

THE BEACON

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3RD DECEMBER 2023

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sat	2nd	17:30	John Dooney – for recovery from illness	St Patrick's
Sun	3rd	08:45	Mass in Polish	St Patrick's
The First Sunday of Advent		09:00	George Adaway Anniversary Baptism during Mass – Jessimel Kalanga Ndonda Charlotte and Julio Maya	Our Lady's St Patrick's
Mon	4th	Ferial		Str atrick's
IVIOIT	401	renai	No Mass Today	
Tue	5th	Ferial 12:00	Antony Nadakal Anniversary	St Patrick's
Wed	6th	St Nicholas, Bishop		
		14:00	Advent Mass – St Luke's School Parishioners welcome	Our Lady's
Thurs	7th	St Amb	prose, Bishop & Doctor of the Church	
		19:00	Kusuma Silva RIP	St Patrick's
Fri	8th		maculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	
		12:00	Leema and Amalanathan Family	St Patrick's
		18:00	Mass in Polish	St Patrick's
Sat	9th	Ferial		
APPEA	L FOR CO	MBONI S	SISTERS – Sister. Asmeret A. Abreha	
Sat	9th	17:30	Hugh & Bridget Canavan Christmas Intention	St Patrick's
Sun	10th	08:45	Mass in Polish	St Patrick's
The Second Sunday of Advent		09:00	Vocations to the Priesthood	Our Lady's
		11:00	For Our Parishioners	St Patrick's
		12:30	Baptisms – Victoria Igwe and Isabelle Pintilie	St Patrick's

SACRAMENT OF FORGIVENESS (CONFESSION)

30 minutes before Masses

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

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

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

LIVESTREAM: Our Masses from St Patrick's are available online at https://churchservices.tv/wellington

NEWSLETTER: Items for inclusion in the newsletter should be received by Wednesday afternoon

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

You, Lord, yourself are our Father,
Our Redeemer is your ancient name.
Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways
and harden our hearts against fearing you?
Return, for the sake of your servants,
the tribes of your inheritance.
Oh, that you would tear the heavens open
and come down —
at your Presence the mountains would melt.

No ear has heard, no eye has seen any god but you act like this for those who trust him. You guide those who act with integrity and keep your ways in mind. You were angry when we were sinners; we had long been rebels against you. We were all like men unclean, all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing. We have all withered like leaves and our sins blew us away like the wind. No one invoked your name or roused himself to catch hold of you. For you hid your face from us and gave us up to the power of our sins. And yet, Lord, you are our Father; we the clay, you the potter, we are all the work of your hand

The word of the Lord.

Response: Thanks be to God

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 79

Response: God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

O shepherd of Israel, hear us, shine forth from your cherubim throne. O Lord, rouse up your might. O Lord, come to our help. **R/**

God of hosts, turn again, we implore, look down from heaven and see. Visit this vine and protect it, the vine your right hand has planted. **R/**

May your hand be on the man you have chosen, the man you have given your strength.

And we shall never forsake you again: give us life that we may call upon your name.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1: 3-9

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

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

The word of the Lord.

Response: Thanks be to God

ALLELUIA VERSE

Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David!
Alleluia!

THE GOSPEL

Mark 33: 33-37

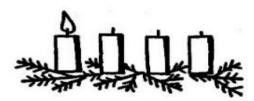
The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.** A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples: "Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!"

The Gospel of the Lord.

Response: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



ADVENT 2023

2-3rd December: The First Sunday of Advent – Day of Prayer for all migrants and refugees - Bishop Mark's Advent Pastoral Letter on Prayer will be read at each Mass.

9-10th December: Second Sunday of Advent – Bible Sunday – Please write a bible verse that inspires/comforts you on a piece of paper for display on the notice board –

We will be joined by Sr. Asmeret A. Abreha (Comboni Missionary Sister), who will be giving the mission appeal at all Masses Please support the appeal if you can.

16-17th December: Third Sunday of Advent – Reconciliation & Rejoicing Sunday with Fr Denis Maher -

Retiring collection for Caritas at Christmas Appeal

23-24th December: Fourth Sunday of Advent – Bambinelli Sunday – Please bring the statue of baby Jesus from your family Nativity set to be blessed during Mass.

PRAYER FOR PEACE

O God, you are the source of life and peace.
Praised be your name forever.
We know it is you who turn our minds to

We know it is you who turn our minds to thoughts of peace.

Hear our prayer at this time of war. Your power changes hearts.

Muslims, Christians and Jews remember and profoundly affirm that they are followers of the same God., children of Abraham, brothers and sisters.

Enemies begin to speak to one another; Those who are estranged join hands in friendship;

Nations speak the way of peace together. Strengthen our resolve to give witness to these truths by the way we live.

Give to us: Understanding that puts an end to strife; Mercy that quenches hatred; and Forgiveness that overcomes vengeance.

Empower all people to live in your law of Love Amen

2024 - A YEAR OF PRAYER IN PREPARATION FOR JUBILEE 2025:

Pope Francis invites us to dedicate the year ahead to rediscovering the place of prayer in all our lives, in anticipation for the graces God wishes to give the Church and the world in the Jubilee Year 2025 - "In every diocese, in every parish, in every community, let us adore the Lord! Only in this way will we turn to Jesus and not to ourselves. For only through silent adoration will the Word of God live in our words; only in his presence will we be purified, transformed and renewed by the fire of his Spirit. Brothers and sisters, let us adore the Lord Jesus!"

Many of our parishioners have expressed, in our parish conversations, the need for adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and opportunities to celebrate the Sacrament of Forgiveness along with attention to the pastoral care of the sick.

Responding to the call of Pope Francis and our communities, in the new liturgical year, there will be **Prayer in the Presence of the Blessed Sacrament**, 30 minutes before weekday masses and the possibility of **celebrating the Sacrament of Forgiveness**(Confessions), 30 minutes before every mass.

Fr Ravi visits the sick and housebound in our two Parishes on Thursdays. If anyone needs a visit, please do let us know, after receiving a consent from them or from their next of kin.

PRAYER REMEMBRANCES

We remember in prayer all who have died, especially **Sandra Field**; all who are mourning the death of a loved one; and all those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Confirmation: If you are in Yr 8 or above please add your name to the list on the noticeboard if you are interested in being Confirmed in 2024. We need to see what numbers are involved as we prepare the course.

Holy Communion: Enrolment forms for First Forgiveness and First Communion are available from the porch in both churches.

PARISH CENSUS AND VOLUNTEER FORM

These forms are should be completed and added to the Gold Box this weekend.return the completed forms by **this weekend**.

CHANGE OF YEAR

We start a new liturgical year this week; Sundays of Year B, where mainly St Mark's Gospel will be our guide. For those using a daily Missal the Readings will be taken from Year II.

ADVENT COFFEE MORNING

St Patricks Mini Vinnies invite Senior Parishioners to their Christmas Coffee morning

Friday 8th December 9.30am-11am in the school hall

Entertainment provided by the children

We look forward to seeing you.

Parking available on the top playground.

MONEY MATTERS

Last week's Offertory Collections:

St Patrick's £ 1090.75 Our Lady's £ 411.35

Blessed Sacrament Congregation Appeal £730

Many thanks for your continued generosity.

If you would like to set up a standing order, or gift Aid your donations please contact Moira in the Parish Office.

ST VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY



Both churches have active SVP groups and always welcome new members.

Next meetings:

Our Lady's: Tuesday 19th December at 7pm. St Patrick's: Tuesday 12th November at 7pm.

Food Bank: SVP would like to thank parishioners for their continued generosity to the food bank and the baby bank. Collection boxes are in the porch.

On Sunday there will be refreshments after 11am Mass. Please join us. Donations of cakes and biscuits are always welcome.

PARISH LUNCH - Save the date

All parishioners are invited to share in a Parish Lunch on 28th January at The Buckatree Hotel. The cost for a 2-course lunch will be £16.95 per person, and £8.50 for under 12s.

Booking forms will be available shortly.

. APPEAL FOR DOUBLE KNITTING WOOL

A parishioner is crocheting squares for the Princess Royal Hospital Dementia wards and is asking for any left-over double knitting wool. The wool can be any colour but must be double knit. A collecting box can be found in the porch.

STAMPS FOR RNIB

Please bring in any stamps from Christmas Cards you receive. Boxes in the porch

PARKING AT OUR LADY'S

Once the parking bays are full please continue out of the exit gate and park in the adjacent street. The car park must not be blocked in case an emergency vehicle needs access.

There is also parking on Church Road for those able to walk that short distance.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR MASSES

Christmas Eve - 24th December

5:30pm St Patrick's

7:30pm Our Lady's (Carols from 7pm)
Midnight St Patrick's (Carols from 11.30pm)

Christmas Day - 25th December

9am Our Lady's 11am St Patrick's

New Year's Eve -31st December

11.45pm St Patrick's

New Year's Day – 1st January 10am Our Lady's

The List is available for readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Stewards and Altar servers for Masses over the Christmas period. Please add your name to the list on the noticeboard if you can assist in any Ministry.

CAROL SERVICE AT HOLY TRINITY ACADEMY SUNDAY 17TH DECEMBER 4pm

Parishioners, especially families, are warmly invited to participate in an afternoon, ecumenical, service at Holy Trinity Academy, Teece Drive, TF2 9SQ. There will be an opportunity to meet fellow Christians, join in discussion, sing some well-known carols and enjoy refreshments after the service.

The 4pm service on the third Sunday in every month is ecumenically based at HTA.

Sunday 21st January falls within the octave of Christian Unity: 18th to 25th. Please note the date in your diaries: Information to follow.