

# CATHOLIC LEAMINGTON

## 1st Sunday of Advent: Sunday 3rd December 2023

**Parish Priest of St Peter's & Our Lady's:** Fr Stephen Day  
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DAY	AT ST PETER'S	AT OUR LADY'S	INTENTION
<b>SUNDAY 3rd December</b> <b>1st Sunday of Advent</b>	Confession 4.15-45pm <b>5.00pm Vigil Mass</b>	~	Mary & Tom Beirne RIP; Eileen Lawless RIP
	<b>11.15am Sung Mass</b>	<b>9.15am Sung Mass</b> <i>Children's Liturgy</i> <b>4pm Sung Vespers</b>	Holy Souls Jay Kathan RIP; Ancy Kattady
Monday 4th <i>Opt. Mem. of St. John Damascene, Pr., Dr. of the Church.</i>	10am Mass	~	Trisha Fitzpatrick RIP
Tuesday 5th <b>Feast of St. Birinus, Bp.</b>	<b>11am Mass</b>	~	Andreana Reeves RIP
Wednesday 6th <i>Opt. Mem. of St. Nicholas, Bp.</i>	~	10am Mass, and <i>Exposition follows</i>	Deceased of the Shiels family
Thursday 7th <i>Mem. Of St. Ambrose, Bp., Dr. of the Church</i>	10am Mass	~	Priest's Intentions
Friday 8th <b>Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b>	11am Funeral Mass 3pm Divine Mercy	~	<b>Requiem: Kathleen McNally RIP</b>
Saturday 9th <i>Opt. Mem. of St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin</i>	Confession 9.15am 10am Mass	~	Pat Whelan RIP
	Confession 4.15-45pm <b>5.00pm Vigil Mass</b>	~	Keenan, Woods & Burford Families
<b>SUNDAY 10th</b> <b>2nd Sunday of Advent</b>	<b>11.15am Sung Mass</b>	<b>9.15am Sung Mass</b> <i>Children's Liturgy</i>	Peter & Rosemary McGovern RIP Alice Waterfield RIP; Stuart Smith RIP

**SUNDAY MASSES AT ST JOSEPH'S, WHITNASH: 10AM & 5:30PM.** Details on their website: [stjoseph47.org.uk](http://stjoseph47.org.uk)

**Our prayers for the Sick:** Giovanni Allurlino, Marie-Claire Banner, Edward Behan, Sarah Bonnalie, Pam Brambles, Portia Brightburn, Norman Byrne, Mario Fasi, Wilfrid Feely, Joe Graham, Eileen Hiorns, Sandra Hunt, Sheila Ireland, Mist Johnson, David Kendall, Una Maddocks, Nathaniel Manning, Kate Miles, Fina Monastero, Philip Morris, Michael Mulcahy, Jo Murphy, Andrew Murray, Ahmed Musa, Paula Newton, Gill Parker, Fr. Malcolm Prince, Fr. Tony Rohan, Margaret Smith, John & Nell Smyth, Christine Tam, Terena Tam, Terry Tam, Margaret Thornton, Elizabeth Weston, Peter Wright, Mary Yapp & 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, help of the sick, pray for them.**

**Anniversaries of the faithful departed:** Franco Nicolini, Roland O'Donnell, Patrick Taylor, Mary St. John, Emma Ashby, Brigid Stokes, Rowland Swain, Jan Iwanikiw, Paul Teclaff, Stuart Smith, Pasquale Santilli, Mary Connolly, Arsinoe Wainhouse, Fr. Liam McFarlane, Fr. Horace Relf, Fr. Michael Knight, Fr. Anthony Kane, Fr. George Rafferty, Fr. Thomas McMorrow, Fr. Jerome O'Flynn, Fr. Hugh Molloy, Fr. Vincent Lucas. **The recently deceased:** Fr. Sean Turley, Paul Turley, Kathleen McNally, David Grayling, Alice Waterfield. **Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, Rest in Peace.**

**SAFEGUARDING** The Parishes operate in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies and procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are: **Our Lady's** Claire Walsh email [sg.ccolc.lillington@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.ccolc.lillington@rcaob.org.uk); **St Peter's** Theresa Goh or Susan Chan email [sg.stpeterapostle.leamington@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.stpeterapostle.leamington@rcaob.org.uk) **The Diocesan Safeguarding Team** can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or at [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) if you have any concern.

### - PARISH FACEBOOK PAGES -

Catholic Leamington: <https://www.facebook.com/RCatholicLeamington>

Our Lady's: <https://www.facebook.com/ourladyslillington>

St Joseph's: <https://www.facebook.com/stjosephswhitnash>



## DECEMBER, MONTH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

**HOLY MARY, CONCEIVED WITHOUT SIN, PRAY FOR US**

**WHO HAVE RECOURSE TO THEE!**

St Peter's, St Joseph's & Our Lady's Churches are part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham. Reg. Charity No. 234216.

**WELCOME TO MASS** Today is **Advent Sunday**. The Church's year begins afresh as we ponder the beginnings of God's plan for our salvation. Long ago prophets knew that God would send His Son and spoke words of hope. Our Blessed Lady and St John the Baptist witnessed to Christ as a child and an adult when, in God's good time He is born. Advent reminds us of how God keeps His promises, of how we need patience to await that keeping, and that Christ has promised to come again at the end of time. Let Advent be Advent—not a time of pretending it's already Christmas—but a time to savour how God's loving plan unfolds for us. Mary's pregnancy ends on Christmas Day, but let us rejoice in the wonder and blessings of her patient faith, and that Christ came among us, not on the first Christmas Day, but at the moment of His conception, sharing in every marvellous stage of human growth that, in the fullness of time, He may let us share in the glory of eternal life. Have a happy and a blessed Advent! God bless, *Fr Stephen*

**THE YEAR OF PRAYER BEGINS TODAY:** Pope Francis has designated a year of prayer that we may all more deeply explore what prayer is and our own experience of it. **After Christmas** local priests will be leading a series of discussions about aspects of the **Our Father**, the prayer that Jesus gave us. Watch this space.

**THE QR CODE FOR TODAY'S READINGS:** Simply scan on your smart phone. This works for every day.



**ST PETER'S LIVESTREAM:** —[St Peter's Leamington Spa - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=StPeter'sLeamingtonSpa)

**HOLY COMMUNION:** If you are not a Roman Catholic, a member of a church in full communion with it, or an Orthodox unable to attend an Orthodox Liturgy, you are warmly invited to come forward for a blessing at the time of Holy Communion. Holy Communion cannot be given to all, as it is for us the sign of **unity in the faith**. Communion is not bread and wine, but the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of God the Son. Let us pray for true unity among all Christians, as God wills. As for Catholics, we need always to remember the truth of the Blessed Sacrament and receive Jesus with care, attention and reverence. **Blessed be Jesus in the most Holy Sacrament of the Altar!**

**ST PETER'S BOILERS: this is THE LAST SUNDAY WITHOUT HEATING!** The boilers are due to be commissioned this week. Donations may be made by the QR code, the website, your own labelled envelope or via — <https://gofund.me/d4561fac> or in the occasional second collections for church maintenance. We have now raised almost £55,000 and have about £40,000 to go. *Thank you very much indeed.*

**SUNG EVENING PRAYER:** for he start of Advent at Our Lady's this Sunday, 3 December at 4 pm. All are very welcome. There will be mulled wine and mince pies afterwards.

**PASTIMES COMMUNITY HUB:** A warm place to meet for company, refreshments (including soup and rolls), and a variety of activities - Tuesdays 12-3pm. A warm welcome in a warm place. Do come!

**ST PETER'S SCHOOL CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP:** In aid of school funds on 4 Dec. Details [here](#) if you are reading this online, or ask at school in person.

**DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET:** We are praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet with intercessions at the Foot of the Cross every Fri from 3—3.30 in St. Peter's. Heavenly Father, for the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world. Please join us.

**PIETY SHOP—CHRISTMAS:** There is now a selection of Christmas Cards, Crib, Nativities, Calendars, Christmas Candles, Incense, 2024 Diaries and much more. Please pop in and have a look. Electronic payments accepted, please ask for further information. You can scan this code to pay by smartphone.



**FRIDAY LUCHEON CLUB:** Fri 8 Dec 1pm, Christmas lunch, at Whittles, Binswood Av, Leamington. See notice in porch to sign up, by this Friday.

**ADVENT DAY OF CONFESSION AT STPETER'S:** 14 December

**CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES:** will be as last year. 3.30pm Vigil Mass SP, 9pm SP, Midnight OL, 9.15am OL, 11.15am SP

**OUR LADY'S 100 CLUB** In January we are starting a 100 club in aid of the church maintenance fund. Sue Sugars will be in the church hall each Sunday after Mass. Drawn on the fourth Sunday of the month from Jan 28.

**SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION FOR CHILDREN NOT AT CATHOLIC SCHOOLS** *First Communion* classes will begin in January. *Confirmation* Classes will begin in April. These will take place at Our Lady's and be led by our team of catechists. Please contact Mary Rouse for full details and to enroll your child - [maryrouse@rocketmail.com](mailto:maryrouse@rocketmail.com)

**DEANERY VISITATION:** Our Visitation (both Our Lady's and St Peter's) will be on **27 & 28 Jan 2024**.

**WALKING TOGETHER 'DEEPENING FAITH' GROUP:** plan to start a weekly series of 3/4-hour meetings after Christmas to study and reflect on the readings of the following Sunday's mass. Please contact Jonathan Holden ([jaholden@virginmedia.com](mailto:jaholden@virginmedia.com) or 01926 420045).

**YOUTH WORK IN LEAMINGTON AND WARWICK:** *'Come and See'* join us on **Feb 1** to find out what could be possible **St Mary Immaculate, Warwick. 7.30- 8.30pm**

**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** to volunteer

**PARKING AT OUR LADY'S:** While the health centre is being constructed next to Our Lady's Church, **parking is very limited**. Please park without giving local residents any reason to complain. *Thank you.*

**ST PETER'S CHRISTMAS FAIR:** *Thank you* to all who worked so hard to organise this, and to all who supported it. £2,655 raised for the Boilers!

**7-DAY CANDLES:** On 22-29 Oct the **St. Joseph Altar** candle burnt for: Terence Keenan. This week **Our Lady Altar** candle burns for: Patrick's Healing, **Sacred Heart Altar** candle burns: In Thanksgiving. If you would like to have the Altar candle lit for your intention please complete and return the envelope at the back of St. Peter's Church together with the suggested donation of £10.

**DONATING TO ST PETER'S:** You may give online via the website OR by simply scanning this QR code on your smart phone. *Thank you*



**ST PETER'S HALL** The hall is **open for hire** by groups and people who are not connected to the parish. *We need bookings* as currently the hall loses us money every week. Hourly rate £40, discount for all day bookings. **Note:** parish organisations are **not** subject to this rate. Email [hall.stpeterapostle.leamington@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:hall.stpeterapostle.leamington@rcaob.org.uk)

**CAFOD:** The wonderful World Gifts Catalogue are available in church. Buy a chicken, medical care or a range of other practical gifts for those struggling in developing countries.

**SPAN:** Christmas Supermarket Voucher Appeal please use the green envelopes which can be Gift Aided or our JustGiving page <http://www.justgiving.com/campaign/spanappealchristmas23>

**SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL (SVP) CHRISTMAS HAMPERS**

The SVP needs help again to provide Christmas Hampers for needy families in the area. Boxes are at the back of church for donations of non-perishable food items and games and jigsaws also, by **10 Dec**.

**BE A SECRET SANTA:** to injured, war-orphaned children in Ukraine! Leamington Polish Centre is appealing for small gifts. (Lego, painting sets, headphones, dolls, new or second-hand scooters, power banks, mobile phones without a SIM lock). The gifts must be dropped off to Unit 20 (next to what was Marks & Spencer) in the lower mall of the Royal Priors Shopping Centre *by this Friday*. More information [www.belveder.co.uk](http://www.belveder.co.uk)

**CATHOLIC LEAMINGTON WEBSITE:** Could *you* look after it? Help is needed to maintain the site. Please volunteer to Fr Stephen

**DECEMBER JUSTICE & PEACE PRAYER INTENTION:** When we think of the Holy Family at Christmas we pray for all driven from their homes by war, threat of persecution or climate change.

**LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTIONS:** St. Peter's - 1st: £376.62, 2nd (Catholic Youth Service) £245.40, Our Lady's - Not known at time of printing. 2nd Collection this weekend: SP—Church Boilers, OL—Church Maintenance. *Thank you!*

**PLEASE PRAY FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST**

**L**ORD GOD, your Son Jesus Christ took flesh and trod the soil of His homeland. We pray for all who live on that same soil today that hatred and violence may be replaced by justice and peace. Turn savage hearts from the way of death and let Your message of peace and life be heard once again as it was on the hills of Bethlehem at Jesus's birth. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

**ARRANGING A WEDDING**

**Congratulations on your engagement!** To arrange a wedding, an initial meeting with Fr Stephen is necessary so that the canonical and civil processes can be explained and correctly followed. Couples need to give at least six months' notice.

**ARRANGING A BAPTISM**

**Congratulations on the birth of your baby!** First, parents must begin the process by seeing Fr Stephen *in person* at a Sunday Mass. He can then check a few simple facts and give out a baptism application form. We do not deal with initial arrangements by phone, email or through other members of the family, but face to face. Parents need to attend a preparation session before the baptism can take place.