

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

FIRST READING *(Zephaniah 3:14-18)*

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion,
Israel, shout aloud!
Rejoice, exult with all your heart,
daughter of Jerusalem!
The Lord has repealed your sentence;
he has driven your enemies away.
The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst;
you have no more evil to fear.
When that day comes, word will come to Jerusalem:
Zion, have no fear,
do not let your hands fall limp.
The Lord your God is in your midst,
a victorious warrior.
He will exult with joy over you,
he will renew you by his love;
he will dance with shouts of joy for you
as on a day of festival.

The word of the Lord.
R/ Thanks be to God

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *(Isaiah 12:2-6)*

**Response: Sing and shout for joy
for great in your midst
is the Holy One of Israel.**

1. Truly, God is my salvation,
I trust, I shall not fear.
For the Lord is my strength, my song
he became my saviour.
With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation. **R/**
2. Give thanks to the Lord, give praise
to his name!
Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples.
Declare the greatness of his name. **R/**
3. Sing a psalm to the Lord
for he has done glorious deeds,
make them known to all the earth!
People of Zion, sing and shout for joy
for great in your midst is the Holy One of
Israel. **R/**

SECOND READING *(Philippians 4:4-7)*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I repeat, what I want is your happiness. Let your tolerance be evident to everyone: the Lord is very near. There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.
R/ Thanks be to God

ALLELUIA VERSE

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
The spirit of the Lord has been given to me.
He has sent me to bring good news to the poor.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

THE GOSPEL *(Luke 3:10-18)*

The Lord be with you.
R/ And with your spirit.

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

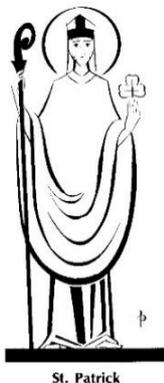
When all the people asked John, "What must we do, then?" He answered, "If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same." There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, "Master, what must we do?" He said to them, "Exact no more than your rate." Some soldiers asked him in their turn, "What about us? What must we do?" He said to them, "No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!"

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, "I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out." As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

The Gospel of the Lord.
R/ Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.



GAUDETE
Rejoice!



St. Patrick

THE BEACON

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Our Lady of the Rosary

12TH DECEMBER 2021

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sat	11th	18:15	Jan Mieszkowicz	St Patrick's
Sun	12th	08:45	Mass in Polish	St Patrick's
		09:00	For Parishioners	Our Lady's
		11:00	Graham Stelmach	St Patrick's
		16:00	Reception of Joe Davey's body into church	St Patrick's
Mon	13th	St Lucy, Virgin and Martyr		
		12:00	Funeral Mass for Joe Davey prior to burial	St Patrick's
Tue	14th	St John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church		
		12:00	Fr Dominic Byrne	St Patrick's
Wed	15th	Ferial		
		12:00	Private Intention	Our Lady's
Thur	16th	Ferial		
		12:00	Maria Victoria	St Patrick's
Fri	17th	Ferial		
		12:00	Hugh and Bridget Canavan	St Patrick's
Sat	18th	Ferial		
Sat	18th	18:15	John and Teresa Corley	St Patrick's
Sun	19th	08:45	Mass in Polish	St Patrick's
		09:00	Alex Hills	Our Lady's
		11:00	Tudor Perera	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

LET US KNOW YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS

We use 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 in the comfort of your own home.

THE SEASON OF ADVENT



The Lord is very near, and this thought should make us very happy. We have no need to worry and if we ask God for anything we want he will not refuse us. We look forward confident and unafraid to the future with hope because the Lord is with us. He is the cause of our happiness. We are a people of hope and joy.

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 our hospitals; also all the staff at our local nursing and care homes and parishioners shielding or self-isolating at home during this time of pandemic.

We remember in prayer all who have died, especially **Mary Hurlock, Joseph (Joe) Davey** (Funeral on Monday) and **Fr Dominic Byrne**, son of Bernadette Frain, a priest of the Westminster Archdiocese, who died on Monday after a short illness; and all who are mourning the death of a loved one, and all whose anniversaries occur about this time.

HOLY COMMUNIONS 2022

If you and your child (Y3 and above) wish to join the Programme, then please complete one of the Registration Forms available from the porch and return it via the Gold Box.

The Preparation relies upon a partnership between parents, children, catechists, priest, and parishioners working together.

Your child is expected to attend Masses during the preparation. Seats can be booked through the Parish office.

THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS

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

Evangelisation - Catechists:

For Catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

THE BIG CHRISTMAS CLEAN

Tuesday, 21st Dec @ St Pat's
Wednesday, 22nd Dec @ Our Lady's
After the Midday Mass

Tea and coffee and mince pies will be served.

All are welcome to help.
Please sign-up on the list if you can help.
Soft drinks available for the children.

MONEY MATTERS

Last Sunday's Offertory Collections:

St Patrick's: £ 1,058.70

Our Lady's: £ 377.30

Thank you for your continued generosity, and especially those continuing to pay by standing order. If you wish to start giving regularly by standing order or envelope, please speak to Father Alban or email the Parish Office.

CLERGY EDUCATION AND TRAINING FUND

Thank you for your donations to this very important fund. Your contributions have enabled us to send the sum of £440.00 to the diocese..

FOUNDATION GOVERNOR VACANCY AT OUR BLESSED SAINTS FEDERATION

This is an opportunity to offer your gifts and talents in service of our catholic primary schools. Anyone interested is asked to check out St Luke's website, or follow this link where full information is available: <https://www.stlukesatholicprimary.org.uk/gov.php>

CURRENT INSTRUCTIONS FOR MASS IN OUR PARISHES

You are asked to continue make a booking for a place at one of the **weekend Masses**, please phone the Parish Office on 01952 242423 **BETWEEN 9.00AM AND 11.00AM, MONDAY TO FRIDAY**. or email us on ccntelford@gmail.com to make a booking.

There is no longer a need to book a place at one of our **weekday Masses**. Turn-up; add your name to the Attendance List; and choose a seat, safe distancing from others.

Hand sanitizer and face coverings will continue to be required at all times in church.

The Distribution of Holy Communion has changed at St Patrick's. Following the last week's Parish Council Meeting we have reintroduced the one-way system. **Please wait for the Stewards to direct you; we will use the previously used one-way system as it prevents bottlenecks in the aisles.** Continuing restrictions mean we cannot offer the chalice yet, and Communion must be received in the hand and not the tongue.

Having received Communion, people return to their seats for the concluding parts of the Mass.

THE UNIVERSE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

"*The Universe Catholic Weekly* is thrilled to announce that we have launched our new on-line newspaper with the full support of our first subscriber none other than Cardinal Vincent Nichols.

Order **your Digital** copy by going to the web-site www.universecatholicweekly.co.uk or call us on 07436 617650 and ask for Michelle.

Special offer: Only £20 for 3 months."

SYNODAL CHURCH: COMMUNION, PARTICIPATION, MISSION

A two-year 'synodal' process is taking place in the Catholic Church that leads to the Synod Gathering of Bishops in Rome in October 2023.

Pope Francis is inviting all of us to take part in the process by reflecting upon what the Holy Spirit is asking of us as members of the pilgrim Church journeying together in faith here and now. What is the Spirit asking of us at a parish level, diocesan level, and as a world-wide Church?

The Holy Father has proposed ten "Nuclei" to help us in our considerations. The Synod Paper that lists the ten Nuclei is available from the church porch.

Individuals, Families and Groups may be interested in taking part in the process by thinking about the ten Nuclei that are put forward for our consideration.

Over the coming weeks each Newsletter will list one Nuclei, in the hope that a Bite-Size might make it easier for yourselves. So, this week's Nuclei:

Nuclei 5: Co-responsibility in the Mission

What do I understand the mission of the Church to be both in my own life and participation, and in the local church and the universal church? How is what we are doing relate to the Great Commission of Jesus (Matt 28:18-20)? What formation do I need to be more committed to the mission of the Church? What impact is our local community making in the area – do we make a difference?

After your reflections, jot down your comments and considerations, add your name and contact number and pop it into the gold box in the porch. You can if you wish email ccntelford@gmail.com with your response. Your names will be treated in the strictest confidence, but will enable Fr Alban or the parish office to contact you to clarify, if necessary, anything in your response.

The deadline for your responses is Sunday, 13th February 2022.

JUNIOR SYNOD LEAFLETS

Please take a leaflet for any young people who may be interested whose views are welcome and will be added to the discussion.

PRAYER DURING THE SYNOD

We stand before You, Holy Spirit,
as we gather together in Your name.

With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder. Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.

All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. Amen.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

There will be ten Masses over the Christmas weekend:

Christmas Eve: Friday, 24th December:

18:00hrs Family Christmas Vigil Mass at St Patrick's
18:00hrs Syro-Malabar Mass at Our Lady's
20:00hrs Polish Christmas Vigil Mass at St Patrick's
22:00hrs Christmas Night-time Mass at St Patrick's

Christmas Day: Saturday, 25th December:

08:45hrs Polish Christmas Dawn Mass at St Patrick's
09:00hrs Christmas Dawn Mass at Our Lady's
11:00hrs Christmas Day-time Mass at St Patrick's
No Vigil Mass for the Sunday

Feast of the Holy Family: Sunday, 26th December

08:45hrs Polish Mass at St Patrick's
09:00hrs Mass at Our Lady's
11:00hrs Mass at St Patrick's

To book a place at one of the Masses please phone the parish office on 01952 242423 or email us on ccntelford@gmail.com. Places will be allocated in order of receipt of bookings. **There are no spaces left at the 18:00 Vigil Mass at St Patricks and extremely limited space at the 10.00pm Mass.**

The Masses will probably get very full. Only book a place if you are sure you can attend the Mass. To give the opportunity for as many people as possible to attend Mass over the Christmas weekend, we ask you to only book for one Mass over the weekend (if you really need to book for a second Mass, your name will be put on a waiting list so that we can allocate a place if places are available).

If you are not able to come to a booked place, please let the parish office know as soon as possible, we can then allocate your place to someone on the waiting list.

Obviously, face masks must be worn throughout the Mass and you must be sanitized as you enter and leave the church.

For those of you who are still self-isolating at home and with access to a computer, Christmas Masses will be live streamed from Shrewsbury Cathedral and other venues. They can be accessed by visiting website www.churchservices.tv/. The BBC will also broadcast Midnight Mass from Birmingham Cathedral.

CWL RAFFLE PRIZES

Those of you with long memories may remember that before the lockdown the CWL held a raffle. The prizes are now available. Ask Fr Alban or one of the CWL members if your ticket was a winner. The Our Lady's winners have already received their prizes.

SAINT OF THE WEEK: ST LUCY

Lucy, whose name means "light", is the patron saint of Sicily where she was born. She is known to have been killed for her faith in 304 during the persecutions of the Emperor Diocletian, having been betrayed to the authorities by her pagan fiancé. Some stories say that she plucked her eyes out rather than betray Christ. For this reason she is invoked as the patron saint of opticians and those who suffer with their sight.