

**St Anne's Parish, Wappenbury
with
Our Lady of the Angels', Princethorpe**

1 November 2020

All Saints

Year A

Fr Teddy O'Brien MSC - Parish Priest

The parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham
(Registered Charity Number: 234216) and is conducted, on behalf of the Archdiocese,
by the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart.

Tel: 01926 632214

Mobile: 07751 444952

Email: fr.teddy.obrien@rcaob.org.uk

Website: stanneswappenbury.wordpress.com

My personal private email address is: fatherted2017@hotmail.com

A God of Diversity

Celebrating the feast of All saints and the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed on two consecutive days sometimes sounds like an overkill. November 1st is really the celebration of the Unknown Saints while November 2nd is reminding us that there may be some who have not 'made it yet' and for whom our prayers would speed up their journey. I am unsure as to what image of God this presents to a modern culture but that is for another time.

As people of faith, it is good for us to be reminded of the goal of our lives, our destiny. November 1st and 2nd assist in this. We are often reminded that *"we came from God and we return to God"*. On the eve of All Saints Day, Hallow e'en, children like to pretend to be someone they really know they are not. It is great fun, usually scary fun. Adults, too, pretend a lot. It can be too weighty to be truly ourselves at all times, as long as we know that there is more to us than meets the eye.



Margery Williams was so right in presenting our human puzzle and our struggle (and temptation indeed) in her book *"The Velveteen Rabbit"*. She presents the conversation thus: *"what is real?"*, asked the velveteen rabbit, a simple, if profound, question indeed for both rabbit and skin horse - and for us as well. This is her prelude to addressing the 'competition', the struggle, within us all to match those whom we judge to be 'better' than ourselves. She pictures our dire situation when we behave in this way. The Velveteen Rabbit, *"so old that his brown coat was bald in patches and showed the seams underneath"*, sought assurance that 'real' was possible, even for him. He gained hope when he was told, by the mechanical toy, the Skin Horse, that *"real isn't how you are made; it's a thing that happens to you...when you are loved for a long time"*. And he was not put off when Skin Horse told him that *"sometimes (it hurts) but when you are real, you do not mind being hurt....(continuing with) .. it takes a long time and does not happen to people who break easy, or have sharp edges...."*.



You see, it is acceptable to pretend for awhile, but you'll never get through the pearly gates pretending. You'll not get through on someone else's ticket. If you try, you will set the alarm off and you might hear Peter: *"how did you get in here without a wedding garment on?"*. St Catherine of Sienna showed incredible insight during her young life. *"Be who God meant you to be"*, she wrote, *"and you will set the world on fire"*. And being who God meant us to be is the only person who will gain entry through the pearly gates of heaven.

November 1st is really the feast of the Unknown Saint. It is a sort of final of the heavenly BGT, except all reach the final - and all win. God is really the God of Diversity. Do not ever doubt that. And if you want proof that it is ok to be yourself, do a spot check of some (unlikely) saintly characters. St Thomas Aquinas, huge intellectual. Then hardnosed Peter (first pope, remember?). Then Joan of Arc, commander of many armies and St Francis of Assisi who would not hurt even a fly! Then Anthony who spent his life in the desert. Stubborn Paul who just loved to travel and was very self opinionated. Name your own favourite saint here and check them out. See just how ordinary they were in so many ways.

No two are alike. Together they form the tapestry of God's creation, reflecting the human goodness that forms the DNA of all God's creatures. God's creation would be phoney if there were copy cats among it! God got to diversity ever before it crossed our minds to make an issue of it or to popularise it! Which brings me back to the two feasts of All Saints and All Souls, as they used to be called for simplicity. Life is not given to any of us on a plate. Those who have 'made it' already enhance the tapestry of God's creation while those 'waiting' (remember Purgatory?) are polished to enhance this all the more. Whichever side of the pearly gates your loved ones are at present, during these two days we praise God for their endurance and we continue our own trip there.

Remember: *"A saint is a sinner who never gave up"*. Can you embrace that saying of *Paramahansa Yoganan* (Indian monk, yogi and guru 1893 - 1952).

**Mass streamed live from St Anne's using fb.me/stanneswappenbury
Please see diary below for this week's timings of Mass and Prayer Services**

I hope that celebrating with me for this short service gives you a feeling of community which still remains for all of us.

Sunday 1 November	9.30am 11.00am	Wappenbury (<i>live stream</i>) Princethorpe	Remember Covid-19 rules – arrival by 10.50am with a face mask – DO NOT COME IF YOU HAVE ANY SYMPTOMS OF ANY TYPE Commemoration of All the Faithfull Departed (All Souls) St Martin de Porres, religious & St Winefride, virgin St Charles Borromeo, bishop St Illtud, abbot St Willibrord, bishop
Monday 2 November	7.30pm (note time change)	Wappenbury (<i>live stream</i>)	
Tuesday 27 October	9.30am	Wappenbury (<i>live stream</i>)	
Wednesday 28 October	9.30am	Wappenbury (<i>live stream</i>)	
Thursday 29 October	9.30am	Wappenbury (<i>live stream</i>)	
Friday 30 October	9.30am	Wappenbury (<i>live stream</i>)	
Saturday 31 October	9.30am	Wappenbury (<i>live stream</i>)	
Sunday 8 November	9.30am	Wappenbury (<i>live stream</i>)	
PLEASE NOTE:	DUE TO THE FOUR WEEK	LOCKDOWN THERE WILL BE NO 11.00AM MASS UNTIL AT LEAST	

Forward Dates For Your Diary

Monday 2 November	7.30pm	Wappenbury (<i>live stream</i>)	Mass of the Day for All Souls
Wednesday 4 November	7.00pm	Wappenbury via <i>Zoom</i> Zoom ID: Zoom password:	Evening Prayer for Month of November
Wednesday 11 November	7.00pm	Wappenbury via <i>Zoom</i>	Evening Prayer for Month of November
Wednesday 18 November	7.00pm	Wappenbury via <i>Zoom</i>	Evening Prayer for Month of November
Wednesday 25 November	7.00pm	Wappenbury via <i>Zoom</i>	Evening Prayer for Month of November

Parish Finances

The Finance Committee are reviewing the recent information received from the Archdiocese about the increase in levies. Our total levy for 2021 is estimated at £8906.89. This is an increase on the levy paid this year. The Finance Committee will have further information in the weeks ahead. You will be kept informed.

If you would like to discuss how you can help in any way with the parish finances please talk to one of the Finance Committee or by emailing Fr Teddy directly at fr.teddy.obrien@rcaob.org.uk

Thank you to everyone who is managing to continue with financial support to the parish. It is hugely appreciated.

Transport Costs For Shoe-Box Appeal – Thank you

The boxes have been taken the warehouse in Evesham last Tuesday; special thanks to Princethorpe College for supplying a van and the driver, Andy Hadley. If anyone would still like to contribute to the transport costs please leave an envelope marked 'shoe-boxes' with Fr Teddy – thank you.

Prayer List – Would You Like Any Amendments Or Additions?

If you have any amendments to the Prayer List you would like me to make please do get in touch either with myself, by using the contact details at the top of the newsletter, or with Loretta at lkpcurtis@hotmail.com. It is important in these difficult times that we think and pray for those dear to us and allow our community to pray for them too. Please let me know of any wedding anniversaries or anniversaries of death if you wish them to be remembered.

St Anne's Church

I am working hard to see if it would be at all possible to re-open St Anne's with limited numbers and how that could be managed in a very safe way. The limitation we have is the size of the Chapel to accommodate safe social distancing. Please be assured that if there is anything that can be arranged I will let you know as soon as possible.

Holy Communion For Those Who Cannot Attend Mass

Thank you to those of you who have volunteered to take communion to our house bound parishioners. I will explain the details to all those interested so that everyone is safe. If anyone else would like to come forward please let me know.

Re-Opening Of Our Churches – Currently No Parish Mass Available At St Anne’s – Live Stream From St Anne’s Via Facebook – See Diary For Weekly Information

Mass will be celebrated at Princethorpe at 11.00am until further notice. There are strict instructions for attendance at Mass in place – they MUST be observed at all times. See website for information. **Wear warm clothes when you come to Princethorpe! With having the inner corridor doors open during Mass because of Covid-19, the College Chapel is likely to be cold. Please, please wear adequate clothing – bring a rug for your knees if necessary!**

It is so uplifting to see you back with me ‘in the flesh’ to celebrate Mass and receive communion together; we must ensure we are warm.

The obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains suspended.

Princethorpe Foundation – Vacancy

Princethorpe College - Teacher of Chemistry – Maternity Cover - Required for January 2021

A well-qualified graduate to teach Chemistry in a lively, successful and growing department, on a full-time or significant part-time basis. This person’s timetable for the coming year goes up to GCSE but the ability and desire to teach A-level thereafter would be advantageous. An enthusiasm to become involved with the extra-curricular life of the school is essential. Candidates should be able to demonstrate success in the classroom and be effective team players. An enthusiasm to become involved with the wider life of the school is essential. **Closing date Monday 9 November 2020**

The Parish Is On Facebook! Yes Really! Come On Check It Out! - Thank you Sebastien Buhour

Sebastien has kindly taken time to profile the parish in a more public domain. Please take time to ‘like’ and ‘share’ or indeed ‘comment’ the page so that as many of the wider community can enjoy the delights of our wonderful St Anne’s and Princethorpe College. The link to use is <http://www.facebook.com/stanneswappenbury>

Headline news – We have reached 100 ‘followers’!

Please Remember Especially In Your Prayers This Week – Let Us Not Tire Of Praying

Chris Peake RIP (71), former caretaker of Our Lady’s School, Princethorpe, who died recently. Please pray for Chris's family.

Stuart Cartwright (76), brother of Sandra Waddoups who is very ill. Hold Stuart and wife and Sandra in your prayers.

Joseph 14, who has a long standing illness.

Sue, as she recovers from her operation. Sue is waiting for further treatment. Hold Sue and family in your prayers.

Angela, friend of Mary Rogers, seriously ill in UHCW; grandmother to new granddaughter.

Jo who is waiting for treatment

Marlene who is awaiting the results of recent tests and waiting for a course of treatment.

Anne, Denis and Karen as they cope with health difficulties.

Tom who thanks you for your prayers. His treatment is ended at this time.

Bill and Yvonne thank you all for your constant prayers. Bill’s scan recently showed that his cancer has not spread and that his treatment was most successful. For this, we must praise God today. Continue to pray for them.

Alice whose Lupus has returned.

John Deery (RIP) John was a faithful member of the parish community who regularly attended St Anne's.

Augustine RIP (19 years old) who has died following a 10m fall from a tree in Northern France. Sebastien, Carolina and family ask for your prayers for Augustine’s family.

Marie, long standing friend of Mary Gould who has died.

Jim and Anne whose young baby is undergoing tests in hospital in Ireland. Hold their wider family in your prayers.

David, a young father struggling at the moment.

Linda, who is receiving further attention after her cancer treatment.

Colette Jones, sister-in-law of Keren Andrews, member of staff at Princethorpe College, who is waiting an operation in mid October.

Anne who is very anxious at present.

Mary and Brian Gould’s niece, Elaine, whose lung cancer has reached stage four and has spread to her bones.

Tom, Fr Teddy’s brother-in-law, whose sister died recently in Ireland

Norman, very dear friend of Paul and Fen Whittle, whose funeral service was held recently. Keep Paul and Norman’s family in your prayers.

Stephen, friend of Milena’s, who has had some setbacks in his preparation for treatment.

John and Veronica as they cope with John’s health.

Denis and Kate McDaid as they mourn the recent death of Bridie Gallagher, Denis’s aunt in Ireland. One of eleven children – Bridie is the last member of the maternal side of the family.

Members of the medical profession as they manage the current ‘spike’ in Covid-19 cases, and those who have died.

David Ratcliffe whose father in law, Tony, died recently

Fr David Bazen, Kenilworth, who is improving at home after an accident.

Melanie, a young girl who struggles with identity. Pray for her family and friends as they present support.

Young people as they struggle with the lock down while at university.

Margaret Patrick, former headteacher at Our Lady's School, whose husband died suddenly recently
Parishioners who have been diagnosed with coronavirus.
Yvonne and Jade. Jade is quite unwell at present. Yvonne has recently retired from Our Lady's School.
Peter Power and family.
School and College leadership for all the hard work in keeping their students safe.
Claire as she settles in her new home up north.
Patrick Horgan (76) RIP who died unexpectedly and peacefully recently. Hold his family in your prayers. Pray for Jo, his very close friend.
Remember also, and especially, those who have been shielding now for a long time
All those people who put the lives of others and their own lifestyles before their own in whatever branch of community life they work.
Sean who is unwell at present.
Anastasia as she is cared for at home.
Eileen who is being cared for in a rest home in Leamington.
Wolfgang, Chrissie's father, who died recently and her mother who has recovered well from her operation and is now at home.
Liz's mum who is unwell.
Alice, sister to Jimmy Murray, who has been ill and is now recovering at home.

Continue praying for

Parishioners with underlying medical problems of varying kinds and for whom this present viral situation induces increased anxiety. Pray for patience for all as times moves on.
Our medical staff – some members of this parish are actively engaged on the front line in our hospitals.
John whose family has asked for prayers.
Domonkos Kordas (14) who has lost sight in one eye. Pray for him and family and friends. His parents work on the front line.
Elizabeth and Neville Compton, sister and brother-in-law of Margaret Simmons.
Di, waiting for further investigations
John (75) diagnosed with bladder cancer.
All elderly parents of parishioners.
Elizabeth who has been diagnosed with a long term illness and is improving. She has had some good news recently.
Paul, a paramedic friend of Kathy Bond, Stretton on Dunsmore, seriously ill in University Hospital, Coventry.
Marc, who is seriously ill.
Keren and her husband John, Keren is a member of Princethorpe College staff.
Karen, waiting results of an exploratory investigation.
Linda, Stretton on Dunsmore, who is recovering at home. Thank you for your continued prayers.
Carolyn whose daughter is experiencing on-going mental health difficulties.
Roisin and Niamh, as they cope with difficult health problems. Their health problems are on-going.
Louise, suffering from various cancers.
Lucy (29), who is suffering from bacterial meningitis and is unable to digest food.
Eileen, friend of Mary Hewitt who is suffering from cancer.
Harry (23)
Seamus, who suffers from prostate cancer. Hold Seamus' family and friends in your prayers.
Michele, who has some serious health issues.
Kathy, who is recuperating after her successful operation.
Lola (29), who has been ill for most of her life and is again very ill.
Rose, who has severe mental health problems.
Frank
Carolyn, who is ill with breast cancer.
Mildred (87) RIP (Ryton on Dunsmore)
Betty Lucas RIP
Kay RIP, aunt to Yvonne.
Antonio (80) RIP
Thomas Duffy RIP
Pauline RIP.
Chris Smart (77) RIP
Con McCorriston (88) RIP
Darren RIP
Joan (91) RIP
Myrtle Forster (64) RIP
Joan and Sister RIP
Bob RIP
Maria Ramsay (76) RIP
Mont RIP
John RIP