

# CATHOLIC LEAMINGTON: Gaudete Sunday

## Sunday 11th December 2022

### St Joseph

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



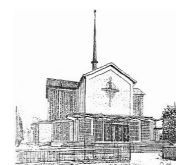
### St Peter Apostle

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: Fr Stephen Day**  
**Retired Priest: Fr Christopher Greaney**

**Office:** stjoseph.whitnash@rcaob.org.uk  
**Parish Priest:** fr.noel.breslin@rcaob.org.uk  
**Website:** stjosephs47.org.uk

**Office:** stpeterapostle.leamington@rcaob.org.uk  
**Parish Priest:** fr.stephen.day@rcaob.org.uk  
**Website:** catholicleamington.org.uk  
**Deanery website:** warwick-catholicdeanery.org.uk

### Mass Schedule

DAY	ST PETER'S	OUR LADY'S	INTENTION
Saturday 10th <i>Opt. Memorial of St. Edmund Gennings, Priest, Martyr</i>	9.00am Exposition 9.15-9.45 Confession 10.00am Mass 4.15-4.45 pm Confession <b>5.00pm Vigil Mass</b>	~	Michael, Kate and Joe Keane  Aria Trinh
<b>SUNDAY 11th</b> <b>Gaudete Sunday</b>	<b>11.15am Mass</b>	<b>9.15am Mass</b>	(with Children's Lit.) Eithne Dunne  Pro Populo
Monday 12th <i>Opt. Memorial of Our Lady of Guadalupe</i> <b>*Mass in Hall*</b>	9:30am Mass <i>in hall</i>	~	Vince Coleman RIP; Eric Craig RIP
Tuesday 13th <i>Memorial of St. Lucy, Virgin, Martyr</i> <b>*Mass in Hall*</b>	9:30am Mass <i>in hall</i>	~	Frank Garvey RIP
Wednesday 14th <i>Memorial of St. John of the Cross, Priest, Doctor of the Church</i>	~	12:00 noon	Holy Souls
Thursday 15th <i>Advent Feria</i> <b>*Mass with St Peter's School in church*</b>	11am Mass <i>in church</i>	~	Tony Sullivan RIP
Friday 16th <i>Advent Feria</i> <b>*Mass in Hall*</b>	11am Mass <i>in hall</i>	~	Patrick Prior
Saturday 17th <i>O Sapientia</i>	9.15-9.45 Confession <i>in church</i> 10.00am Mass <i>in hall</i> 4.15-4.45 pm Confession <b>5.00pm Vigil Mass</b>	~	Pitersz Family  Peter Folker RIP; Noel McGivern RIP
<b>SUNDAY 18th</b> <b>4th Sunday of Advent</b>	<b>11.15am Mass</b>	<b>9.15am Mass</b>	(with Children's Lit.) Mary & Tom Beirne RIP; Peter and Rosemary McGovern RIP  Emmanuel Toutoungi RIP

**Masses at St Joseph's, Whitnash. Details on the website stjoseph47.org.uk**

Sunday 10am & 5:30pm, Weekday Masses are currently suspended until further notice.

*St Joseph's parish newsletter is available on its website*

**The recently deceased of our Churches:** Helen Unitt, Giovanni Adamo, Anne Fraser, Joseph McNally. **May they rest in peace.**

**Anniversaries of the faithful departed:** Mary Connolly, Arsinoe Wainhouse, Patrick Meade, Mary Collins, Maria De Sousa-Monteiro, James Falvey, Steven Kavanagh, Mary Burns, Anne Nelligan, Mgr. Canon Francis Drinkwater, Mgr. Bernard Navin, Canon Joseph Walsh, Fr. Vincent Lucas, Fr. George Gallacher, Fr. William Browne, Fr. John Ellis, Fr. Cyril Barlow, Fr. John Griffith, Fr. Joseph Rowland, Fr. Denis Ryan, Fr. Michael McKeirnan, Fr. Peter Kavanagh, Fr. Fergus O'Connell, Fr. John Dewis, Fr. Daniel O'Connor, Fr. Michael O'Meara, Deacon Brian Salter, Deacon Henry Atkinson. **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.**

**Seven Day Candles:** The **Our Lady Altar candle** burns: in memory of Tony Sullivan RIP.

**Can You Spare An Hour?:** In preparation for Christmas, we are hoping to have a sociable hour doing some extra cleaning and putting up a few decorations after the 9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's Church this Sunday. If you can join us for an hour (maximum), it would be greatly appreciated!

**Children's Liturgy:** at Our Lady's during the 9.15am Mass.

**Pastimes:** (Tuesdays 11 – 3 in St Peter's Hall) are hoping to start a weekly bridge four, probably from 1 pm to 3 pm. Would any social bridge player who'd like to join please drop in on a Tuesday and let Mary Curran know?

**Young Adults Group:** The next meeting will be on Wednesday 14th December 7-9pm for rosary and Christmas social in the Dormer Conference Centre. All young adults welcome.

**Christmas Mass Times** are all on the Christmas Leaflet at the back of church. **At St Peter's:** 3.30pm Vigil, 9pm 'Midnight', 11.15 Mass of the Day. **At Our Lady's** Midnight Mass at midnight, 9.15 Mass of the Dawn.

**Christmas Leaflet:** Please consider giving a Catholic Leamington Christmas leaflet to a Catholic who does not often come to church. They are in display stands at the back of St Peter's and Our Lady's churches.

**Christmas Dinner:** The Christmas Dinner is on **Sunday 18th December** after the 11:15am Mass, please place your name on the sign up sheet at the back of Church.

**Carols at St. Peter's:** Sunday 18th December at 7:30pm. Free entry. There will be a retiring collection for SPAN and Church Maintenance.

**Christmas Post box:** The Christmas Post Box at St. Peter's is now in place. Please place cards in the box for other Parishioners by Surname and don't forget to check to see your own post.

**Basecamp Youth Weekend Away:** For young people in Years 7 -13. All the content, worship, teaching, activities, and admin for the whole weekend is organised. There will be Christian Bible teaching and individual group discussion time between those from your church, Catholic Leamington, which is where intentional Catholics chats would happen. Rose is going with the Thrive team and Niall has offered to book on as Youth Leader. For more information visit [www.borntothrive.org.uk](http://www.borntothrive.org.uk)

**Confirmation Preparation:** for those not at a Catholic School. This will begin in the New Year. Please email [maryrouse@rocketmail.com](mailto:maryrouse@rocketmail.com) if you have a child who may wish to be confirmed next year.

**Catholic Leamington Justice and Peace Prayer Intention:** For December is 'We pray for all those who are persecuted for their beliefs'

**Servers and Serving:** Thank you to our servers at both churches. **We'd love a few more!** See Fr Stephen at Our Lady's or St Peter's or Bob the Master of Ceremonies at St Peter's.

**Baptism Preparation:** It would be great to have parishioners involved in this. Please consider helping. Please see Fr Stephen. Having lay parishioners help is a good way of introducing parents to the parishes. For some, this will be their first contact with a parish—a possible moment of grace for them and us. We are looking at making use of lay help in the new year.

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Please let Fr Stephen know the details of the sick and housebound you visit. You can give the details either by email or written and handed in or put through the presbytery letterbox

**SVP Recent Donation:** The SVP would like to thank those who generously donated 2 boxes of clothing last week, they will now be sent to help refugees at Charities in Coventry. If anyone else would like to donate warm winter clothes please contact Richard Gordon or email the Parish Office—[stpeterapostle.leamington@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:stpeterapostle.leamington@rcaob.org.uk)

**Benches in St Peter's Sanctuary** The backless benches in the sanctuary have been swapped for ones with a back so as to protect the richly decorated walls. Now anyone seated in them can lean back without rubbing the art work.

**Church Heating x 2** Our Lady's is still awaiting confirmation of a date and time from the engineer for his visit. At St Peter's we have sent photos of the faulty parts to the welder. Again, we await a date and time for a site visit. In the meanwhile, St Peter's weekday Masses (except for this Thursday) will be celebrated in the heated hall. Please continue to wrap up well, and as the cold spell continues, please take care of yourselves wherever you are, and be mindful of anyone who might be in particular need.



The QR code for this Sunday's readings. Please feel free to follow the readings during the Mass. Simply scan the box and your smartphone or tablet will take you to the readings. This works for any day, not just Sundays.

#### **Last Week's Plate Collections**

##### **27th November 2022**

1st Collection: **SP:** £550.11 & **OL:** £171.72

2nd Coll.: Church Flowers **SP:** £232.98 & **OL:** £93.90

This week - 2nd Coll.: **SP & OL:** Church Maintenance

**Thank you for your generosity**

**Our prayers for the Sick:** John Bell, Zainab Lawless, Sean Bell, Philip Morris, Mary Yapp, Norma Byrne, Wilfrid Feely, Fr. Tony Rohan, Ahmed Musa, Fina Monastero, Patrick Campbell, Margaret Smith, Peter Simmons, Sheila Ireland, Joe Graham, Caleb O'Neill, Peter Curran, Portia Brightburn, Cyril Sheard, Giovanni Allurlino, Edward Behan, Pam Brambles, Mary Craig, Mario Fasi, Eileen Hiorns, Mist Johnson, David Kendall, Nathaniel Manning, Kate Miles, Paula Newton, Jim Olexa, Fr Malcolm Prince, Marie-Claire Banner, Patricia Robinson, 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. Our Lady, health of the sick, pray for them**

**SAFEGUARDING:** St Peter's Theresa Goh or Susan Chan email [sg.stpeterapostle.leamington@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.stpeterapostle.leamington@rcaob.org.uk) , Our Lady's Claire Walsh 01926 430070; St Joseph's Honor Hynes email [sg.stjoseph.whitnash@rcaob.org.uk](mailto: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.

Dear Parishioners

Parish news is all on the second page—including the slow pace with the heating in both churches. I am disappointed as it limits what we might do in the church to mark the Holy Season. I had thought about various ideas and had hoped for a candlelit *Rorate Coeli* Mass of Our Lady but the early morning will be very cold indeed. The Deanery Priests meet this Tuesday and will be discussing Penitential Services and looking after the needs of St Joseph's Church in Fr Noel's absence. We are now part of one of the biggest (by area) deaneries in the diocese stretching as it now does from Kenilworth in the north to Bicester in the south. The appointment of a new dean is still awaited, however.

Leamington is looking very festive as Christmas approaches, and our schools are busy rehearsing for their carol services and nativity plays. There is much staff and pupils have to do in the remaining days of this term, amid all the excitement and end of term Christmas events. We wish them well in all that they do.

At St Peter's, please use the parish Christmas post box at the back of church. Leave cards in the lettered compartments and don't forget to check if you've been sent any. Please send any letters to Father Christmas by the normal post, however, because I am not sure that he goes to Mass in Leamington.

The cost of gas in both churches has roughly trebled. This includes the Halls and the Conference Centre at St Peter's. Our supplier is awaiting details of how the government intends to support businesses (which for billing purposes includes parishes) before issuing any more bills. At St Peter's we are forced to make considerable savings by virtue of not having a working church boiler. Thank you for tolerating the lack of heating. Bills will be going up for everyone so please accept my thanks for the money you give in support of our parishes. Be assured that spending is carefully monitored. The diocesan financial year ends on 31 December and details of our accounts will be shared in 2023.

We reach the third Sunday of Advent as we wait for Christ's coming and we hear more about John the Baptist. Cut off from events in his prison cell, John is asking about Jesus, in a way that suggests the Forerunner may be doubting his understanding of Jesus. But the signs of the Kingdom are present in Jesus. As the Gospel is made known, the deaf hear, the sick are cured and the dead raised to new life. And then a message perhaps with John in mind: '...happy is the man who does not lose faith in me'. We know that John, faithful to the end, does not in fact lose faith since he challenges the wickedness of King Herod and his wife, paying for it with his life. We know of his faithfulness also because Jesus speaks so highly of him. In the gloom of a winter bringing great challenges here in Britain, let alone the suffering of places such as Ukraine and the persecuted Christians of Africa and Asia, Advent remains a time of hope. God is nothing if He is not calling us to faith, hope and love, to conquer all that is dark in the world and welcome His light. From the darkness of his prison cell, John the Baptist knew that light and witnessed to it. We must do the same.

God bless us all, Fr Stephen

**TO KEEP UP WITH THE LATEST CHURCH NEWS...**

**Vatican website:** [www.vatican.va](http://www.vatican.va)

**Diocesan website:** [birminghamdiocese.org.uk](http://birminghamdiocese.org.uk)

**Parish website:** [catholicleamington.org.uk](http://catholicleamington.org.uk)

Catholic news papers struggled to recover from the pandemic.

'The Universe' is now online [universecatholicweekly.co.uk](http://universecatholicweekly.co.uk),

the 'Catholic Herald' [catholicherald.co.uk](http://catholicherald.co.uk) is a monthly online and in print, 'The Tablet' is online and in print. Please arrange your own personal subscriptions to any periodical you wish as the administration of paper selling via the piety shop inevitably involves having either too few or too many copies causing disappointment or waste.

AWAKE, AWAKE, FLING OFF THE NIGHT,  
FOR GOD HAS SENT HIS GLORIOUS LIGHT...