



# THE BEACON

Fr Ravi Bosco M: 07447 632733 E: [frravi.bosco@gmail.com](mailto:frravi.bosco@gmail.com)  
 Fr Alban Greenwood, Fr Joe Donlan  
 Fr Michał Łatuszyński (Polish Mass) M: 07926 044405  
 E: [stafford@pcmew.org](mailto:stafford@pcmew.org) 11 Harvington Close, TF1 3EX  
 Office: The Presbytery, King Street, wellington, TF1 3AP  
 T: 01952 – 242423 E: [ccntelford@gmail.com](mailto:ccntelford@gmail.com)  
 Web: [www.stpatrickstelford.com](http://www.stpatrickstelford.com); [www.our-lady-telford.co.uk](http://www.our-lady-telford.co.uk)



10TH DECEMBER 2023

## THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Please note change in Mass Time on Thursday and Friday

<b>APPEAL FOR COMBONI SISTERS – Sister. Asmeret A. Abreha</b>				
Sat	9th	17:30	Hugh & Bridget Canavan Christmas Intention	St Patrick's
Sun	10th	08:45	Mass in Polish	St Patrick's
	<b>The Second Sunday of Advent</b>	09:00	Farid Sharif RIP	Our Lady's
		11:00	Denise Gilmour (Ann) and Our Lady's School, Runcorn	St Patrick's
		12:30	Baptisms – Victoria Igwe and Isabelle Pintilie	St Patrick's
Mon	11th	<b>Ferial</b>	No Mass Today	
Tue	12th	<b>Ferial</b>	12:00 CWL Mass	St Patrick's
Wed	13th	<b>St Lucy, Virgin &amp; Martyr</b>	12:00 Bernard Cassidy (Health)	Our Lady's
Thurs	14th	<b>St John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church</b>	<b>10:00</b> Ronnie Hannah (Health) 14:30 Service of Committal for Sandra Field 18:00 Songs & Readings – St Patrick's School	Telford Crematorium St Patrick's
Fri	15th	<b>Ferial</b>	<b>10:00</b> Paul Butler RIP 18:00 Mass in Polish	St Patrick's St Patrick's
Sat	16th	<b>Ferial</b>		
<b>APPEAL FOR CARITAS AT CHRISTMAS - retiring collection</b>				
Sat	16th	17:30	Maureen Crowley RIP	St Patrick's
Sun	17th	08:45	Mass in Polish	St Patrick's
	<b>The Third Sunday of Advent</b>	09:00	Angela Maureese Morgan and Maurice Blain RIP	Our Lady's
		11:00	Rob Adams and Family	St Patrick's
		12:30	Baptisms – Nikolás Bandy & Patrik Horvath	St Patrick's

### SACRAMENT OF FORGIVENESS (CONFESSION)

30 minutes before Masses

### ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT – 30 MINUTES BEFORE WEEKDAY MASSES

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

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

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

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### FIRST READING

*Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

“Console my people, console them”  
says your God.

“Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her  
that her time of service is ended,  
that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from  
the hand of the Lord double punishment for all her  
crimes.”

A voice cries, “Prepare in the wilderness a way for the  
Lord. Make a straight highway for our God across the  
desert. Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and  
hill be laid low, let every cliff become a plain, and the  
ridges a valley; then the glory of the Lord shall be  
revealed and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of  
the Lord has spoken.”

Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion.  
Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to  
Jerusalem. Shout with fear, say to the towns of Judah,  
“Here is your God.”

Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing  
all things to him. The prize of his victory is with him, his  
trophies all go before him.

He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs  
in his arms, holding them against his breast  
and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

The word of the Lord.

*Response:* **Thanks be to God**

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*Psalms 84*

**Response: Let us see, O Lord, your mercy  
and give us your saving help.**

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,  
a voice that speaks of peace,  
peace for his people.

His help is near for those who fear him  
and his glory will dwell in our land. **R/**

Mercy and faithfulness have met;  
justice and peace have embraced.  
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth  
and justice look down from heaven. **R/**

The Lord will make us prosper  
and our earth shall yield its fruit.  
Justice shall march before him  
and peace shall follow his steps. **R/**

### SECOND READING

*2 Peter 3: 8-14*

A reading from the second letter of St Peter

There is one thing, my friends, that you must never  
forget: that with the Lord, “a day” can mean a thousand  
years, and a thousand years is like a day. The Lord is  
not being slow to carry out his promises, as anybody  
else might be called slow; but he is being patient with  
you all, wanting nobody to be lost and everybody to be

brought to change his ways. The Day of the Lord will  
come like a thief, and then with a roar the sky will  
vanish, the elements will catch fire and fall apart, the  
earth and all that it contains will be burnt up.

Since everything is coming to an end like this, you  
should be living holy and saintly lives while you wait  
and long for the Day of God to come, when the sky will  
dissolve in flames and the elements melt in the heat.  
What we are waiting for is what he promised: the new  
heavens and new earth, the place where  
righteousness will be at home. So then, my friends,  
while you are waiting do your best to live lives without  
spot or stain so that he will find you at peace.

The word of the Lord.

*Response:* **Thanks be to God**

### ALLELUIA VERSE

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths  
straight. And all mankind shall see the salvation  
of God.**

**Alleluia!**

### THE GOSPEL

*Mark 1: 1-8*

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

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ,  
the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet  
Isaiah:

Look, I am going to send my messenger before you;  
he will prepare your way.

A voice cries in the wilderness:

Prepare a way for the Lord,  
make his paths straight,

and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the  
wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for  
the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people  
of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were  
baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their  
sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived  
on locusts and wild honey. In the course of his  
preaching he said, “Someone is following me,  
someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not  
fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I  
have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you  
with the Holy Spirit.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

### 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)*



### ADVENT 2023

**9-10<sup>th</sup> 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.**

**16-17<sup>th</sup> December:** Third Sunday of Advent – Reconciliation & Rejoicing Sunday with Fr Denis Maher -

**Retiring collection for Caritas at Christmas Appeal.**

**23-24<sup>th</sup> 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 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.

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### 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 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

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### 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.

### 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 by Christmas 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.

### ST VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY



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

Next meetings:

**Our Lady's:** Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm.

**St Patrick's:** Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm.

**Food and Baby Bank:** Collection boxes are in the porch.

## MONEY MATTERS

Last week's Offertory Collections:

St Patrick's £ 1113.75

Our Lady's £ 301.75

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.

## 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.

## PARISH LUNCH - Save the date

All parishioners are invited to share in a Parish Lunch on 28<sup>th</sup> 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 at Masses after Christmas.

## 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. The box is in the porch

## CWL MASS

The CWL will meet on Tuesday of this week with a Mass followed by a get together in the meeting room for Christmas.

## ALTAR SERVERS

It was wonderful to see so many people turn up for the altar servers' training two weeks ago. Those that turned up are eager to do well in this Ministry.

Anybody who has made their First Communion can become an altar server. Please speak to Father Ravi before or after Mass.

## CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR MASSES

Christmas Eve - 24<sup>th</sup> December

5:30pm St Patrick's

7:30pm Our Lady's (*Carols from 7pm*)

Midnight St Patrick's (*Carols from 11.30pm*)

Christmas Day - 25<sup>th</sup> December

9am Our Lady's

11am St Patrick's

New Year's Eve -31<sup>st</sup> December

11.45pm St Patrick's

New Year's Day – 1<sup>st</sup> 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: 18<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup>. Please note the date in your diaries: Information to follow.

## CURRY & QUIZ NIGHT

Thank you to all who supported the '**Curry and Quiz Night**'.

It was a very successful evening enjoyed by parishioners from St Patricks' and Our Lady of the Rosary.

Thank you to Mr Joseph for an excellent curry supper. The evening raised £437.50p shared between OLOR SVP and Myanga, We look forward to repeating the evening in the New Year.

## CENSUS FORMS

We have received 147 returned forms for the census. Please return yours via the gold box by 24<sup>th</sup> December if you haven't already done so.