



St. Patrick

THE BEACON

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Our Lady of the Rosary

17TH DECEMBER 2023

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

APPEAL FOR CARITAS AT CHRISTMAS - retiring collection				
Sat	16th	17:30	For Parishioners	St Patrick's
Sun	17th	08:45	Mass in Polish	St Patrick's
	The Third Sunday of Advent	09:00	Angela Maureese Morgan and Maurice Blain RIP	Our Lady's
		11:00	Rob Adams and Family	St Patrick's
		12:30	Baptisms – Nikolas Bandy and Patrik Horvath	St Patrick's
Mon	18th	Ferial	No Mass Today	
Tue	19th	Ferial	12:00 Anjali Mulgama - Recovery	St Patrick's
Wed	20th	Ferial	12:00 Fr Bill Fitzgerald - Recovery	Our Lady's
Thurs	21st	Ferial	19:00 Egnamon Apputami Adaikari	St Patrick's
Fri	22nd	Ferial	12:00 Cook Family Intentions 18:00 Mass in Polish	St Patrick's St Patrick's
Sat	23rd	Ferial		
APPEAL FOR CARITAS AT CHRISTMAS - retiring collection				
Sat	23rd	17:30	Kevin Wyse	St Patrick's
Sun	24th	08:45	Mass in Polish	St Patrick's
	The Fourth Sunday of Advent	09:00	Kathleen Conway	Our Lady's
		11:00	Nugent Family Intentions	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>

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

FIRST READING *Isaiah 61: 1-2, 10-11*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me,
for the Lord has anointed me.
He has sent me to bring good news to the poor,
to bind up hearts that are broken;

to proclaim liberty to captives,
freedom to those in prison;
to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord.

"I exult for joy in the Lord,
my soul rejoices in my God,
for he has clothed me in the garments of
salvation,
he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity,
like a bridegroom wearing his wreath,
like a bride adorned in her jewels.

For as the earth makes fresh things grow,
as a garden makes seeds spring up,
so will the Lord make both integrity and praise
spring up in the sight of the nations."

The word of the Lord.

Response: **Thanks be to God**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Luke 1* **Response: My soul rejoices in my God.**

My soul glorifies the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.
He looks on his servant in her nothingness;
henceforth all ages will call me blessed. **R/**

The Almighty works marvels for me.
Holy his name!
His mercy is from age to age,
on those who fear him. **R/**

He fills the starving with good things,
sends the rich away empty.
He protects Israel, his servant,
remembering his mercy. **R/**

SECOND READING *Thessalonians 5: 16-24* *A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians*

Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for
all things give thanks to God, because this is
what God expects you to do in Christ Jesus.

Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift
of prophecy with contempt; think before you do
anything – hold on to what is good and avoid
every form of evil. May the God of peace make

you perfect and holy; and may you all be kept
safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the
coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has
called you and he will not fail you.

The word of the Lord.

Response: **Thanks be to God**

ALLELUIA VERSE

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

THE GOSPEL *John 1:6-8, 19-28*

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

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

A man came, sent by God.

His name was John.

He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for
the light, so that everyone might believe through
him.

He was not the light, only a witness to speak for
the light.

This is how John appeared as a witness. When
the Jews sent priests and Levites from
Jerusalem to ask him, "who are you?" he not
only declared but he declared quite openly, "I
am not the Christ." "Well then," they asked "are
you Elijah?" "I am not" he said. "Are you the
Prophet?" He answered, "No." So they said to
him, "Who are you? We must take back an
answer to those who sent us. What have you to
say about yourself?" So John said, "I am, as
Isaiah prophesied:

a voice that cries in the wilderness:
Make a straight way for the Lord."

Now these men had been sent by the
Pharisees, and they put this further question to
him, "Why are you baptising if you are not the
Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?"
John replied, "I baptise with water; but there
stands among you – unknown to you – the one
who is coming after me; I am not fit to undo his
sandal-strap." This happened at Bethany, on
the far side of the Jordan, where John was
baptising.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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



ADVENT 2023

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 REMEMBRANCES

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

We also pray for those who are ill and those who are caring for them.

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.

MONEY MATTERS

Last week's Offertory Collections:

St Patrick's £ 1058.25

Our Lady's £ 396.75

Comboni Appeal £684.77

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.

CENSUS FORMS

We have received 158 returned forms for the census. Please return yours via the gold box by 24th December if you haven't already done so.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR MASSES

Christmas Eve - 24th December
5:30pm St Patrick's
7:30pm Our Lady's (*Carols from 7pm*)
8pm Mass in Polish – St Patrick's
Midnight St Patrick's (*Carols from 11.30pm*)

Christmas Day - 25th December
9am Our Lady's
11am St Patrick's
2:30pm SyroMalabar Mass at Our Lady's

New Year's Eve -31st December
11.45pm St Patrick's

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

There are still spaces on the rotas for readers, stewards and Eucharistic Ministers.

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.

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

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!"*

There is now **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. Anyone who has not already been seen so far should contact Fr directly. A rota will be made up for visits after Fr returns from his visit home to India.

CARITAS AT CHRISTMAS

Many of you will remember in the past that "crib Offerings" (the basket usually beside the crib) was given to the Catholic Children's Society.

The society was replaced some years ago by Caritas Shrewsbury. Caritas is involved with projects around the Diocese, supporting families, children and community needs.

Our nearest centre is at The Roy Fletcher Centre, 17 cross Hill, SY1 1JE in Shrewsbury. What is available?

Parenting Programme beginning on 10th January.

Drop-in centre every Thursday morning 10-12pm.

Free Wellbeing support service

To find out more contact:

Lucy on 07394586252

Please give to the retiring collection if you can.

FRIENDSHIP GROUP AGED 10+

We will be meeting in the parish room this Sunday 17th December 5-6.30pm for games and refreshments plus talking about Faith and Action.

ECUMENICAL 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.

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.

ST VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY



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

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

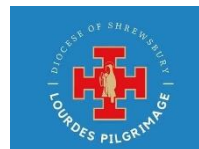
Our Lady's SVP are supporting some refugee families who have the need for adult and children bicycles as well as laptops / tablets.

Anything our parishioners could do to support would be really appreciated

If you can help please contact Catherine Keeble or Janet Beyer.

HEALTH AND SAFETY & MAINTENANCE

The Health and Safety representatives and the maintenance team have held their first meeting at St Patrick's. There will be a report to view and a presentation will be given at Masses in the new year.



SHREWSBURY YOUTH PILGRIMAGE 2024

**Wednesday 24th July –
Friday 2nd August**

Age 16 – 22 Cost £725

Information and an application form are available from

youth@dioceseofshrewsbury.org

Closing date for Applications is
31st March 2024

The brochure and booking forms for the adults pilgrimage will be available in February 2024. The dates for the 2024 pilgrimage are

AIR Friday 26 July to Thursday 01 August
COACH Thursday 25 July to Friday 02 August