So in terms of the Church this will be our way forward unless circumstances prove otherwise. We shall continue to take the care now required by the Government of which we have kept to over the last months. Masks and hand sanitiser and don't come to Church with coughs and colds. We have our Live Stream and even our donation button on the website for St. Peter's. Donations on 24th/25th December will be your Christmas Gift for the Priests.

Our Christmas Mass times are listed on the Schedule—We are not booking places.

Keep Calm and Carry On!

Keep the Faith!

Every Blessing,

Fr John

St Joseph's

The Church now is open to the Public for all Masses

All Masses will be Live Streamed

Confessions will be heard on request.

Our Lady's 7 Day Candle Intentions for 2022: Dates are available from 20th February 2022, please place your request together with your donation (£5.00) through the Presbytery letterbox.



This week
Our Lady's
Seven Day
Candle
burns for: **Kate
Briddon RIP**

Gift Aid Envelopes: If there is anyone who is a tax payer and would like to join the Gift Aid Scheme which allows us to claim back 25% tax on donations you make, please contact Patrick Murphy on 07711 346 405

Christmas Mass Times at St. Joseph's:

Christmas Eve Friday 24th December 2021—5pm & 8pm

The 8pm Mass is preceded by a Carol Service at 7:30pm

Christmas Day Saturday 25th December—9am

Feast of the Holy Family Sunday 26th December—9am & 5:30pm

Bank Holiday Monday 27th December—9:30am

Eucharistic Adoration & Rosary: This has now started at 8:30am on Saturday mornings.

Christmas Offerings: The Diocesan schedule reminds us that it is customary for the Christmas Day collections to be an offering to the Clergy. This is one of only two opportunities in the year for us to support our Priests in this way. Special envelopes are now available at the back of Church, please place in the collection baskets or through the Presbytery letterbox. Thank you.

Christmas Wishes: I wish all of you a very Happy and Blessed Christmas and thank you for all your support and kindness throughout this difficult year. I hope that the New Year, 2022, will be one of happiness and fulfilment for each one of you.

Missio Calendars: These are available in the Narthex at no charge, please feel free to take one.

200 Club: For only £1 a month you could win a monthly prize of either £50 or £30 in addition to an extra prize of £25 at Christmas. If you are interested please speak to Anne or Carol after Mass on the first Sunday of each month when the subscriptions are being collected, or leave your details at the Parish Office.

Crib Offerings: The Offerings this year will be for Fr. Hudson's Society .

Walking Together: This weekend we are inviting you to take a Synod Form, to pray and think about the questions on it, then to complete and return it to the Walking Together team before the end of January. If you know other people who might like to share their experience of the Catholic Church and views of how it should develop, please take extra forms for them. They could be family visiting you at Christmas time or friends or colleagues with an interest in the future of the Church or in walking together with us.

Synodality: If anyone from St. Joseph's would like to join the Catholic Leamington Parish Steering Group on Synodality, please contact Paul Hayden at paulhayden444@gmail.com

St Peter's & Our Lady's

SAFEGUARDING: St Peter's Theresa Goh or Susan Chan email sg.stpeterapostle.leafington@rcaob.org.uk , Our Lady's Claire Walsh 01926 430070; St Joseph's Honor Hynes email sg.stjoseph.whitnash@rcaob.org.uk. The **Archdiocese Safeguarding Team** can be contacted on 0121 230 6240. An independent support group for survivors of abuse free tel. 0808 801 0331.

Anniversaries of the faithful departed: Arthur Devaney, Michaela Hogan, Betty Curham, John Murray, Patricia Devshi, Mary Daniels, Olga Kelly, Catherine Jackson, Heather Long, Marianne Malyon Annette Jarolyn, Cynthia McCarthy, Margaret Burns, Eleanor Hastings, Thomas Hayes, Eileen Hawkes, James Daly, Doris Simpson, Yvonne Charters, Jonathan Willis, Frederick Philpott, Sarah O'Mullane, Michael Dollard, John Flanagan, Helena McMahon, Bishop Francis Thomas, Mgr. Canon William Flint, Mgr. Canon Thomas Gavin, Mgr. Patrick O'Mahoney, Canon Gerald Breen, Fr. Daniel O'Connor, Fr. Michael O'Meara, Fr. Edmund Motherway, Fr. Brian Doolan, Fr. Patrick Wall, Fr. Anthony Ireland, Fr. Thomas Meagher, Fr. Denis Murphy, Fr. Colum McCabe, Fr. James McInerney. **Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, Rest in Peace. Amen.**

Bishops Statement on COVID: With respect to the current situation with the omicron variant it is important to ensure the following points are followed in our churches:

- That people displaying any symptoms of covid-19 should stay at home and not travel to church or participate in person.
- That hand sanitiser is available to those attending the Church.
- That people wear a face covering (both nose and mouth) during the act of worship.
- That there is good ventilation and air throughput in the building; in this case, because of climatic conditions, it would be important to remind people to wrap up well in church!
- That a positive message encouraging people to get vaccinated and have the booster jab when able is delivered whenever possible.
- That people who are engaged in a form of pastoral ministry which involves ministry to the housebound, sick and vulnerable, should take regular lateral flow tests to ensure they are safe to do so. These are free from the NHS.

There is now very strong evidence to support that the main mode of transmission is through breath and nasal aerosols, and that the risk from surface and touch transmission is very small indeed. As such, the strict regimes of church cleaning that were recommended at the beginning of the opening of churches for public worship are no longer necessary. General church cleaning is sufficient. If these guidance points are supported, then the churches will continue to be safe places for people to gather for acts of public worship, including over the Christmas period.

**** The Sparrows**** - Sibling Rivalry is rife among the Sparrows at meal times. The older sparrows have the first peck of our dinner and we don't expect the young 'uns to try and knock us off our perch. The young sparrows should know their place. And the same applies to bath time. We do not take kindly to a young bird land in the water while we are taking our bath. Best Tweets, The Sparrows

Fr. Benedict's Advent Homilies: you can listen to Fr Benedict's homilies online at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC32ambzqLEqP58Z0fT6qAew>

First Holy Communion Preparation 2022: We would like to invite all the Children who are in Year 3 and attend a non-Catholic School to register with the Parish Office at stpeterapostle.leafington@rcaob.org.uk for First Holy Communion in 2022. The deadline to register is 6th January 2022.

Young Adults Group (18-30): We're so excited to be able to bring in 2022 together at NEW. This will be a retreat filled with friendship, community, fun, prayer & learning as we enter into a NEW year from the 31st December - 2nd January at Trinity Catholic High School in Woodford Green, London. Book NOW! youth2000.churchsuite.co.uk/events/vxjhconq

Young Adults Group (18-30): Christmas Social. We'll have a cheery chat about all things Christmassy. Everyone in the age group welcome. Join us on our Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/949489832168594>

SPAN: At our December meeting we sent funds to Friends of the Holy Land Institute for the deaf £ 250, Starfish Malawi £ 250 for several projects with vulnerable children, the Kirrua Mission Hospital in Kenya (long supported by Kindaid) £ 250, Hope for Children (Zambia) – a feeding programme £ 300, CAFOD Crisis in Africa – Darfur £ 200

SPAN's Christmas Supermarket Voucher Appeal: Thank you for returning the green envelopes. We have sent out vouchers to local families via our Primary schools and have ordered vouchers for refugee families and others who will receive them via local family support units. Returning envelopes in church collections or the SPAN boxes will enable us to target others after Christmas.

Christmas Cards: sending a warm message to isolated parishioners: Last Christmas the SVP, SPAN and Kindaid sent cards to housebound parishioners, those in Nursing Homes, or those effectively isolating, and it would be good to do the same this year. If you know someone who would appreciate receiving a religious card, please let us know, in confidence, their name and address. Please contact Peter May on 01926 421785 (SVP) or Jeanette Davison on 01926 424529 (SPAN).

Walking Together: Last weekend we gave out Synod Forms at the end of each mass containing questions for you to think about with the help of the Holy Spirit and answer. We now have a box in each of our three churches, where you can return the form. Extra forms will be available, and the boxes will stay in place, until the end of January. So please make sure you give a form to every member of your family and friend who might want to fill one in, so that their voice is heard as well as yours. Every response is confidential. So, if they want you to put the form in the box for them, and would rather not let you read what they have said, please give them an envelope they can put their completed form in and seal it. In the New Year we shall be having parish meetings to share and discuss our thoughts on these matters."

The Gift of Books: Due to the current rise in covid cases in the area we are not hosting a Christmas fair this year. We are asking whether families would consider giving the gift of a book for Christmas to school with the money they would usually spend at our Christmas fundraising events The link to our Amazon shopping list is here

https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/3M9CYYASEGYT?ref=wl_share. All purchased books can be delivered straight to school so you don't even need to leave your home to support us with this. The books on the list are all needed for the spring curriculum. All of the Autumn books were purchased with the support of the school community and they were much appreciated by the children.

The Justice & Peace Rosary Intention for December is: We pray for those who are on their own over Christmas and that we may find ways of reaching out to them

The Universe Catholic Weekly: is thrilled to announce that we have launched our new online newspaper with the full support of our first subscriber none other than His Eminence Cardinal Vincent Nichols. Order your Digital copy by going to www.universecatholicweekly.co.uk or

The December EXTRA will be online this weekend featuring The Synod, SPAN, SVP, The Choir, Pastimes, LiveSimply, COP29 and Laudato Si', Something Greater, World Gifts and an Advent Poem. This can be viewed at www.catholicleafington.org.uk and scroll down and will be sent out with the regular newsletter.

St Peter's & Our Lady's

Christmas / New Year Mass Times

Pre booking is not required. Masks to be worn.

Christmas Eve:

3.30 pm St Peter's

9.00 pm St Peter's (Midnight Mass Liturgy)

12.00 Midnight Mass at Our Lady's

Christmas Day:

9.00 am St Peter's

10.00 am Our Lady's Family Mass

11.00 am St Peter's

Sunday 26th Feast of the Holy Family

9 am St Peter's

10 am Our Lady's

11 am St Peter's.

New Year's Day

10 am Our Lady's

11 am St Peter's

2nd January Second Sunday after Christmas

9 am St Peter's

10 am Our Lady's

11 am St Peter's

From 8th/9th January 2022 Baptism of the Lord

Saturdays

9 am – 10 am St Peter's Exposition

9.15 am - 9.45 am St Peter's Confessions

9.40 am St Peter's Morning Prayer

10.00 am St Peter's Saturday Morning Mass

Vigil for Sunday

4.15 pm - 4.45 pm St Peter's Confessions

5.00 pm St Peter's Vigil Mass

Sundays

9.00 am St Peter's Family Mass & Children's Liturgy

10.00 am Our Lady's Family Mass & Children's Liturgy + coffee etc afterwards

11.00 am St Peter's Coffee in hall afterwards

3.00 pm St Peter's Baptisms (by appointment)

Holy Days of Obligation

9.30 am St Peter's

12 noon Our Lady's

7.30 pm St Peter's