

Catholics Together in Leamington

St Peter's, St Joseph's & Our Lady's: Working Together

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Our Lady's, Valley Road, Lillington CV32 7SJ (Administered by SP) 01926 423824

Parish Clergy: Fr John Cross, Fr Bob Devaney, Fr Noel Breslin, Deacon : Rev. David Palmer

Retired Clergy: Fr Laurence Crowe, Fr Christopher Greaney.

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Websites: www.stpetersleamington.org — www.stjosephswhitnash.co.uk

Warwick Deanery: www.warwick-catholicdeanery.org.uk — Archdiocese : www.birminghamdiocese.org



Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord *Sunday 08 January 2017*

Saturday 07 January VIGIL <i>Psalter Week 2</i>	OL	12.30 pm	Daniel McCann	Confessions: SP 9.15 am (& Exposition) OL 11.45 am; SP 4.15 pm
	SP	5.00 pm	Ann O'Keeffe	
Sunday 08 January Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord	SJ	8.00 am	Betty Sheehan	No Holy Hour at 3.00pm today but next weekend there will be an hour of prayer for Peace Sunday. Regular Holy Hours will begin on the first Sunday in Lent (5th March).
	OL	9.30 am	Mary Reidy Simon & Kevin Daly Peter & Rosemary McGovern	
	SP	11.30 am	People of the Parish	
	SJ	5.30 pm	Bernie Burns	
Monday 09 January <i>Feast of the Baptism of the Lord</i>	SP	10.00 am	Edith Lucia Ryan Vincent Murry	
	SJ	7.00 pm	No Mass	
Tuesday 10 January <i>Feria</i>	School	9.15 am	Mass: St Patrick's School, Cashmore Avenue	Rosary: SP Noon
	SJ	9.30 am	Private Intention	
	SP	12.30 pm	Kathleen O'Mahony	
Wednesday 11 January <i>Feria</i>	School	9.15 am	Mass: St Anthony's School, Sydenham Drive	Rosary: SP Noon
	OL	12.00 pm	Geoffrey Maddocks	
	SP	12.30 pm	J. W. Bunch Anita Dean	
Thursday 12 January <i>Feria</i>	SP	12.30 pm	Shaun Hogan Dermot Collins	Rosary: SP Noon
	SJ	7.00 pm	No Mass	
Friday 13 January <i>Feria</i>	OL	12.00 pm	Mary Pepper	Rosary: SP Noon
	SP	12.30 pm	Eileen Cummings	
	SJ	7.00 pm	No Mass	
Saturday 14 January <i>Feria</i> VIGIL	SJ	9.30 am	No Mass	Confessions: SP 9.15 am (& Exposition) OL 11.45 am; SP 4.15 pm
	SP	10.00 am	Brendan Donaghy	
	OL	12.30 pm	John Maher	
	SP	5.00 pm	Kitty & John Lucey Mary & Tom Beirne	
Sunday 15 January Second Sunday in Ordinary Time *PEACE SUNDAY*	SJ	8.00 am	Peter Bogue	SP 3.00 pm Holy Hour with Exposition
	OL	9.30 am	People of the Parish	
	SP	11.30 am	Henri L. Raymonde	
	SP	3.00 pm	HOLY HOUR for Peace	
	SJ	5.30 pm	John Gately & Family	

Dear Parishioners,

A year has passed since I wrote the last Dear Parishioners (at the end of 2016). I hope our Christmas/New Year double issue did not cause too much confusion because on New Year's Eve I found a large number of copies had been returned to the Sacristy for disposal. Perhaps people only ever read one side. However it did give those of us who are heavily involved with the production of the newsletter a chance to have a rest for the first time in ages. Speaking of which a few statistics for you: over Christmas we printed more than 2,000 copies. For the rest of the year we print 850 copies each week for the three churches. Preparing the newsletter is quite a time-consuming operation because there are many details which change every week and after a while although we try to check the copy for mistakes we all suffer from a form of 'newsletter blindness'. This means however many times we look at it we cannot see the mistakes. Many thanks to the 'eagle-eyed' parishioner at the 12.30 Vigil mass at Our Lady's Church a few weeks ago, who noticed something we had missed. I won't say what it was but suffice to say the entire newsletter had to be reprinted on Saturday afternoon to avoid total confusion!

The newsletter helps to keep us all informed with times, dates and events. I often refer to it many times during the week to remind myself of information or just to enjoy 'Tales of the Unexpected'. I also enjoy reading old copies of the newsletter because each week is another page in the story of the parish. This is why I try to make the 'Dear Parishioners' relate to events which either have or are due to take place in the parish to help to keep us all informed and to provide an archive for the future. We have a dedicated email address newsletterstpeter@gmail.com for all your items of information and it would be a great help if we could receive these notices before Wednesday evening. This week, due to a lack of space, there will be an addendum on the website only. If you wish to receive a printed copy please contact the Parish Office.

You may not have noticed on the top of the front page we have references to various email addresses and a reference to the Deanery website. This provides information about all the Catholic churches in the Warwick Deanery and a copy of their newsletters so if you enjoy catching up on what is happening locally this might be of interest to you. Many people ask me what churches are in the Deanery so here is your opportunity to find out. As Dean I have a special pastoral responsibility to the clergy as well as 14,922 parishioners who belong to it. There are 15 churches, one Mass Centre as well as numerous schools and hospitals. This might explain why I sometimes appear to be preoccupied and distant. In truth it is a great privilege to serve my fellow clergy who unanimously elected me as their representative and to the Archbishop who gave his approval to their choice. Together we try to proclaim the Gospel of Christ Jesus to our corner of Warwickshire.

Take a good look at the newsletter (and an Addenda available on the noticeboard or website) this weekend as there many new events starting up which will make our New Year's Resolutions a bit easier to keep: to try harder with our efforts of faith, to give more time to prayer, to help the needy, to attend a weekday Mass, and to learn more about our faith. These are all represented in one form or another by the many opportunities and invitations available to us such as the **Parish Shared Supper** (which I urge you to attend), the Alpha course, SPAN and Evangelisation meetings. The Shared Supper offers a unique opportunity for members of all three churches to meet each other in a social setting and get to know each other better.

Helping the needy was very much in evidence over the Christmas period. **The Toy Appeal** was fantastically well-supported. Over 1,000 presents were collected, sorted, wrapped and distributed across Leamington to ensure that children in the most needy families in the area woke up to gifts under the tree on Christmas morning (see Addenda). **SPAN Christmas supermarket vouchers** went out to 93 families, thanks to the generosity of parishioners across all churches. In addition, small gifts and cards were taken by Eucharistic Ministers to 50 parishioners who are housebound or in nursing homes, a practice which SPAN has organised at Christmas for many years. Faith in action at its finest. Thank you.

Many thanks to everyone for your cards and gifts at Christmas time. The clergy were overwhelmed by your generosity and kindness. On this Feast of the Epiphany when the Three Wise Men came to bring gifts of Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh to the baby Jesus let us give thanks to God for all the gifts we have received and over the coming year do our best to follow the star of faith to serve the Lord. A Very Happy and Peaceful New Year to all our Parishioners from Fr Noel, Fr Bob, Fr Christopher, Fr Laurence, Deacon David and of course yours truly,
Fr John.

SPAN meeting tomorrow (Monday 9 Jan) at 7.30 pm in St Peter's Parish Hall.

Evangelisation Team meeting tomorrow at 7.30 pm in the Davenport Room, St Peter's Parish Centre.

Pastimes Christmas raffle raised £140.00 which will go to the St Peter's crib appeal for *Healthy Mum & Baby* from World Gifts. (See Addenda).

Our Lady's 50/50 draw will take place on Sunday 15 January. Payments ideally for the whole year but, if not, please pay for the January draw by Sat 14 January.

Parish Shared Supper: Sat 14 Jan, 6.00pm (see Addenda).

Alpha course: Introductory Supper on Thursday 19 January at Our Lady's, Lillington (see Addenda).

Pope Francis's New Year message for Peace (see Addenda).

Sisters from the Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ) weekend retreat for young women on 27-29 January 2017 (see Addenda).

Helping Syrian refugees: meeting Thursday 2 Feb (see Addenda).

Last weekend's collections

1st Collection: £1,124.07

2nd Collection: £581.73

Crib Collection

CAFOD Healthy Mum & Baby:
25 Dec. £160.721 / 1 Jan. £51.31

Second Collections

Today: SVP

Next week: Church Maintenance Fund

SPAN donations over Christmas and the New Year were: Gift Aid £5.00; General £22.00; Crisis £43.66. And on 1 January: Gift Aid £35.00; General £53.35; Crisis £10.70. Thank you for your generosity.

Tales of the Unexpected

Thanks to my many friends I now have a plentiful supply of treats and toys stashed in the settee (behind my sock collection!) I have not put all my eggs in one basket though. I have a few other secret places which The Boss doesn't know about. Fr Christmas was very kind to me this year so it is good to know he keeps up to date with all my Tales. I woof you all a very Happy New Year xxx Bertie

Recently Deceased

Reginald Burge, John Flanagan,
Maria Monteiro

May they rest in peace and may their loved ones be comforted. Amen.

Anniversaries

John Crowley, Maura Flynn, Jim Pugh,
Elizabeth Hayward, Veronica Deighan,
Patrick Byrne, David Wingate, Josephine
Hand, Sheila Tolley, Catherine Ferguson,
Concetta Scinaldi, Sheila Brain

*May they rest in peace and rise in glory.
Amen.*

Pray for the sick and housebound:

Margaret Pearce, Ross Hemingway,
Margaret Higgerson, John Higgins,
Alec and Sheena Holland, and all
those in the nursing homes and
hospitals in the parish. **Lord Jesus
watch over all who suffer and are in
pain. Bless all who care for them. Amen.**