

CATHOLIC LEAMINGTON: 4th Sunday of Advent

Sunday 18th December 2022

St Joseph

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Whitnash CV31 2JJ
T: 01926 772712



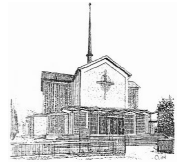
St Peter Apostle

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

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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 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 5.00pm Vigil Mass	~	Pitersz Family Peter Folker RIP; Noel McGivern RIP
SUNDAY 18th 4th Sunday of Advent	11.15am Mass 7:30pm Carol Service	9.15am Mass	(with Children's Lit.) Mary & Tom Beirne RIP; Peter and Rosemary McGovern RIP Emmanuel Toutoungi RIP
Monday 19th <i>O Radix Iesse</i> *Mass in Hall*	9:30am Mass <i>in hall</i>	~	John Harbison
Tuesday 20th <i>O Clavis David</i> *Mass in Hall*	9:30am Mass <i>in Hall</i> 4pm Reception	~	Dian O'Brien Giovanni Adamo RIP
Wednesday 21st <i>O Oriens</i>	11am Mass	~	Requiem: Giovanni Adamo RIP
Thursday 22nd <i>O Rex Gentium</i> *Mass in Hall*	11am Mass <i>in Hall</i>	~	Richard Priest
Friday 23rd <i>O Emmanuel</i> *Mass in Hall*	11am Mass <i>in hall</i>	~	James Daly Anniversary RIP
Saturday 24th <i>Advent FERIA</i>	9.15-9.45 Confession <i>in church</i> 10.00am Mass <i>in hall</i> 3:30pm Vigil Mass 9.00pm Mass	12am Mass	Sarah O'Mullane RIP Kate Briddon & Meg Lewis RIP Dr. Anthony Noble RIP; Paula Urso RIP Pro Populo
SUNDAY 25th Nativity of the Lord	11.15am Mass	9.15am Mass	Fr. Stephen's Intentions Fr. Brendan McGuinness S.D.B. RIP; Florence & Terrence Kennan 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: Jim Olexa, Bernadette Lawlor, Helen Unitt, Giovanni Adamo, Anne Fraser. **May they rest in peace.**

Anniversaries of the faithful departed: Anne Nelligan, George Crawford, Peter Jackson, Domenica Turturici, Winifred Kelly, Yvonne Charters, Johanne Buckley, Francis McCann, Phyllis O'Regan, Dominick Blake, Agnes Slattery, James Ballantine, Janina Rorynska, Margaret Moore, Mgr. Canon William Flint, Canon Gerald Breen, Fr. Daniel O'Connor, Fr. Michael O'Meara, Fr. Edmund Motherway, Fr. Brian Doolan, Fr. Patrick Wall. **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 thanksgiving to our Blessed Mother.

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?

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.

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.

Confirmation Preparation: for those not at a Catholic School. This will begin in the New Year. Please email 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 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.

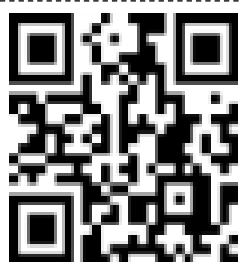
Church Heating—Both Churches: Our Lady's heating continues to have a mind of its own, switching itself off and then needing a break before it can be turned back on. The practical result is that just as the church starts getting warm it often then stops and so the building begins cooling down. The engineer tells us that he cannot come before Christmas and will be contacting us with a date after then. This is taking longer than expected...

St Peter's heating continues to be one small step forward at a time. The welder is happy to do the remedial work having inspected things last week. We are currently seeking engineers to dismantle the boiler to remove the faulty heat exchanger. We have tried five companies, with some prepared to give a vague offer of coming of sometime in February. We are still trying all avenues and putting pressure on the original firm that condemned the heating and offered to repair it all those months ago in the summer. In the meantime, we have ordered another gas space heater which should have arrived on Friday but is now coming on Monday. Together with problems finding gas bottles (although we've always been successful in the end), nothing about heating ever seems to be quick or indeed straightforward.

Onwards and upwards.

SPAN: Thank you for supporting our **SPAN Christmas voucher** appeal. We have ordered £ 4,000 of vouchers to distribute to local families. We hope to raise another £ 1,000. Green envelopes are in our churches, or you can use a JustGiving link: <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/SpanXmas22> If you know of anyone who should receive vouchers **or would like a Christmas card from our churches**, please get in touch. Any queries can be sent to paulhayden444@gmail.com.

At our recent meeting we agreed a further £ 300 for the **CAFOD World Food Crisis appeal**, £ 100 to their work in **Darfur, Sudan**. £ 300 for vulnerable **children in Ghana** and supplying a fridge freezer to a local family in need. We heard about a project called **New Chapters** helping tackle addiction for some of the local homeless which we have agreed to support. Happy Christmas from SPAN.



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

4th December 2022

1st Collection: **SP:** £607.69 & **OL:** £127.61

2nd Coll.: Poor Parishes **SP:** £274.86 & **OL:** £146.81

This weekend - Church Maintenance

Thank you for your generosity

Our prayers for the Sick: Una Maddocks, 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, Fr Malcolm Prince, Marie-Clare 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 , 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.

Social Media in the Parishes: Fr Stephen has been wondering about our use of social media. Between our two parishes there are six various Facebook accounts. This is probably not the most effective way of reaching social media users nor is it the best way of trying to publicise anything. We are wondering about using a central Catholic Leamington page as the one 'go-to' place to spread all the news of events, organisations, Masses, and everything else. This can be linked from the news sheet and website. Someone from every group would have access to this page and be able, quickly and simply, to post items to it. Fr Stephen intends to move forward with this after Christmas and will be contacting those who run the various FB pages in due course. Thank you for all that has been done and may it lead to even more for the future.

Dear Parishioners,

As you read this, the first cold spell of the winter may be ending and the temperature may well be a little higher than it was. As I said last week, thank you to everyone for putting up with our heating problems and still coming to church. A powerful witness indeed. We are trying as hard as we can to have both churches warm as soon as possible. The latest news is on the sheet.

The fourth and final Sunday of Advent brings Christmas very near. Our Lady is the focus of this last Sunday, for her pregnancy is the final few months before Christ is shown to the world. Let us not forget that the Incarnation began at the very first moment of Mary's pregnancy, for Jesus spends His first months as we all do, nurtured and protected in the womb of His mother. His human life begins not at birth but at conception, and so Mary's relationship with her Son has begun before she even sees Him. We are at the heart of a great mystery. Mary's faith and love make her fit to be the first tabernacle of the New Covenant. Soon, shepherds and Magi will arrive to worship the new born child. But first, we wait: Mary has the privilege of knowing and worshipping first of all as she conceives God the Son. Joseph, secondly, coming to understand through the angel's message to him, knew and worshipped the unborn Son of God too. Such is the intimate beginning of the glorious Christmas story. And so on this Sunday, we have not long to wait before we celebrate Christ's birth. But in the meantime, may Christ be nurtured and protected within each of us, may each of us know an renewed and intimate relationship with Christ and may we together celebrate with joy the birth of He who comes into this world that we may be born into the next.

I look forward to celebrating with you all in Our Lady's and in St Peter's at this my first Christmas with you. Thank you for the cards and greetings that have already arrived: nearly five months on we are still struck and encouraged by your warmth and welcome. Thank you.

Wherever you may be this Christmas, may God bless you and your loved ones.

A happy and a blessed Christmas to you all.

Fr Stephen

TO KEEP UP WITH THE LATEST CHURCH NEWS...

Vatican website: www.vatican.va

Diocesan website: birminghamdiocese.org.uk

Parish website: catholicleamington.org.uk

Catholic news papers struggled to recover from the pandemic.

'The Universe' is now online universecatholicweekly.co.uk,

the 'Catholic Herald' 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...