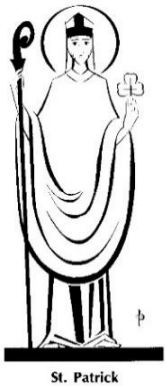

THE BEACON

Parish Priest: Fr Alban Greenwood
The Presbytery, King Street, WELLINGTON, TF1 3AP
Telephone: 01952 – 242423
web: www.stpatrickstelford.com & www.our-lady-telford.co.uk
e-mail: ccntelford@gmail.com
also Fr Michał Łatuszyński, *(Polish Community)*
11 Harvington Close, Wellington, TF1 3EX
Tel: 07926 044405 e-mail: stafford@pcmew.org
Safeguarding: Moira Shrimpton 07540 723614

20TH DECEMBER 2020

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The Sunday and Holy Day Mass obligation is suspended until further notice.

Sat	19th	18:15	Trevor Hatcliffe (Anniversary)	*St Patrick's*
Sun	20th	09:00	The People of the Parish	*Our Lady's*
4th Sunday		11:00	Maura Sweeney	*St Patrick's*
of Advent		*12:30*	*Baptism*	*St Patrick's*
		17:00	Mass in Polish	*St Patrick's*
Mon	21st	***Ferial***		
Tue	22nd	***Ferial***		
		10:30	*Funeral Service for David Tindale*	*St Patrick's*
Wed	23rd	***Ferial***		
		12:00	Gareth Davies	*St Patrick's*
Thur	24th	***Ferial***		
			No daytime Mass … until … *the Christmas Vigil Mass …*	
		18:00	Gorman Family Intention	*St Patrick's*
		19:30	Sandy Caswell	*Our Lady's*
		20:00	Polish Mass	*St Patrick's*
		09:00	Private Intention	*Our Lady's*
		11:00	Tracey Intention	*St Patrick's*
		17:00	Polish Mass	*St Patrick's*
Sat	26th	***Feast of St Stephen, Martyr***		
		10:00	Polish Mass	*St Patrick's*
		12:00	Margaret & Jimmy Shaw	*St Patrick's*
Sat	26th	18:15	Pat Bamford	*St Patrick's*
Sun	27th	09:00	Lort Family Intention	*Our Lady's*
The Feast of		11:00	Nicola Jewell	*St Patrick's*
the Holy Family		17:00	Mass in Polish	*St Patrick's*

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSIONS)
By Appointment

Newsletter items: newsletter@stpatrickstelford.com

Please send items by 5pm on Wednesday

The Diocese of Shrewsbury is a Registered Charity (No.234025)

Data Protection Privacy Notice

Our two parishes sometimes collect personal information about parishioners. All personal information is collected, processed and stored in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations. This is retained only as necessary and used by the Parish/Diocese for the benefit of the Parish and for legitimate reasons such as administrative and religious purposes. You can read our full privacy notice at www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/privacy-notice

CHRISTMAS WEEK MASSES

Our Newsletter this weekend shows all the Masses over Christmas Day and Christmas weekend.

During the week after (the Octave of Christmas) Mass will be celebrated each day, at midday in St Patrick's on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, and at 7pm at Our Lady's on Wednesday. On New Year's Day (Friday) we shall have a mid-day Mass at St Patrick's. Fr Michał will celebrate a Polish Mass on New Year's Eve and on New Year's Day at 6pm.

The Parish Office will close on Wednesday, 23rd at lunch time and will not reopen until Monday, 4th January. This means that if you want to book a place at one of the Masses during Christmas Week or the New Year weekend, you will have to book before 11am this Wednesday.

To book a place at one of the Masses please email ccntelford@gmail.com or phone 01952 242423 between 09:00hr and 11:00hr on weekdays.

PRAYER REMEMBRANCES

Your prayers are asked for the sick and the housebound and all those who are in hospital, the Hospice or local nursing homes. We remember especially the doctors, nurses and all medical staff at the Princess Royal and Royal Shrewsbury Hospitals; also all the staff at our local nursing and care homes during this time of pandemic.

We remember in prayer all who have died, especially **David Tindale** (Funeral Service on Tuesday – for invitees only), and all who are mourning the death of a loved one, and all whose anniversaries occur about this time.

THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS

For December, Pope Francis asks us all to keep in our prayers the following intention:

"That our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer."

LIVESTREAM MASSES

If you are shielding or otherwise can't get to church for Mass, you can livestream the Mass from the Cathedral in Shrewsbury.

At Shrewsbury Cathedral
http://www.churchservices.tv/shrewsburycathedral

Sunday Morning: Sunday, 08:00hrs & 11:00hrs
Weekday Mass: Daily at 07:30hrs.

If you prefer to livestream a more "homely" parish church celebration, then you can always log-on to **http://www.churchservices.tv**. In the "churches" section you will find where livestreaming is now available across the UK and Ireland, and also the schedule of service times.

WORLD GIFTS

Are you stuck for a last minute Christmas gift for a loved one? CAFOD have again issued a "World Gifts" catalogue which you can collect from the church porch. Contains all sorts of gifts for home and abroad at all price ranges.

RECEPTION CLASS SEPTEMBER 2021

St Patrick's Catholic Primary School and Nursery
St Luke's Catholic Primary School

Are you looking for a family orientated, Ofsted-rated Good Catholic School for your child?

If your child was born between 1 September 2016 and 31 August 2017 please be aware that applications for reception class must be completed online with Telford and Wrekin before 15th January 2021. Each school will also require you to complete a School Supplementary Information Form (SIF) available from the office. If you would like to speak to a member of our Early Years Foundation Team or our Head of School then please phone the school on 01952 386160 (St Patrick's) or 01952 388222 (St Luke's) and we would be more than happy to talk to you.

Graeme Hawes
Acting Executive Headteacher
Blessed Edward Campion School Federation

Louise Evans
Acting Headteacher, St Luke's Primary School

Link to Telford and Wrekin Admissions:
https://www.telford.gov.uk/info/20026/school_admissions/3247/applying for a place in school

ST PATRICK'S SCHOOL LUNCHTIME SUPERVISOR

St Patrick's School is looking for a Lunchtime Supervisor who will enjoy helping the lovely children in our care. The Working Times: 11:50am – 1:05pm and the pay is £9.29 per hour. The application deadline is Monday, 4th January 2021 at 9:00am; interviews will be held on Thursday, 7th January 2021.

An application form can be requested from the school office or found on our school federation website: www.blessededwardcampion.co.uk. If you need further information please phone the school on 01952 386160 or email chris.jones1@blessedec.co.uk .

YEAR OF PRAYER TO SAINT JOSEPH

With all the problems surrounding COVID-19 and the need to keep others and ourselves safe, the Bishop asks us to keep a Year of Prayer to St Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church.

The Prayer:

The Heavenly Father chose you, St Joseph, to be the husband of the Holy Mother of God, and to watch over His only begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

In times of joy and trial, pray for us so that we too can recognise the loving plan of the Eternal Father, who always works for the good of those who love Him.

Teach us, Guardian of the Holy Family, to be attentive to the promptings of the Holy Spirit; and to draw closer to the Lord Jesus in all the circumstances of our lives and, above all, in the mystery of the Holy Eucharist.

At the last, pray for us that we may happily join you, the just and faithful servant, to praise God forever in the company of Our Lady and all the saints.

Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ONLINE GIVING TO THE PARISH

For those Parishioners who normally give in the collection at Mass and wish to help the Parish at this time, an online donation page to allow you to donate to the Parish is available. We thank those who are doing so.

For Our Lady's parishioners:
https://investmycommunity.com/not-logged-donator/page/OurLadyoftheRosary&StLukeTelford2196

For St Patrick's parishioners:
https://investmycommunity.com/not-logged-donator/page/stpatricktelforddioceseofshrewsbury2177

Please be aware that a minimum donation of £5 is requested if giving in this way.

You can also Gift Aid your donation to help the Parish further.

If you want to Gift Aid your donation, please tick the box shown on the screen even if you have previously completed a Gift Aid Declaration form in favour of the Parish for regular giving made by Offertory Envelope or Standing Order.

Thank you for your support.

LET US KNOW YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS

Fr Alban has begun using e-mail addresses to keep in touch with parishioners and to circulate the Newsletter. If you are not yet receiving parish updates let us know your email address and you too can be included. Send an email to ccntelford@gmail.com and we shall keep you abreast of the latest news and updates all in the comfort of your own home!.

SVP SUDAN APPEAL

If you're thinking of making a donation to charity this Christmas, please consider giving to the SVP Sudan Appeal. Your donations can help thousands of people living in poverty offering them hope and the chance of a better life. You can leave any donations in an envelope marked "SVP Sudan" or complete the form attached to the appeal leaflet for gift aided donations and send to:

SVP Twinnage, Romero House,
55 Westminster Bridge Road, LONDON SE1 7JB.

MONEY MATTERS

Last Sunday's collections:

St Patrick's: £ 925.50
Our Lady's: £ 211.25

Many thanks for your continued generosity.

The collection taken at our Christmas Masses is for the upkeep of your priest. If you usually give using envelopes there is one in your box of envelopes for this purpose. If you give by direct debit, especially if you claim gift aid, and would like to make a donation during Christmas Week please take one of the envelopes on the table in the porch. Please add your name so that we can keep a record. Many thanks.

POSTAGE STAMPS

Especially at this time of the year when we are perhaps getting greeting cards through the post, please keep the stamps and donate them to the RNIB who can use them to help in their fundraising efforts. There is a special box in the church porch to donate them.

MAKING A PLACE FOR CHRIST

Twinkling lights are shining in windows belonging to the flats just opposite the Presbytery – people beginning to get ready for Christmas. Lots of you will be decorating your homes for the coming season – trees, lights and perhaps even a crib.

The diocese has produced a leaflet which families and individuals can use to help them reflect on the various figures in the crib. Copies will be circulated with this week's Newsletter. It might help us prepare.

This year we will be using new figures in the crib at both our churches, and new stables as well. They will be blessed at the start of each of our Christmas Vigil Masses.

FESTIVE MESSAGE FROM ST LUKE'S SCHOOL

We have had a successful autumn term and Governors have been really pleased with the sterling efforts of Miss Evans in leading our school as our Acting Headteacher. Talking to children, via a computer screen has been different, but they told Governors they had enjoyed learning about centrifugal force and improper fractions. They also said they had made advent wreaths and practiced for videoed Christmas performances.

So, school life continues despite closing bubbles amid Covid! We also wanted to say a big thank you to Mr & Mrs Beyer who are standing down from Mini Vinnies and from preparing our children for their First Sacraments: they have made a huge difference to the lives of many children at our school. We will be advertising the vacant Executive Headteacher post in the spring term, the aim being to appoint for a September 2021 start.

We wish all parishioners a blessed, happy, safe and peaceful Christmas and all good wishes for better times ahead in 2021.

Pauline Heffernan, Chair of Governors
Our Blessed Saints Federation

WORDS OF WISDOM

"At Christmas, only the poor, the hungry, those who need someone to come on their behalf, will have that someone.

"That someone is God, Emmanuel, God-with-us.

"Without poverty of spirit, there can be no abundance of God."

St Oscar Romero

"God often visits us,
but most of the time
we are not at home."

French proverb

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

FIRST READING *(2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16)*

A reading from the second book of Samuel

Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you."

But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: "Go and tell my servant David, 'Thus the Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel; I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a House. And when your days are ended and you are laid to rest with your ancestors, I will preserve the offspring of your body after you and make his sovereignty secure. I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever".

The word of the Lord.
Response: **Thanks be to God**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Psalm 88*

Response: I will sing forever of your love, O Lord.

1. I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord;
   through all ages my mouth
   will proclaim your truth.
   Of this I am sure,
   that your love lasts for ever,
   that your truth is firmly established
   as the heavens. **R/**
2. "I have made a covenant
   with my chosen one;
   I have sworn to David my servant:
   I will establish your dynasty for ever
   and set up your throne through all ages." **R/**
3. He will say to me: "You are my father,
   my God, the rock who saves me."
   I will keep my love for him always
   for him my covenant shall endure. **R/**

SECOND READING (Romans 16:25-27)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Glory to him who is able to give you strength to live according to the Good News I preach, and in which I proclaim Jesus Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be broadcast to pagans everywhere to bring them to the obedience of faith. This is only what scripture has predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God wants things to be. He alone is wisdom; give glory therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.
Response: Thanks be to God

ALLELUIA VERSE
Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the handmaid of the Lord:
let what you have said be done to me.
Alleluia!

THE GOSPEL *(Luke 1:26-38)*

The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.
Glory to you, O Lord.

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David: and the virgin's name was Mary.

He went in and said to her, "Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you."

She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, "Mary, do not be afraid: you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end."

Mary said to the angel, "But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?"

"The Holy Spirit will come upon you" the angel answered, "and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too; your kinswomen Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God."

"I am the handmaid of the Lord," said Mary "let what you have said be done to me."

And the Angel left her.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Response: **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**