

CATHOLIC LEAMINGTON

Gaude Sunday: Sunday 17th December 2023

Parish Priest of St Peter's & Our Lady's: Fr Stephen Day
Retired Priest: Fr Christopher Greaney

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DAY	AT ST PETER'S	AT OUR LADY'S	INTENTION
SUNDAY 17th December <i>3rd Sunday of Advent,</i> Gaude Sunday <i>O Sapientia</i>	Confession 4.15-45pm 5.00pm Vigil Mass	~	Paddy, Nancy, John, Patrick & Finn. Murphy
	11.15am Sung Mass	9.15am Sung Mass <i>Children's Liturgy</i>	Eithne Dunne RIP; Kitty & Jack Ryan RIP Anniversary Emmanuel Toutoungi RIP
Monday 18th <i>O Adonai</i>	10am Mass	~	Di O'Brien RIP; John Turner RIP 1st Anniversary
Tuesday 19th <i>O Radix Iesse</i>	10am Mass	~	Stuart Smith RIP
Wednesday 20th <i>O Clavis David</i>	~	10am Mass	Elizabeth Hastings RIP
Thursday 21st <i>O Oriens</i>	10am Mass	~	John Dawson RIP
Friday 22nd <i>O Rex Gentium</i>	10am Mass 3pm Divine Mercy	~	Holy Souls; Jan Smith—Christmas Gift
Saturday 23rd <i>O Emmanuel</i>	Confession 9.15am 10am Mass	~	Holy Souls
	Confession 4.15-45pm 5.00pm Vigil Mass	~	James Daly RIP
SUNDAY 24th <i>4th Sunday of Advent</i> <i>Day of Prayer for Expectant Mothers</i>	11.15am Sung Mass 3:30pm Christmas Vigil 9pm Christmas Eve Night Sung Mass	9.15am Sung Mass Midnight Sung Mass, preceded by Carols from 1130	Hilary Barry RIP Mary & Tom Beirne RIP; Sarah & Patrick O'Mullane RIP Pat McHale—Christmas Gift Delia Flanagan Pro Populo

SUNDAY MASSES AT ST JOSEPH'S, WHITNASH: 10AM & 5:30PM. Details on their website: stjoseph47.org.uk

Anniversaries of the faithful departed: Mary Burns, Marian Dowds, Virginia Wilding, Anne Nelligan, Bridget Daly, George Crawford, Dian O'Brien, Peter Jackson, Domenica Turturici, Winifred Kelly, Yvonne Charters, Johanne Buckley, Francis McCann, Phyllis O'Regan, Paola Urso, Dominick Blake, Mgr. Cn. William Flint, Cn. Gerald Breen, Fr. Fergus O'Connell, Fr. John Dewis, Fr. Daniel O'Connor, Fr. Michael O'Meara, Fr. Edmund Motherway, Fr. Brian Doolan, Fr. Patrick Wall. **The recently deceased:** John Smyth, Margaret Butler, John Westrope, Fr. Sean Turley, David Grayling. **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. Amen.**

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 ; **St Peter's** Theresa Goh or Susan Chan email sg.stpeterapostle.leamington@rcaob.org.uk **The Diocesan Safeguarding Team** can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or at safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concern.

- PARISH FACEBOOK PAGES -

Please visit these sites to keep up with the latest news—if reading this online simply click on the blue text

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 the **Third Sunday of Advent**. John is presented to us again as the herald of the Saviour. He is true to his calling and is not tempted to promote himself but the constantly points to Jesus. He is concerned that the people should know Christ, whose sandals he says he is not worthy of undoing. But of course, as John knows and the Roman Centurion realised when asking Jesus for the healing of his servant, it is Jesus who can make us worthy. Coming to share our humanity, Jesus raises it up to share His glory. All we have to do is acknowledge Him for who He is. And as we travel through Advent we are of those who did just that—the prophets, John the Baptist and—next week—Our Lady. God bless, *Fr Stephen*

THE YEAR OF PRAYER IS ONGOING: 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. We hope to have a variety of other events too, but in the meanwhile let us grow in prayer by praying. Rediscover the Rosary; keep ten minutes a day to tell God your regrets, your hopes and rejoice in His love; drop into church and come before the Blessed Sacrament which is Jesus waiting for us; just stop all activity and bring God to mind.

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](#)

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: you will know from your presence in church whether or not the engineers got things going this last Friday as they said they would. The **Catholic Leamington Facebook** page is where you can hear news first. **Thank you for your donations:** we are still in need of £18,000.

YOUNG ADULTS CHRISTMAS SOCIAL: (18-35yrs) on Friday 22 Dec. Come for tunes, games, and a quiz - bring along 10 quiz questions (if you like) and festive cheer.

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!

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 SHOPS—CHRISTMAS: There is now a selection of Christmas Cards, Cribes, 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.



CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES: Vigil Mass of Christmas at St Peter's 3.30pm, Christmas Eve Night Mass at St Peter's 9pm, Midnight Mass preceded by carols and readings from 1130pm at Our Lady's, Christmas Mass of the Dawn at Our Lady's 9.15pm, Christmas Mass of the Day 11.15am at St Peter's.

OUR LADY'S 100 CLUB: In January we are starting a 100 club in aid of the church maintenance fund. 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

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 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.**

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

SPAN: The Christmas Supermarket Voucher Appeal is progressing; our target is £ 5,000. Our JustGiving page is <http://www.justgiving.com/campaign/spanappealchristmas23> We celebrated 50 years since our first meeting this week and agreed to send: £500 to Friends of the Holy Land, £300 FoHL Inst for the Deaf, Jordan, £300 Starfish Malawi for maternity care, £300 for sanitation in Ghana, £200 for prisoner visits, £350 for local bereavement support, £100 CAFOD in Darfur. Thank you.

COMING TO CHURCH: Do you need a lift to church? Can you give a parishioner a lift to church? Contact Peter 01926 428399

FATIMA PILGRIMAGE: 9th to 16th July 2024: Please see notice board for information. Local contact Peter 01926 428399

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: £495.02, 2nd (Poor Parishes) £253.56, Our Lady's - 1st: £306.68, 2nd (Poor Parishes) £279.84. 2nd Collection this weekend: SP & OL: Church Christmas Flowers. **Thank you!**

PLEASE PRAY FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

LORD 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.

Our prayers for the Sick: Giovanni Allurlino, Marie-Clare 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, 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.**