EXTRA

NEWS FROM OUR CATHOLIC CLUSTER CHURCHES

OCTOBER 2026

In Living Memory:

Our Lady's Church, Lillington Recorded History Project

How many churches, built within living memory, are already Listed Buildings? Probably only a handful and Our Lady's Church is one of them!

At this year's Heritage Open Days we launched an 'In Living Memory' recorded history project. Do you have any memories, insights, photos or anecdotes of ……:

- *The Church being built*
- *What happened before it was built*
- *Getting married here*
- *Attending a baptism, funeral or wedding here*
- *Making your 1st Holy Communion or Confirmation here*
- *Your first impressions*
- *Amusing/interesting stories/chats with past priests or parishioners*
- *Memories of social events*
- *Through the eyes of a student/teacher at Our Lady's & St Teresa's or Trinity School.*
- *The original organ being installed or played*
- *The Stations of the Cross (are they by Steven Sykes?)*
- *Or maybe something completely different / interesting / funny associated with this Church!*

We'd love to hear & record them - however short or incidental they may be. Please speak to an Our Lady's Parishioner, a Welcomer at Mass or email the Parish Office.

DIOCESAN VISION

The diocese is continuing to shape a way forward in the changing circumstances of the present and future. We need to work successfully with fewer priests and with sustainable buildings. This clearly runs in tandem and should support our securing of sustainable buildings. By 2030 it is likely that some of the Deaneries within the Archdiocese will be moving towards creating or will have created single parishes out of the current local clusters of parishes. There will be more than one priest per parish under this new arrangement with a priest with overall responsibility working with others concentrating more locally. There are canonical processes to be gone through first, including consultation, but the fact that there will be fewer priests is fixed. For us, it may well be that by the end of this decade we are working much more closely with what includes but goes beyond the very local and very informal idea of Catholic Leamington. This change is meant to enable the sharing of resources and buildings to be decided at a local level. This is something that the next meeting of the Deanery pastoral Forum will be hearing about and discussing.

EXTRA shares news from our local Catholic Cluster. St Francis of Assisi, Baddesley Clinton; St Charles Borromeo, Hampton-on-the-Hill; Ss Francis and Augustine, Kenilworth; St Peter's, Leamington Spa; Our Lady's, Lillington; St Mary Immaculate, Warwick; and St Joseph's, Whitnash. Deadline for the November edition: **22 October.** Send to catholicclusterextra@gmail.com. Thank you.

WHAT'S ON, WHEN AND WHERE

DIARY DATES

Sunday 18 October TEA DANCE FUNDRAISER
St Peter's Church Hall from 2.30-4.45 pm.

Tuesday 20 October NEWMAN CIRCLE TALK

Mgr. Michael Sharkey speaks on "*Newman as a Catalyst for Change*". This starts the 2026/27 Tuesday Talks Series. St Thomas More Church, 112 Knoll Drive, Coventry CV3 5DE at 7.30 pm.

Thursday 22 October SPARK YOUTH GROUP
Davenport Room of St Peter's Church Hall, 7.00 pm

Saturday 24 October MASS FOR HEALING
St Francis Church, Kenilworth, at 12 noon followed by afternoon tea in the Hall.

Saturday 24 October JUST DESSERTS

A very sweet social evening at Our Lady's Church, Lillington from 7.00 pm.

Sunday 25 October ST PETER'S PARISH LUNCH
After Sunday Mass in the Church Hall.

Tues 27 October YOUNG ADULT'S PUB SOCIAL
Queen and Castle Pub, Kenilworth, at 7.00 pm.

Monday 2 November ALL SOULS DAY. ST JOSEPH'S ANNUAL MEMORIAL MASS
7.00 pm. Invitations are being sent out to the recently bereaved. Refreshments in the Hall afterwards.

Wednesday 4 November ST PETER'S MASS FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED OVER THE PAST YEAR AND THOSE WHO MOURN THEM

7.00 pm. All welcome.

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Saturday 7 November BLESSING OF GRAVES
10.00 am Mass at St Augustine's, Kenilworth, followed by blessings in the Cemetery.

Sunday 8 November BLESSING OF GRAVES

Oaks Road Cemetery. Service at 2.00 pm in the Chapel followed by blessings.

Fri 13 Nov THREE PARISHES PILGRIMAGE WALK

11.00 am Mass at St Francis, Baddesley Clinton, followed by a walk along the canal to Warwick stopping at a pub for rest and refreshment.

Saturday 14 November ST JOSEPH'S YOUTH GROUP
4.00-5.30 pm in Church Hall. All Years 7-11 welcome.

Sunday 15 November BLESSING OF GRAVES AT LEAMINGTON CEMETERY

2.30 pm.

Sunday 15 November ST FRANCIS PARISH MEMORIAL MASS

10.30 am. All welcome.

PARISH NEWS

MISSION OF OUR LADY AND THE WARWICK MARTYRS

Serving the parishes of St Mary Immaculate, Warwick; St Charles Borromeo, Hampton-on-the-Hill; and St Francis, Baddesley Clinton

Fr Patrick Mileham has been appointed Parish Priest at St Francis Church in Baddesley Clinton, in addition to his ministry at St Mary Immaculate, Warwick, and St Charles Borromeo, Hampton-on-the-Hill. This has necessitated a change of weekend Mass times at St Francis. The Sunday devotion is now a Vigil Mass at 4.00 pm on Saturday.

Three Parishes Pilgrimage Walk: Join us for all or part of the way from Baddesley Clinton to Warwick along the canal, stopping at various watering holes (aka pubs!) along the way for rest & refreshment. Beginning with Mass at St Francis at 11am on Friday 13th November.

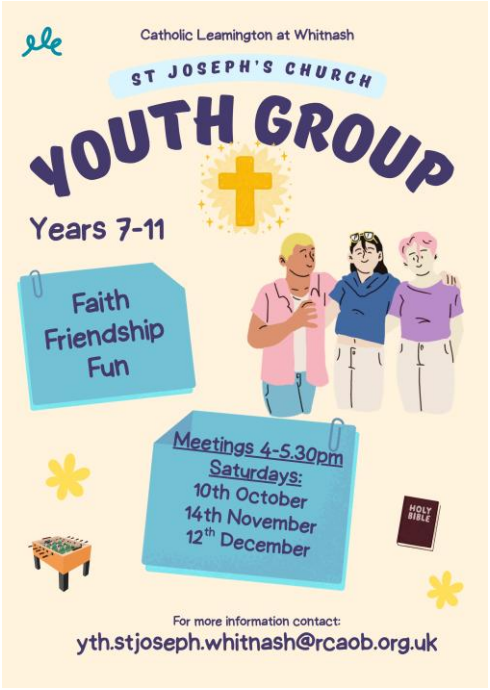
Volunteers: There are forms at the back of St Francis Church asking for various roles in the parish and if you would be willing to be on a rota. If you can share emails, it would facilitate coordination.

Relic of St Francis: available for veneration after 4.00 pm Mass on Saturdays at Baddesley Clinton. Thank you to everyone who supported Vespers & Benediction at St Francis last Sunday. The church was full of parishioners from all our local parishes.

ST JOSEPH'S, WHITNASH

November, Month of Holy Souls: Envelopes for our own personal Holy Souls list and a Mass Offering will be available at the back of church from Sunday 18 October together with a box in which to post them. All those named will be included in Masses during November and over the following year.

Conversation in the Spirit: After Mass on Sunday, 18 October. From 11.15 am for about an hour: explore Synodality meeting with a conversation in the Spirit.



ST PETER APOSTLE, LEAMINGTON and OUR LADY'S, LILLINGTON

STOP PRESS! On 15 October Our Lady's Church, Lillington, was awarded a £116,000 grant by Historic England towards its roof repairs. We are understandably delighted and thank all who made it possible.

Spark Youth Group (Years 5, 6, 7, 8): The meeting dates this session are 22 October, 26 November, 17 December, 28 January. 7.00 pm in the Davenport Room of St Peter's Hall.

Kindaid Just Desserts at Our Lady's, Lillington: Saturday 24 October

St Peter's Sunday Lunch: after 11:15 am Mass on Sunday 25 October in St. Peter's Church Hall. The sign-up sheet is available at the back of Church.

Mass for those who have died this past year and those who mourn them: Wednesday 4 November at 7.00 pm. Invitations are to go out shortly. Please come in memory of your own departed loved ones or to support those recently bereaved, or both, of course. We are grateful to the choir for providing music for this.

Parish Mission at St Peter's and Our Lady's in 2027: 20-26 May with Fr Royston (and assistants) of the Redemptorists. There will be much planning and organisation needed. More information in due course.

SS FRANCIS AND AUGUSTINE, KENILWORTH

Parish Mass for healing (with the Sacrament of the sick) On Saturday 24 October at 12 noon. Supported by the parish SVP, this is a lovely service for anyone in need of healing in mind, body and spirit, or who just needs a boost after a difficult time. Afterwards there will be afternoon tea in the church hall. Please spread the word so that people who perhaps can't always get to Mass might be able to make arrangements to come.

Next Young Adult Pub Social meeting at the Queen and Castle, Kenilworth on Tuesday 27 October at 7.00 pm. See you there!

Blessing of the graves:

St Augustine's Cemetery on Saturday 7 November with Mass at 10.00 am followed by blessings.

Oaks Road Cemetery on Sunday 8 November in the Chapel at 2.00 pm followed by blessings

Memorial Mass for all whose funerals have taken place in the parish in the last year will take place on Sunday 15 November at 10.30 am at St Francis Church.

St Augustine's playgroup has now started in St Augustine's school hall. This is a joint venture between the School and the Parish. This will be every Monday from 9.30-11.00 am.

St Augustine's Charity Sponsorship in November, a team of staff from school will be taking on the Alton Towers 10K to raise valuable funds for Alton Castle and the Kenelm Youth Trust. Our Year 5 children have the opportunity to attend a residential at Alton Castle each year, and we have witnessed first-hand the incredible impact that the work of Kenelm has on our children.

The money raised through this challenge will contribute towards the development of Kenelm and the building of a new outdoor space at Alton Castle.

Mary Curran RIP

Doyenne of Pastimes at St Peter's. Taken from the Eulogy given by her daughter, Claire Robinson

Mary Hoare was born in Thomastown, Golden, Co Tipperary, in 1937, to Edmond and Kate, the youngest of four and the only girl. Her parents had a small farm around an old ruin, known as Thomastown Castle. Although known for professing her anti-establishment views, Mary could be a bit of a snob and enjoyed bending the truth to tell you that she had been born in a castle!

From infancy she was raised in Coventry by her Aunt and Uncle following the untimely death of her parents.

Mary chose the nursing profession and forged a successful career, achieving national recognition in her pioneering work around Pet Therapy. She was always ready to fight for the rights of those in her care and believed in preserving dignity, individuality and identity.

As the NHS moved away from provision of long-term services, Mary bought Catherine House Nursing Home where she was able to provide care in a way she wanted and was privileged and grateful to have a wonderful team of staff there.

She had strongly held political views and wasn't slow to share them with you! A friend dubbed her Red Agnes after a famous Scottish suffragette activist. Mary was proud of that nickname. She saw no contradiction between her Socialism and her Christianity.

In recent years Mary was extremely active in the Pastimes group at St Peter's, involved in trips and events as well as the weekly group. You'd hear her at every Jumble sale exhorting you to buy stuff you did not need!

Mary was a family person. She loved her children, her in-laws, her nieces and nephews, her five grandchildren and having a good laugh or sarcastic moan with her many dear friends.

Mary was recently described to me as "a force of nature" and I think that's a good description. Her last clear words were, in true Mary style, an instruction: "Don't be sad". May she rest in peace.