

Saint Mary Immaculate, Warwick

The Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity Number 234216



www.stmary-immaculate.org.uk

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Newsletter Items - newsletter@stmaryimmaculate.org.uk

Epiphany of the Lord (Year A, Psalter Week 1) Sunday 8th January 2017

Sat 7 th	Vigil of Sunday	6.30 p.m.	Roland Veasey R.I.P. (Veasey)
Sun 8 th	Epiphany of the Lord (Solemnity)	8.30 a.m.	Audrey Peabody R.I.P. (Newey)
		10.30 a.m.	Special Intention (C)
Mon 9 th	The Baptism of the Lord	10.00 a.m.	Private intention
Tues 10 th	Feria	10.00 a.m.	Audrey Peabody R.I.P.
Wed 11 th	Feria	11.30 a.m.	Requiem Mass for Josie Hartshorne
Thur 12 th	Feria	12.00 noon	Audrey Peabody R.I.P. (Nichols)
Fri 13 th	Feria	7.30 p.m.	Private intention
Sat 14 th	Our Lady on Saturday	10.00 a.m.	Pro Populo
	Vigil for Sunday	6.30 p.m.	Murphy Family R.I.P (Veasey)
Sun 15 th	2 nd Sunday of the Year	8.30 a.m.	Rita Sharp (Int.) (Fitzpatrick)
		10.30 a.m.	Audrey Peabody R.I.P

Confession

Saturday 10.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. and 5.30 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. Open confession by appointment.

Coffee and Chat

Our first coffee and chat morning of the New Year takes a slightly different form. It is to be at 123 Spring Pool (CV34 4UP but near the Town Centre) on Wednesday 18th January at 10.30 a.m. All parishioners very welcome as usual. If you haven't been before, why not come along and meet a few of your fellow parishioners.

Recently Died

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Johanna Christena (Josie) Hartshorne who died recently. Her Requiem Mass will be at 11.30 a.m. on Wednesday 11th January.

Traidcraft

Whoops! There won't be a Traidcraft stall this month. So, save your cash for February!

Second Collection - Pax Christi

There will be a second collection for Pax Christi next weekend.

Parish Magazine

There are still a few copies of the Christmas Parish Magazine at the back of Church. Do take a copy / copies to give to your friends and neighbours.

Last Week's Offertory

Last week's offertory came to £615.50 (of which £243.00 was gift aid).

Readers

This week - John Connor, Suzanne Stock and Ignatio Gomez.

Next week - Margaret Zetland, Philip Batt and Keith Statham.

Counters - Group 1 this weekend please. Next week Group 2.

Help in the Hall

Joanna who has laundered the tea towels and bought soap etc. for the hall has moved from our parish.

We need someone to fill this important role. For more details contact Claire Harris philip.harris@lineone.net.

Sick and Housebound

Your prayers are asked for all the sick in the Parish at home or in the hospitals/ hospice and especially for Steve Amos, June Amos, Reine-Marie Bates, Philip Batt, Len Briggs, Elizabeth Coleman, Mary Croney, Barbara Cullinan, Eugene Devoti, Anne Downes, Edith Durkin, John Fitzpatrick, Wendy Fitzpatrick, Peter Harrison, Mary Houston, Barbara Ivings, Christina Kelly, Vera Maguire, Miss McLaughlin, Tony Melton, Sheila Millard, Florence Murphy, Bernadette Narain, Kathleen O'Connor, Rebecca Power, Mrs Richardson, Sarah Stewart, Betty Walters and Esther Webb.

Warwick Deanery Evangelisation Team

Our next meeting is on Monday 9th January at 7.30 p.m. in the upper Davenport Room, St Peter's Parish Centre, Dormer Place, Leamington Spa CV32 5AA. It is hoped that each parish in the Warwick deanery will be represented. Contact Peter Dimambro (mdimambro@hotmail.co.uk)

Kenilworth Catenians

Kenilworth Catenians is a well-established and lively association of practising Catholic men from the Kenilworth and Warwick area. Our next meeting will take place at the Chesford Grange Hotel on Wednesday 18 January at 7.30pm. If you would like to know more, then please contact Dave Prescott.

Reflection on the Readings - Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians: 3: 2-3,5-6; Matthew 2:1-12.

All nations, without exception, are called to be part of the Kingdom of God. Thus, "your sons come from afar" (First Reading). In fact, the "Gentiles are coheirs" of the promises of Christ (Second Reading). Christ attracts the best from all nations, personified in the truth-seeking Magi and symbolized in their precious gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh (Gospel).

The Epiphany shows that God's promise of redemption goes well beyond the bounds of the chosen people. Christ's Kingdom is to be universal, encompassing all nationalities, races and languages. "All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me," Jesus said. "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:18-19). Christ wants his disciples to think globally, and to let their charity start locally. The Church is not meant to be an us-versus-them project. Christ wants to embrace all peoples, because all souls are precious to him. All are meant to be "members of the same body" (Second Reading).

Christ's epiphany, or manifestation, is as much a revelation about himself as about the extent of his mission. Many in Israel looked forward to a Messiah who would free them from political oppression. Christ would bring something far more superior and sublime: release from sin.

Everyone, without exception, has a right to hear the good news. To not share the news of Christ with others, out of a false sense of tolerance, is misguided. "The ultimate fulfilment of the vocation of the human person," said the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith in a recent Note, "is found in accepting the revelation of God in Christ as proclaimed by the Church." Quoting Pope Benedict XVI, the document added: "The proclamation of and witness to the Gospel are the first service that Christians can render to every person and the entire human race."

Ironically, the very people who should have raced to Bethlehem to see the Christ Child, the people of the holy city Jerusalem, greeted the news of a new-born king with angst. Today it is not uncommon to find cradle Christians who are indifferent to the faith. Religion can seem like part of the furniture. By contrast, those in deepest spiritual darkness can be the ones most attracted to the light of the Gospel. It was, after all, Gentiles who travelled the greatest distance to see the Infant. Jesus would later warn that those tenants who fail to produce for the owner will be destroyed, and that the vineyard will be leased out to others (cf. Matthew 21:33-41).

The Magi's discreet exit from Bethlehem shows that God's way is to avoid unnecessary clashes with Herod. Jesus' days of confrontation will come soon enough. For now, suffice it that the Holy Family keep a low profile. Thirty years of formation, in virtual obscurity, await Our Lord before the start of his public ministry. Changing the world takes time. Divine works require patience.

Tiny Tots & Toddlers

Our toddler group meets from 10.00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. every Wednesday for babies and toddlers from 0-4 and their parents. Whether you are a regular or you've never been before, we hope to see you there for a cuppa, a chat and a play. We meet at St Mary Immaculate School, Wathen Road, Warwick, CV34 5BG. For more info: Chrissie or just come along.

Warwick Hospital

Please ring 07591910176 if you wish for a priest to visit someone in Warwick Hospital.

Parish Web Site

Make sure you check the parish web site (www.stmary-immaculate.org.uk) as there are often several news items which can't be fitted onto this sheet.

Children's Liturgy

Bringing the Word of God to our children in a way that they can understand and learn from is, I'm sure we'd all agree, such an important part of our role as the Church. The team who run the Children's Liturgy at our 10:30 mass enjoy sharing God's word. Unfortunately over the last year many of our team have had to stop for one reason or another. Therefore if we want the Liturgy to continue for our children we are in URGENT need of more help! It really isn't scary and can be done as a pair, individually or in a group. You don't have to be a parent to help, in fact we'd love those without children (or now with grown up children) to get involved too. If you think you can help at all (once a month, or less, for example) then please speak to Chrissie Beaumont (mrs.c.beaumont@gmail.com) or Fr Stefan.

Vocations to the Permanent Diaconate

The Archbishop wishes to give greater publicity to the Permanent Diaconate in the life of the Church and has produced a leaflet summarising the main features of the Permanent Diaconate and giving information about the procedure for prospective candidates, who feel they may have a calling. Copies are available at the back of Church and your prayers are requested for more vocations to this Ministry.

