



THE BEACON



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17TH JANUARY 2021

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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

Please note changes to Mass times this week

Sat	16th	18:15	Karunawathi	St Patrick's
Sun	17th	09:00	Covid-19 Vaccine Intention	Our Lady's
	The 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	11:00	Thilak de Silva	St Patrick's
		17:00	Mass in Polish	St Patrick's
Mon	18th	Ferial No Mass today		
Tue	19th	Ferial 10:00 Funeral Service for Gennaro d'Ambrosio 16:00 Reception of body of Mrs Remiarz		
				St Patrick's St Patrick's
Wed	20th	Ferial 10:30 Funeral Mass for Janina (Jane) Remiarz 16:00 Reception of body of Miss McCormack		
				St Patrick's St Patrick's
Thur	21st	St Agnes, Virgin and Martyr 12:00 Funeral Mass for Margaret McCormack		
				St Patrick's
Fri	22nd	Ferial 12:00 Hugh and Bridget Canavan		
				St Patrick's
Sat	23rd	Ferial		
Sat	23rd	18:15	Visi Intention	St Patrick's
Sun	24th	09:00	Private Intention	Our Lady's
	The 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	11:00	Konah Mathai Anniversary	St Patrick's
		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

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 **Gennaro d'Ambrosio** (Funeral Service on Tuesday); **Janina Remiarz** (Funeral Mass on Wednesday); **Margaret McCormack** (Funeral Mass on Thursday) and **Maureen Childs** (Funeral Service on 5th February) 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 January, Pope Francis asks us all to keep in our prayers the following intention:

"That the Lord gives us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all."

LIVESTREAM MASSES

From Shrewsbury Cathedral on Sunday at 08:00hrs and 11:00hrs on: www.churchservices.tv/shrewsburycathedral.

When you log on to the website you will find, in the churches tab, that there are lots of churches across England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland to live-stream Masses. Some are cathedrals, others parish churches, you can make your choice from the many Masses that are on offer at various scheduled times.

YEAR OF PRAYER TO SAINT JOSEPH

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.

MONEY MATTERS

Sunday's Offertory Collections
St Patrick's: £ 800.50
Our Lady's: £ 228.00

Thank you for your continued generosity.

STAMPS

Please continue to add your used stamps to the box in the porch. They will be sent to the RNIB.

MASS BOOKINGS

With the Parish Office having been closed since before Christmas, the phone has been red-hot at times with parishioners booking places at Mass. Some have mentioned that they made bookings to Fr Alban in the church porch as they arrived for Mass: verbal messages aren't worth the paper that they are written on – I apologise if anyone thought they were booked in but weren't!

To make a booking please phone the Parish Office on 01952 242423 **BETWEEN 9.00AM AND 11.00AM, MONDAY TO FRIDAY**. The answerphone may be on after those hours – leave a message – we will get back to you. You can always email us on ccntelford@gmail.com to make a booking.

The demand for places at Mass is usually high – **DO LET US KNOW** if you are not able to attend a Mass at which you have booked a place.

RETIRED PRIESTS' FUND - SPECIAL COLLECTION

This weekend the annual Collection for the Retired Priests' Fund will be held. With your help, we can build up the Fund to help meet the future needs of our sick and retired priests.

If you wish to Gift Aid your donation, please make your donation Online. To donate Online please go to www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/retired-priests-fund.

An electronic version of a leaflet about the Fund is available at www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/retired-priests-fund and this also explains how you can donate to the Fund by Standing Order or Cheque and how to Gift Aid donations made using these methods.

TO SIT OR TO KNEEL? – THAT IS THE QUESTION

The Stewards at Mass undertake a wonderful service on behalf of all of us – without them we could not open our churches for Mass. The Stewards have to stay behind after each Mass to sanitise the building after use. This can take some time to do.

At Our Lady's people sit at Mass because there are no kneelers. At St Patrick's people do presently make use of the kneelers as well as the bench seats. The Stewards have to clean all the parts of St Patrick's church that have been used. At St Patrick's it would greatly help the Steward's task if people **do not use the kneelers neither before nor during Mass, but sit down rather than kneel**. This would mean that Stewards, in addition to sanitising the places where people have sat, would not have to bend down to sanitise the kneelers as well.

SAINT OF THE WEEK: SAINT AGNES

On Thursday we celebrate on Thursday the feast of St Agnes. Born in approximately 291, Agnes was by tradition, a member of the Roman nobility, and raised in an early Christian family. She suffered martyrdom at the age of twelve or thirteen during the reign of the Roman Emperor Diocletian. She is one of seven women who, along with the Blessed Virgin, are commemorated by name in the first Eucharistic Prayer. Agnes is depicted in art with a lamb, from the Latin word for "lamb", agnus. She is shown with a martyr's palm.

WEDNESDAY EVENING MASS

During the lockdown, and during the dark weeks of winter the Wednesday Mass at Our Lady's Church is suspended until the covid-19 situation and/or the weather improves. Mass on Wednesdays will take place now at midday at St Patrick's Church.

ANY GOOD NEWS...?

Michael, one of our parishioners who is self-isolating at home has written thanking the person who posts a copy of the newsletter through his letterbox, so keeping him in touch with what's happening. If you know of a parishioner who is shielding at home, you may wish to drop off a copy of the newsletter.

A growing number of parishioners are reporting that they have "received the jab" either in Birmingham or locally, and also appointments for the follow-up jab. Over the coming weeks more and more of us will receive invitations to be inoculated – do take up the offer, let's keep ourselves and others safe.

Fr Alban thanks all those who sent cards and messages of congratulation for his ordination anniversary last week; also the "bottles of milk" that were received, and the lovely home-baked cake.

Is there any more "Good News"? Email us on newsletter@stpatrickstelford.com to share it.

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.

We thank those from both parishes who are already using this method of payment. Thank you for your continued support.

TELFORD BABY BANK

Some of our parishioners have been making clothes for babies and toddlers for Telford Baby Bank, which is part of the Telford Crisis Support Network. To see what kind of support is given please go to this link <https://vimeo.com/499584367/b1321072f2> for a video that highlights how important this service is to local families.

Donations to the Baby bank can be left at either Parish and they will be forwarded to them.

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!

TODAY IS PEACE SUNDAY

On this Peace Sunday Pope Francis asks us to think about "**A Culture of Care as a Path to Peace**".

"How many resources," he says, "are spent on weaponry, especially nuclear weapons, that could be used for more significant priorities such as ensuring the safety of individuals, the promotion of peace and integral human development, the fight against poverty, and the provision of health care." Pope Francis calls on us to "strive daily, in concrete and practical ways, to form a community composed of brothers and sisters who accept and care for one another."

CARITAS SHREWSBURY

(Formerly Catholic Children's Society)

Have written... "Can you please pass on our thanks to your parishioners for the very kind donation we have received for our Caritas at Christmas appeal; £123.30 is very generous. During the current pandemic Caritas referrals have more than doubled and we find ourselves even busier helping those in crisis both practically and emotionally. We can only continue this work due to the kindness of people within our community.

"On behalf of the staff and clients of Caritas many thanks for all your kindness and support it is greatly appreciated."

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE UPDATE

The annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes is scheduled to take place from Friday, 30th July to Thursday, 5th August 2021. Usually at this time of the year the Booking Forms for those wanting to join the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes are available. However, we are in usual times!

Bishop Mark has sent a message concerning the 2021 Pilgrimage: "It is already clear that a normal pilgrimage will not be possible in July as sick pilgrims and school groups will be unable to travel to Lourdes under public health restrictions. Provisional arrangements are in place in Lourdes; however, it remains unclear whether any form of pilgrimage will be feasible, and a final decision will be taken before Easter."

WHEN YOU FEEL A BIT STUPID – READ THIS

Fr Alban thanks a parishioner who sent in a number of amusing, real life, incidents.

No 1 of a series: The Department of Social Services in Greenville, South Carolina sent out this letter to the address of someone who had died:

"Your food stamps will be stopped effective March 2020 because we received notice that you passed away. May God bless you. You may reapply if there is a change in your circumstances."

...and you think we've got problems? More next week!

THE 2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FIRST READING *(Samuel 3:3-10, 19)*

A reading from the first book of Samuel

Samuel was lying in the sanctuary of the Lord where the ark of God was, when the Lord called, "Samuel! Samuel!" He answered, "Here I am." Then he ran to Eli and said, "Here I am, since you called me." Eli said, "I did not call. Go back and lie down." So he went and lay down. Once again the Lord called, "Samuel! Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, since you called me." He replied, "I did not call you, my son; go back and lie down." Samuel had as yet no knowledge of the Lord and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. Once again the Lord called, the third time. He got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, since you called me." Eli then understood that it was the Lord who was calling the boy, and he said to Samuel, "Go and lie down, and if someone calls say, 'Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

The Lord then came and stood by, calling as he had done before, "Samuel! Samuel!" Samuel answered, "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening."

Samuel grew up and the Lord was with him and let no word of his fall to the ground.

The word of the Lord.

Response: **Thanks be to God**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *(Psalm 39)*

**Response: Here I am Lord!
I come to do your will.**

1. I waited. I waited for the Lord
and he stooped down to me;
he heard my cry.
He put a new song into my mouth,
praise of our God. **R/**
2. You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings,
but an open ear.
You do not ask for holocaust and victim.
Instead, here am I. **R/**
3. In the scroll of the book it stands written
that I should do your will.
My God, I delight in your law
in the depth of my heart. **R/**
4. Your justice I have proclaimed
in the great assembly.
My lips I have not sealed;
you know it, O Lord. **R/**

SECOND READING *(1 Corinthians 6:13-15, 17-20)*

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

The body is not meant for fornication; it is for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. God who raised the Lord from the dead, will by his power raise us up too. You know, surely, that your bodies are members making up the body of Christ; anyone who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with him.

Keep away from fornication. All the other sins are committed outside the body; but to fornicate is to sin against your own body. Your body, you know, is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you since you received him from God. You are not your own property; you have been bought and paid for. That is why you should use your body for the glory of God.

The word of the Lord.

Response: **Thanks be to God**

ALLELUIA VERSE

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Speak, Lord, your servant is listening:
you have the message of eternal life.**

Alleluia!

THE GOSPEL *(John 1:35-42)*

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

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.
Glorify to you, O Lord.

As John stood with two of his disciples, Jesus passed, and John stared hard at him and said, "Look, there is the lamb of God." Hearing this, the two disciples followed Jesus. Jesus turned round, saw them following and said, "What do you want?" They answered, "Rabbi," – which means Teacher – "where do you live?" "Come and see" he replied; so they went and saw where he lived, and stayed with him the rest of that day. It was about the tenth hour.

One of these two who became followers of Jesus after hearing what John had said was Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter. Early next morning, Andrew met his brother and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" – which means the Christ – and he took Simon to Jesus. Jesus looked hard at him and said, "You are Simon son of John; you are to be called Cephas" – meaning Rock.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Response: **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**