

CATHOLIC LEAMINGTON

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Parish Priest, St Peter's & Our Lady's: Fr John Cross
Parish Priest, St Joseph's: Fr Andrew Franklin
Assistant Priest: Fr Noel Breslin
Deacon: Rev David Palmer
Retired Clergy: Fr Christopher Greaney

Sunday 22 December 2019
Fourth Sunday of Advent (A)
and
Sunday 29 December 2019
The Feast of the Holy Family (A)

MASS INTENTIONS: 21-28 DEC. 2019

SAT 21 DEC <i>Psalter Week 4</i>	OL	12.30	John McCann Jack & Hannah Daly
VIGIL MASSES	SP	5.00	Kate & Kenneth Briddon Sarah O'Mullane & Mary O'Mullane
SUN 22 DEC FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A) <i>Day of Prayer for Expectant Mothers</i>	SJ	9.00	Margaret & Charles Buckley RIP Paddy Buckley RIP
	OL	10.00	Peter & Bridget Woods James & Marguerite Keenan
	SP	11.00	Mary & Tom Beirne Winifred Kelly
	SJ	5.30	Joe & Rose McGreevy
MON 23 DEC <i>Advent feria</i>	SJ	9.30	Anne Manton RIP
	SP	10.00	James Daly
TUE 24 DEC <i>Christmas Eve</i>	SP	3.30	Kate & Kenneth Briddon Meg Lewis
	SJ	5.30	Ian Wilshire RIP
	SJ	8.30	Carols & Mass: People of the Parish
	SP	10.00	Peter Sprawson's Intentions
	OL	11.30	Carols & Mass: People of the Parish
WED 25 DEC <i>Christmas Day</i>	SP	8.00	Pat & Mary O'Regan
	SJ	9.00	Heather Long
	OL	10.00	Jenna Slovrin
	SP	11.00	Nora Murreihey Alison Cook
THU 26 DEC <i>St Stephen</i>	SP	10.00	Altar Servers: past, present & future
	SJ	11.00	Altar Servers & their families
FRI 27 DEC <i>St John, Apostle</i>	SJ	9.30	Mary McGarvey RIP
	OL	10.00	Nancy Dorrian
	SP	12.30	Lynn Parker
SAT 28 DEC <i>Holy Innocents</i>	SJ	9.30	Olive & Leonard Geoghegan Anniversary
	SP	10.00	Fintan Clancy
VIGIL MASSES	OL	12.30	Lily Lucey's Intentions Jack & Mary Gaughan
	SP	5.00	Marie Kelly Kitty & Jack Ryan

MASS INTENTIONS: 29 DEC. 2019-4 JAN. 2020

SAT 28 DEC <i>VIGIL MASSES</i>	OL	12.30	Lily Lucey's Intentions Jack & Mary Gaughan
	SP	5.00	Marie Kelly Kitty & Jack Ryan
SUN 29 DEC	SJ	9.00	John & Teresa Skinner Lee Neale RIP 11th Birthday
FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY (Year A)	OL	10.00	Eamonn & Sean Prior Gertrude Lane's Intentions
	SP	11.00	Mary Collins Austin Stack
	SJ	5.30	Marie Kelly RIP
MON 30 DEC <i>6th Day Christmas</i>	SJ	NB 9.30	Special Intentions In thanksgiving (MT)
	SP	10.00	Lynn Parker
TUE 31 DEC <i>7th Day Christmas</i>	SJ	9.30	Michael Long RIP
	SP	12.30	Antonia Bagshawe
WED 1 JAN 2020 <i>Mary, The Mother of God</i>	OL	10.00	The People of the Parish
	SJ	NB 11.00	The People of the Parish
	SP	12.30	Maureen Verney & Family
THU 2 JAN 2020 <i>St Basil the Great & St Gregory Nazianzen</i>	SP	12.30	Eileen O'Toole
	SJ	7.00	The Intentions of Fr Kevin Reynolds
FRI 3 JAN 2020 <i>Christmas feria</i>	SJ	9.30	Gemma & David's Intentions
	OL	10.00	Donor's Intentions
	SP	12.30	Tim & Mary Cashman
SAT 4 JAN 2020 <i>Christmas feria</i>	SJ	9.30	In Thanksgiving (AJ)
	SP	10.00	Private Intention
VIGIL MASSES	OL	12.30	Winnie Moore Michael & Josephine O'Neill
	SP	5.00	Maureen, Harry Willis, Anthony & Anne, Paddy, Nancy & John Murphy
SUN 5 JAN 2020	SJ	9.00	Olga D'Souza RIP Anniversary Marie Kelly RIP
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD (Year A)	OL	10.00	Jackie Ingram
	SP	11.00	Doris Hall Susan Day
	SJ	5.30	John Gately



Recently deceased:
Fr John Ellis, Fr John Dewis, Patrick Mulvey, Mary St. John,
Carmel West and Lynn Parker.
May they rest in peace.

Anniversaries: James Daly, Olga Kelly, Patricia Devshi, Betty Curham, Marianne Malyon, John Murray, John Toye, Heather Long, Patrick Murphy, Cornelius Griffin, Mary Waters, Willy Buttigieg, May Crowley, James & Elizabeth Falvey, Eleanor Hastings, Thomas Hayes, Eileen Hawkes, Frederick Philpott, Sarah O'Mullane, John Flanagan, Gordon Nicholls, Ethel Nicholls, Peter McGovern, John Hulme, Doris Simpson, Michael Dollard, Helena McMahon, Yvonne Charters, Dominick Blake, Agnes Slattery, Johanne Buckley, Margaret Astell, Francis McCann, James Ballantine, Janina Rorynska, Herbert Nagel, Glennis Burton, John Murphy, Bob Rego, George Harris, Patrick Moran, John McMahon, Bernard Lanning, Don Mason, Peter McSweeney, Maisie Buckley, Ernest Mander, Allan Mackay, Eileen Williams, Felix Kelly, Owen Treanor, Margaret Savage, Rosaline Quinn, Florence Lindon, Reginald Burge, Richard Mulrone, Paul Barlow, Maureen Deasy, Elisabeth Ball, Antonio Bastos, David Wingate, Denise Avery, Joan Binks, Sean Cleary, Kay Burdett, Patrick Gleeson. **May they rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.**

Safeguarding: St Peter's & Our Lady's Claire Walsh 01926 430070; St Joseph's Honor Hynes email safeguarding.stjosephs@gmail.com. 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

The anticipation and preparation of Advent reaches its conclusion this week when we celebrate our Christmas Mass. We reflect on the Word of God to tell the story of the greatest moment in the history of the world. All who hear the Good News can tell of their own experiences of the Christmas Story. For many it is a happy day but we know that for some it brings memories of sad moments and difficult times – another element in our human family story.

Congratulations to parishioner Peter Sprawson who will be 100 years young on December 25th and who is still very active. He has been a lynchpin of the team of Counters for many a year and I am truly grateful for his hard work. *One collection he is spared counting is that of the Christmas Mass which is your traditional gift to the priests of the parish.* Every blessing, Fr John.

The clergy of Catholic Leamington wish you a Happy, Holy and Blessed Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Catholic Leamington

Nurturing The Seed is a series of seven sessions, to help deepen our experience of God's presence. It may be that you have experienced ALPHA, a retreat, or simply wish to explore further your prayer life – whatever your reason you are most welcome. It is an ideal start to 2020 – 'The Year of the Word' – which is an invitation to deepen your love of scripture and to discover new ways of hearing the 'God Who Speaks' in your life. The sessions start on **Wednesday 8 January** from 7.30–9.00 pm, Davenport Room, SP Hall. More info from Peter Dimambro 01926 428399.

Our Lady's & St Peter's

St Stephen is the Patron Saint of Altar Servers. On his Feast Day, **Thurs 26**

Dec, **St Peter's** Altar Servers are invited to attend Mass at **10.00 am** and stay afterwards for a party in the Sacristy. Please bring a plate of food to share. The 10.00 am Mass on **Sun 5 Jan** will be for **Our Lady's** Altar Servers and Guild of St. Stephen medals will be awarded.

A huge thank you to Giovanna and her helpers for providing a wonderful feast for the Parish Christmas Lunch on 15 December. It was great to see our young people there lending a helping hand. Thank you to everyone who came made this a very festive occasion!

The Christmas Concert performed by St Peter's Choir on Sunday 15 December raised a massive £848.00. This will be shared between the Air Ambulance and Helping Hands. Thank you for your support.

Crib Offerings this year will go to the children's hospice **Zoe's Place**.

Pastimes wishes everyone a Happy and Holy Christmas and looks forward to meeting up again in the New Year on **Tuesday 7 January**, 1.00 pm in St Peter's Main Hall.

The clergy has seen some beautiful performances already this

Preparation for First Holy Communion and Confirmation for children in non-Catholic schools will start in the New Year. Register now with marygrayling@gmail.com for First Holy Communion and with maryrouse@rocketmail.com for Confirmation.

Burns Night, Saturday 25 January 2020. This traditional evening celebrating the life and works of Scotland's most famous poet, Robert Burns. Tickets £14.00. You will be entertained by the Piper on arrival, enjoy a three-course meal – including the 'piping in of the haggis' – traditional toasts plus a poetry recital, live music and singing. Numbers are limited to 70 so **put your name down quickly!** Sign-up sheets are **NOW** in each of the churches.

Advent thanks to all our Primary Schools: a Nativity and then a Christmas Concert at St Patrick's School, St Anthony's Christmas Carol Service, and carol concerts in their respective churches from St Peter's and Our Lady & St Teresa's schools. The children performed like angels and were a credit to the hard work put in by their teachers. We wish you all a peaceful & Happy Christmas.

Mass setting, SP 11.00 am (22/12/19): *Veni sancte* by R. R. Terry. Motet is *Ave Maria* by J. S. Bach (arr. C. Gounod).

Christmas breaks: Please note that the **UNITE Youth Group** is taking a break over the holiday period and will resume on Wed 8 Jan. The **toddler group** will start again at 9.30 am on Fri 10 Jan.

We pray for Mollie Moran who is being baptised at St Peter's this Sunday, 22 December. May the Lord keep her in His care always.

Tales of the unexpected: A few days ago a large box of glue was delivered. The boss wondered who had ordered it. Checking my letter to Father Christmas I see my request for a certain piece of music was changed by predictive text. I knew I should have checked it first. "All I want for Christmas is U-Hoo!" Best woofs, Bertie :-)) xx

Attendance: 630 **Offertory:** SP £853.90 / OL £298.68 **Second Collection:** SP £415.68 / OL £176.49 **Christmas Flowers** **Second Collection today:** Church Maintenance **CHRISTMAS DAY:** traditionally a gift to your Clergy. **Second Collection next two weeks:** Church Maintenance **SP Cleaning Team 1** this week; **Team 2** week commencing 30/12/19.

St Joseph's

May I take this opportunity on behalf of myself and Fr Ramunas to wish you and your families a very Happy and Holy Christmas and prosperous New Year. God Bless you, Fr Andy.

On Christmas Eve we will have Carols & Readings at 8.30 pm followed by Mass at 9.00 pm and Mulled Wine in the hall afterwards. Everyone welcome.

Holiday Timetable: Please be aware that from **Thurs 26 Dec** until **Thurs 2 Jan** the Liturgical timetable consists of just the Holy Mass. There will be no Confessions, Devotions, Morning Prayer or Adoration during the Christmas holiday period.

The parish office is closed from **Mon 23 Dec** until **Thurs 2 Jan**.

Crib Offerings this year will go to the Special Care Baby Unit at Warwick Hospital, a cause close to my heart as Hospital Chaplain.

Congratulations to Helen Cotter and Maria McGrath, who won the 1st (£50) and 2nd (£30) prizes in December's 200 Club draw. The extra Christmas prize of £25 was won by Kim Kearns. The next collection and draw will take place on Sun 5 Jan. To join the 200 Club speak to Anne or Carol for a number for £1 per month.

Altar Servers: On St Stephen's Day (**Thurs 26 December**) we will have Mass at **11.00 am** and will be enrolling a good number of servers in the Guild of St Stephen.

Monty's Christmas Party was a huge success raising a fantastic sum of **£883.55** towards our building fund. **Thank you** to everyone who helped in the organisation & running of stalls and to everyone who supported the event. What a great way to spend a Sunday morning! There is a list of all Raffle Prize winners on the

noticeboard in the Narthex.

Vestments: Some of our Mass vestments have become very worn and tired looking. I have ordered some new Chasubles for the Parish which can also be used when Holy Mass is concelebrated. If you can make a donation, however big or small, towards the cost it would be very much appreciated.

Methodist Church Car Park: Can I kindly ask that we **do not use** the Methodist Church Car park on **Sundays**. Our Methodist friends have a service and they require the spaces for their own congregation. We are very grateful to Rev. Greenwood and the Methodist community for allowing us the use of their car park on Christmas Eve for the Children's Mass & on Christmas Day.

Welcome: On Friday 27 December we welcome my friend Fr Ralph Duwell from the Diocese of Orlando, Florida, USA. Fr Ralph is the Parish Priest of St Charles Borromeo Church in Orlando. We have been friends for many years and this is his first visit to St Joseph's. I am sure you will make him very welcome. He will be staying for just over two weeks.

School Carol Concert. We thank the school for an excellent concert and we wish them a very happy and holy holiday.

We pray for Declan McGarvey who is being baptised at St Joseph's on Saturday 28 December. May the Lord keep him in His care always.

This week Our Lady's Seven Day Candle



burns for the **Morales – Cabrera Family** in **Thanksgiving**.

The following week it will burn in **memory of Michael Ryan RIP**.

Attendance: 393 **Offertory:** £705.56 Thank you. **Second Collection last week:** None **No Second Collection this weekend or next.** **CHRISTMAS DAY COLLECTION:** TRADITIONALLY A GIFT TO YOUR PRIEST. **Counters:** S & M (29th); J & A (5th)