

CATHOLIC LEAMINGTON: 2nd Sunday of Advent

Sunday 5th December 2021

St Joseph

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



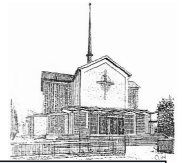
St Peter Apostle

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
Website: stjosephs47.org.uk

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 5th December

Second Sunday of Advent

9:00: Paul Keigher;
John & Alice Marsh
5:30: Eugene McGarrell RIP;
Sheila & Peter Waller RIP

Monday 6th

7:00: Private Intention (JL);
Special Intentions (AK)

Tuesday 7th

9:30: Zena Godwin RIP;
Eugene McGarrell RIP

Wednesday 8th

9:30: Private Intentions

Thursday 9th

7:00: Michael Long RIP;
Deceased members of the McGreevy & Hopkins families

Friday 10th

9:30: Andy, Olwyn & Roger

Saturday 11th

9:30: Eugene McGarrell RIP;
William (Bill) Hanley RIP

Sunday 12th

Third Sunday of Advent

Gaudete Sunday

9:00: Eric Craig RIP;
Deceased members of the Moran & Horan families
5:30: People of the Parish

Saturday 4th December

SP 9:30: David Lander
OL: 5:00: Mary & Paddy Beausang

Sunday 5th

Second Sunday in Advent

SP 9:00: Mary & Noel McGivern
SP 11:00: Irene Costa
SP: 3:00: Baptism: Evelyn Coulson

Monday 6th

SP: 9:30: Nuala Scarisbrick RIP
SP: 10:00—Coffee Morning after Mass

Tuesday 7th

SP 11:00: John Ireson RIP

Wednesday 8th

OL:10:00—Coffee Morning before Mass
OL: 12:00: E., N., T., J. & B. Cummings Family

Thursday 9th

SP: 11:00: Paul Bidmead RIP

Friday 10th

SP: 11:00: Christa-Marie Cross RIP

Saturday 11th

SP 9:30: Peter & Rosemary McGovern
OL: 5:00: Eithne Dunne RIP

Sunday 12th

Third Sunday in Advent

Gaudete Sunday

SP 9:00: Fr. Noel Breslin
SP 11:00: Antonio Quirino Spencer

The recently deceased of our Churches:

Anne Carter, John Tilley, Annie Gleeson, Laurence Treacy, Mary O'Connor.
May they rest in peace.

Confessions:

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

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

St Joseph's : On Request

Saints of the week

Monday 6th December

Opt. Memorial of St. Nicholas, Bishop

Tuesday 7th

Memorial of St. Ambrose, Bishop, Doctor of the Church

Wednesday 8th

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Thursday 9th

Opt. Memorial of St. John Diego Cuahtlatotzin

Friday 10th

Opt. Memorial of St. Edmund Gennings, Priest, Martyr

Opt. Memorial of Our Lady of Loreto

Friday 10th

Opt. Memorial of St. Damasus I, Pope

Anniversaries of the faithful departed:

Doris Jennings, John Farrell, Mary O'Driscoll, Patty Desay, James Curtin, Betty Ward, David Scannell, Mario Venuto, Michael Daly, Cornelius Cullinane, Thomas Jackson, Harry Hawkes, Bridget McNulty, Brigid Stokes, Derek Smith, Jan Iwanikiw, William Desay, Gerald Parker, Patrick Meade, Margaret Bell, Maria de Sousa-Monteiro, Ruth Paget, Mary Collins, Mgr. Canon Francis Drinkwater, Canon Joseph Walsh, Fr. Liam MacFarlane, Fr. Horace Relph, Fr. Michael Knight, Fr. William Warner, Fr. Anthony Kane, Fr. George Rafferty, Fr. Thomas McMorrow, Fr. Jerome O'Flynn, Fr. Hugh Molloy, Fr. Vincent Lucas, Fr. George Gallacher, Fr. William Borwne, Fr. John Ellis. **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.**

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-Clare 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

Dear Parishioners,

A warm welcome back to Fr Benedict Skipper who returned to us just over a week ago. He is on light duties and will be able to help with some of the Masses in the Parish.

Last Thursday St Joseph's celebrated its 50th Anniversary. At a special Mass it was lovely to meet Bishop David Oakley, formerly parish priest of St Joseph's Church, together with Fr Brian Boyle, Fr Andy Franklin and concelebrating clergy. In his homily Bishop David spoke about his memories of the roof at St Joseph's and issues with the water ingress over the years. Was it a co-incidence that the final hymn of the mass was "Our God reigns! "It certainly struck a chord with me as leaking roofs seems to be the bane of the life of Parish Priests and headteachers alike (more on this later) We enjoyed a very uplifting and affirming Mass followed by a fantastic reception in the hall afterwards with a spread of cakes and refreshments prepared by the Parishioners. It was an evening to remember for the Parishioners in Whitnash.

At St Peter's we dealt with a few more mundane issues as they say it never rains but it pours! On Monday evening we had an intruder in the garages, and our security has been ramped up in case anyone else decides to have a try. We have had a problem over the last month or so with the roof at St Peter's Presbytery. It is the original roof since 1864 and now needs attention. Since that heavy downfall about a month or so ago which must have dislodged something the rainwater is finding its way through the upstairs rooms (no sign of anything) into the ceiling of the ground floor rooms and has caused much damage. We hope it will be an insurance claim. Last week I had 8 buckets to collect the water which was flowing through. When the house was built the chimney and roof tiles were packed with mortar but not keyed in properly with lead flashing. This penny saved has proved to be a pound foolish. The roof has been repaired.

More roofing work has taken place on the north side of the church boiler house roof. This work was three years overdue and when arranged many of the roof joists were rotted. The penny saved here was to fail to key in the flat roof to the church wall. At some stage the roof was covered in a protective coating, but it let water through. We think this is the reason why the north wall of the church is permanently damp because every time it rains there is an insufficient gradient on the roof for the water to run off and it puddles next to the church. Just over a week ago we had the south heating system repaired again.

Essential repairs and maintenance cost the parishes in Catholic Leamington thousands of pounds every year. We depend on your generosity to care for our buildings. Please remember to support your church which is a charity.

The Christmas and New Year Mass Times for St Peter's and Our Lady's are included in the newsletter this week and will be available in all ...Continues Page 3.

Parish Lunch: 19th December 2021 a Christmas Sunday Lunch in the Main Hall at St. Peter's after the 11am Mass. The cost is £20 per person which includes a 3 course meal and glass of wine. Sign up sheet at the back of the Church Now Available. Please place your money into an envelope with your name and Christmas Parish Lunch written clearly on the front and post through the Presbytery letterbox. The last day to pay is Wednesday 16th December. If you need to cancel please telephone 07780 543976

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 2021: The candle is now fully booked for this year, dates are available for 2022 from 30th January, please place your request together with



This week
Our Lady's
Seven Day
Candle
burns for: **Paddy,
Teresa & Ann
Sugrue RIP**

your donation (£5.00) through the Presbytery letterbox.

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

Second Collection: There will be a second Collection today at all Churches for the Poor Parishes Fund.

Synodal Pathway: Pope Francis is asking you and me, all the people of God, in all parishes around the world, about our dreams of the Church in the future.

Our parish steering group on the Synod, a word meaning 'Walking Together' has described how you can participate in the December EXTRA. If you cannot go online and download the EXTRA, we have produced a Synod Special leaflet called 'Your Church – Your Voice' available after Mass. It reminds us to start with prayer and lists ten areas on which we can reflect at some point during the weeks ahead, perhaps thinking and praying about one area each day.

Starting in January we will hold some parish meetings across Catholic Leamington for you to join. Next week we will distribute Synod Forms to help gather your views and that of others on ways the Church should be in the future.

You can find out more on the Parish website.

Please take a leaflet for anyone you know of who does not have the internet and does not get to Mass at the moment.

June Arran's Celebration of Life: Lennie and family would like to thank everyone for making June's celebration such a wonderful success! We raised £122 for Zoe's Place in Coventry (plus a few people donated directly) and June would have been over the moon.

What a fabulous evening with loads of love, laughter and naturally a few tears.

Thank you all for coming and for your wonderful generosity. Lennie and family.

200 Club: Congratulations to Collette McSharry and Martha Sullivan who won the 1st and 2nd prizes in November's 200 Club draw. December's 200 Club collection and draw will take place this Sunday, 5th December. For only £1 per month (cash, cheque or standing order) you could win a monthly prize of £50 or £30. In addition this month there will be the extra Christmas prize of £25. If you are interested in joining please speak to Anne or Carol in the Narthex after Mass or leave your details and we will call you back to discuss. All profits go to the Church Building Fund.

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

Boxing Day 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.

Walk With Me: The Advent booklets are now available in the Narthex.

St Peter's & Our Lady's

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.

Christmas Flower Collection: There will be a 2nd Collection this week for the Christmas Flowers in the Church. Alternatively, if you wish to sponsor the flowers for Christmas please speak to Fr. John.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT: On Sunday 19th December at 7.30. JOY TO THE WORLD. St Peter's choir would like to invite you to a family evening of joyful Christmas Music. Carols and Readings. **Free Entry** with a retiring collection for **Zoe's Place Baby Hospice** and **Papyrus prevention of young suicide.**

Dear Parishioners Continued: the usual places. Please keep an eye on the newsletter for the many Christmas and advent events.

From the New Year the 5pm Saturday Vigil Mass will return to St Peter's. The 10 am Family Mass will return to Our Lady's and I hope to return to some sense of normality following the pandemic, illness and other issues which required changes to the weekend Mass times.

Please see page 5 for the list of Mass times over Christmas.

Every blessing,

Fr John

**** The Sparrows**** - Fr. John has taken to call us Gannets because he says we are eating him out of house and home! We are sparrows, we are hungry and we provide a valuable service. Best Tweets, The Sparrows

Fr. Benedict's Advent Homilies: you can listen to Fr Benedict's homilies online <https://frbenedict.blog/blog-2/>

Private Masses: Last week Mass was offered in private for the following intentions: **Eileen Lawless, Thanksgiving, Nuala Scarisbrick RIP, John Ireson RIP.**

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.leamington@rcaob.org.uk for First Holy Communion in 2022. The deadline to register is 6th January 2022.

Something Greater: Please see Newsletter Extra for current news. Prayer bookmarks are available at the back of church

Parish Update: - **for all parishioners of St Peter's and Our Lady's.** Please complete and return the Catholic Leamington Parish Update form available at the back of St Peter's and Our Lady's. Take one form for each household and return as soon as possible either in the boxes at the back of St Peter's or Our Lady's or to St Peter's presbytery. It is also available on the parish website if you would rather complete it online. This is a vital way to continue the rebuilding of our Catholic community and update our parish records at the same time.

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

SPAN: Our meeting agreed to send £ 250 for appeals from: the Orchid Project - female genital cutting (FGC) is practiced in 90 countries in Africa, Asia and Middle East, OP work with communities to change this not religious but cultural practice; Tanzania Development Trust enabling water access through using hand drills and water pumps; Children of the Dump helping neglected children in Manila, Philippines, an International Refugee Trust project supporting the "Italian Hospitals" in Karak and Amman, Jordan, run by the Dominican Sisters of the Presentation and the Comboni Missionary Sisters.

SPAN's Christmas Supermarket Voucher Appeal: see Nov EXTRA for details. Green envelopes are available our Churches. A Just Giving donation page is available www.justgiving.com/campaign/spanxmasappeal21 which can also be Gift Aided.

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: Your chance to share views on the way forward for the Church (in Leamington, in our Diocese, in England, and worldwide) is getting nearer. Last Tuesday the steering group decided on some changes to the forms, started planning a series of meetings (some physical, some on-line) in January and February, and decided how to keep you informed of progress. Keep an eye on the Synod page of the Catholic Leamington website, and on the Newsletter EXTRA starting with the December issue this weekend; and look out for announcements and leaflets in church, particularly a Synod Special leaflet called "Your Church – Your Voice" available after every Mass this weekend. It reminds us to start with prayer and lists ten areas on which we can reflect at some point during the weeks ahead, perhaps thinking and praying about one area each day. Please contact paulhayden444@gmail.com with any queries.

CAFOD World Gifts: Word Gifts are a range of virtual charity gifts that will help transform the lives of families living in poverty. If you are asked what you would like for Christmas you can say, "A World Gift from CAFOD please". Or you might like to give them to others and they will delight the people you give them to. Please see the range and order online at worldgifts.cafod.org.uk as there only a limited number of catalogues at the back of the church.

WEBSITE UPDATE: Please note that the Bishop's letter about the Sunday Obligation is available on THE CHURCH BLOG <https://www.catholicleamington.org.uk/the-church-blog> The CAFOD Page has been updated: <https://www.catholicleamington.org.uk/cafod.html> And there is now a new page devoted to the SYNOD: <https://www.catholicleamington.org.uk/synod.html> . Also we will have a donation

St Peter's & Our Lady's

Circle of friends- Warwick: is a Community sponsorship project, set up by parishioners from St Mary Immaculate (Warwick) and St Charles Borromeo (Hampton on the Hill) and have committed to welcoming a refugee family to Warwick, helping them settle and start to make a new life here. They are trying to fundraise £10,000 to "Sponsor" a family. If you wish to make a donation please visit <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/circleoffriendswarwick> or to find out more information visit <https://www.stmary-immaculate.org.uk/circle-of-friends.html>

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/3M9CYASEGYT?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 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.catholicleamington.org.uk and scroll down and will be sent out with the regular newsletter.

St Joseph's

Christmas Gifts & Cards: There is a selection of Christmas Gift & Cards in the Narthex, please put the money in the Piety box on the wall.

The Sower Magazine: The Advent copy containing many interesting articles from around the Diocese is now available in the Narthex.

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

Medjugorje Pilgrimages 2022: By Air from €315 per person sharing for 7 nights B&B. If you are interested contact 020 3239 8662 or email reservations@med-irishcentre.com for more details.

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

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