



St. Patrick

# THE BEACON


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Our Lady of the Rosary

Livestream: <https://www.churchservices.tv/wellington>  
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## 25<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2022 THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

	Sat	24th	13:30	Syro-Malabar Rite Mass	Our Lady's
			18:00	Christmas Vigil Mass	St Patrick's
			18:00	Christmas Vigil Mass	Our Lady's
			20:00	Christmas Vigil Mass in Polish	St Patrick's
			22:00	Christmas Night-time Mass	St Patrick's
Sun	25th	08:45	Christmas Dawn Mass in Polish	St Patrick's	
<b>Christmas Masses</b>		09:00	Christmas Dawn Mass	Our Lady's	
		11:00	Christmas Day-time Mass	St Patrick's	
Mon	26th	<b>Feast of St Stephen, Martyr</b>			
		12:00	Eliska, Alex and Matej	St Patrick's	
Tue	27th	<b>Feast of St John the Evangelist, Apostle</b>			
		12:00	James Douglas	St Patrick's	
Wed	28th	<b>Feast of the Holy Innocents, Martyrs</b>			
		12:00	Private Intention	Our Lady's	
Thur	29th	<b>Feast of St Thomas Becket, Bishop &amp; Martyr, Patron of the Pastoral Clergy</b>			
		No Mass today			
Fri	30th	<b>Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph</b>			
		12:00	Ian Martindale	St Patrick's	
Sat	31st	<b>Seventh Day of the Christmas Octave</b>			
		22:00	Syro-Malabar Rite Service of Watching (until 00:30hrs)	St Patrick's	
Sat	31st	18:15	Graham Stelmach	St Patrick's	
Sun	1st	08:45	Mass in Polish	St Patrick's	
<b>Mary, the Mother of God</b>		09:00	In Thanksgiving	Our Lady's	
		11:00	Rob Adams	St Patrick's	

**CONFESSIONS** - Heard by Appointment

### 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](http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/privacy-notice)

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

### 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](mailto:ccntelford@gmail.com) and we shall keep you abreast of the latest news and updates in the comfort of your own home.

**Safeguarding:** Parish: Moira Shrimpton 07540 723614; Diocese: Andrew O'Brien 0151 652 9855.

## THE READINGS AT OUR CHRISTMAS MASSES

The Feast of the Lord's Birth is so special that the Readings at each of our Masses have their own contribution to make to the unfolding mystery of the Incarnation.

At the **Vigil Mass** St Matthew's Gospel lays out for us the family tree of Jesus. Beginning with Abraham and going through King David, St Matthew shows us that Jesus is part of King David's family. Like us, Jesus is part of a family.

St Luke in the Gospel at the **Night-time Mass** tells us of the birth of Jesus in the stable because there was no room for them at the inn. Only the ox and the ass saw what had happened, but angels appeared to shepherds in nearby fields because the news of the birth has to be told far and wide.

At first light, the shepherds make their way to Bethlehem to see for themselves what the angels had told them. At the **Dawn Mass** St Luke tells us that it was exactly as they had been told. Mary and Joseph, and all whom the shepherds told, were astonished at what they said.

The beginning of St John's Gospel at our **Day-time Mass** takes us right into the mystery. The mighty Word which God spoke at the very start of creation has taken flesh in the baby born in Bethlehem.

St John assures us that we are all caught-up in the mystery and the love of the Word made flesh.



### PRAYER REMEMBRANCES

Your prayers are asked for the sick and the housebound and all those who are in hospital, the Hospice or local nursing and care 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 at this time.

We remember in prayer all who have died, especially **Thomas Kane** (Funeral 9 January) and **Frank Heffer** (Funeral 10 January); all who are mourning the death of a loved one, and all whose anniversaries occur about this time.

### PRAYER FOR UKRAINE

God of peace and justice,  
we pray for the people of Ukraine today.  
We pray for peace and the laying down of  
weapons.

We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow,  
that your Spirit may comfort them.

We pray for those with power over peace and war,  
for wisdom, discernment, and compassion to guide  
their decisions. Above all we pray for the precious  
children, at risk and in fear, that you would hold  
them and protect them. We pray in the name of  
Jesus, the Prince of Peace.  
Amen.

### THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR DECEMBER

During December the Pope asks us to pray:  
**For children who suffer:** We pray for children who  
are suffering, especially those who are homeless,  
orphans and victims of war. May they be  
guaranteed access to education and the opportunity  
to experience family affection.

### CHRISTMAS CARDS BY SPECIAL DELIVERY

With the last date for posting cards already behind us, and to ensure that your cards for your fellow parishioners have a chance of being received before Christmas, why not use the box at the back of the church for special delivery?

Sort your cards into alphabetical order of addressee and put them into the box accordingly.

Any cards not collected by the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord (8<sup>th</sup> January 2023) will be thrown away – so don't put any money or gift vouchers in the cards – just in case!

Do check the box to see if you have cards awaiting.

### LIVESTREAMED MASSES

St Patrick's Masses and services are now being livestreamed on the internet for those unable to get to church in person.

Go to: <https://churchservices.tv/wellington>

### MONEY MATTERS

Last Sunday's Offertory Collections:

St Patrick's: £ 1,114.00

Our Lady's: £ 367.37

Many thanks for your continued generosity.

Today's Christmas collection is the traditional one towards the upkeep of your priest.

If you would like to give regularly by standing order, please take a form from the porch and complete a gift aid form if you are able, so the parish can claim some tax back from your donation.

### CRAFT AND CHAT

The Craft and Chat group is now taking a break and will resume in early February. Please keep an eye on the newsletter for dates.

### SUNDAY MORNING MASS AT OUR LADY'S

Following our recent Parish Meeting, Bishop Mark has now consented to the proposal that Fr John Britto of Shifnal and Albrighton Parish will celebrate the 09:00hrs Mass at Our Lady's. The new arrangement will commence on Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023 and will continue until at least September 2023. From time-to-time Fr Alban and Fr Joe will celebrate the Sunday Mass at Our Lady's. The weekday Masses will continue as at present.

### SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

First Holy Communion and Confirmation forms are available from the porch in both churches. Completed forms can be returned via the gold box. The last date for applications is January 20<sup>th</sup>.

Children in Year 3, and older, can enrol for the First Holy Communion Programme; young people in Year 8 and older can enrol for the Confirmation Programme.

### THE DIOCESAN YEARBOOK 2023

Packed full of all sorts of information on the Diocese of Shrewsbury, the new 2023 Diocesan Yearbook is now available from the Piety Stall. Priced at only £6.00 each, you can learn an awful lot.

For instance, do you know that Fr Joe will celebrate a very special milestone as a priest in June of next year?

### POSTAGE STAMPS FOR THE RNIB

Mrs Joy Rebello has written: "I received a large amount of stamps last week which I have sent off to the RNIB. If you have received Christmas cards over the last few weeks, please pop the postage stamps in the box close to the Piety Stall. Many thanks for your continued help."

### FOOD BANK DONATIONS AT ST PATRICK'S

The Foodbank and Baby bank boxes are now in the small porch by the stairs at St Patrick's and under the porch table at Our Lady's. They are emptied regularly by the SVP.

Thank you for your continued support for local people who are struggling.

### CHRISTMAS DONATION

There are envelopes available for the Christmas collection. If you give regularly by direct debit or cheque and claim gift aid please add your name to the envelope and the gift aid can be claimed on your donation.

### CRIB OFFERINGS

Donations made at the crib will be sent to Caritas, formerly the Children's Society.

### ROTAS FOR THE NEW YEAR

New rotas have been sent out. If you have not received one please let Moira know.

Both churches also require more volunteers to form teams of cleaners. If you can help, please let Moira know. The more teams we have, the better to spread the workload.

### THE FAMILY MASS SINGERS

The next meeting for the Family Mass singers will take place on Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> January 2023. Theresa wishes all the Singers a Very Happy Christmas.

### GLOBAL CAMINO

Sponsors are requested by Lissie Shepherd as she walks with pilgrims in a 15km virtual Global Camino on 14<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup> January to raise funds to support the activities of Operation Sabre, a Shrewsbury based charity run by retired firefighters, who provide much needed support to some of the 1.6million refugees who have fled to neighbouring Romania. The sponsor form is on the notice board in St Patrick's. Donations can also be made direct from their website [www.operationsabre.com](http://www.operationsabre.com).

### CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Children's liturgy will return on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> January. We thank the catechists for their support with the children this term.

### PARISH DIARY

#### January 2023

1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Mary, the Mother of God</b> New Mass arrangements begin
6 <sup>th</sup>	<b>The Feast of the Epiphany</b>
8 <sup>th</sup>	<b>The Baptism of the Lord</b>
9 <sup>th</sup>	Funeral of Thomas Kane
14 <sup>th</sup>	Wedding of Samuel Esione & Augusta Azike
15 <sup>th</sup>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Baptisms – <i>Emmeline Silcox &amp; Abigail Lawton</i>
20 <sup>th</sup>	Final date to apply for First Sacraments
22 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Baptism – <i>Martha Luk</i>
29 <sup>th</sup>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Baptism – <i>Eliana-Jovelyn Nalikem Segbefia</i>
<b>February</b>	
2 <sup>nd</sup>	The Presentation of the Lord
5 <sup>th</sup>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Teas and Coffees after 11am Mass.
12 <sup>th</sup>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> First Communion Enrolment Masses
19 <sup>th</sup>	<b>7<sup>th</sup> Sunday in ordinary Time</b>
22 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Ash Wednesday</b>
26 <sup>th</sup>	<b>First Sunday of Lent</b>

To wish you,  
and all the members of your families,

*A Very Happy*  
*and*  
*Blessed Christmas*



**“Glory to God in the highest Heaven, and peace to all who enjoy his favour.”**

*(Luke, 2:14)*

The Saviour is born and the work of our redemption has already begun. He is Emmanuel – God with us – and in him we find a new life. His final coming in glory may still be far off but the whole world has been changed by the event at Bethlehem. God, through a tiny baby, enters the course of human history, and the world will never be the same again. In the days to come, may all of us know just how close God is to each one of us.