

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

**11 October 2020**

**Twenty Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**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.

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**"Baby Loss Matters"  
Week commencing 9 October 2020**

Scripture tells us that we are known to God from eternity, known fully while being formed in our mother's womb. The attachment of mother to baby is so strong that the wrench when the child dies is incredibly painful with a pain that lasts. It matters not how the death of the baby occurred, mother and baby are joined together – forever.

Pushing the death of a child to the back of our minds is one way to try to cope with that painful loss. Yet the memory of what might have been remains. How the child might have grown into an adult to give birth to their own children and later on the wonderment of grand children, remains as a heartbreaking experience. The healing of what might have been will contribute to greater peace, hopefully one day, but slowly.

This week, reflecting on those mothers who buried their children, can endow us with both a greater appreciation of our own children and of the gift that life itself is. Our cemeteries at Wappenbury and Princethorpe are the resting places of a number of babies, and their parents form part of our community of St Anne's. If our concern for them feels somewhat depleted because of Covid-19, that is understandable. Concern over our current personal and family survival and well being becomes paramount for the moment.

Covid-19 rightly preoccupies us greatly throughout 2020 because of its impact on how we live now and into the immediate future as well as its impact on over 40,000 families in 2019 in UK alone. The manner of deaths due to the virus, wherein people die unaccompanied by any family member, is a concern for all of us. We can, in a very limited way, understand their pain.

Yet this week we are invited to reach out, in thought, in prayer, perhaps in conversation, to those who witnessed the death of a baby. We are clear that the manner of the baby's death matters little when balanced against the death itself. At what stage of pregnancy, whether in the womb, during the birth itself or very soon afterwards, the wrench between mother and child is complete and permanent. We must try to feel this before we speak.

Of course all deaths matter and are pain filled. For parents, the death of a child of any age is traumatic. Yet, the death of a baby is so heart wrenching that it cuts to the very core of our being. Again, as with all death, the manner of the death is really secondary. The effect on the mother is immeasurable. "I will always wonder", one mum reflected, "who you would have been". Another mother shared: "some say you are too painful to remember, I say you are too wonderful to forget".

Because more has been lost than just the child. Hopes and dreams are also shattered, calling for healing of memories if life is to be experienced as a peace filled time. Ask any mother whose baby has died and they will tell you each year just how old their child would have been. "I have only held you in my womb for a moment, but I will hold you in my heart forever", a mother shared while saying that "I will always fear the possibility of losing another".

Our prayers this week must embrace all who have borne witness to their child's death. Those who will never understand why it was their child that had to die; those whose medical condition in pregnancy contains a higher risk than usual of still birth or premature birth; those for whom the death of one child precludes their giving birth to another and the ache that this holds and that stays long term; those for whom a pregnancy became unbearable for whatever reason and who carry regrets with them throughout life.

The prophet Isaiah, reflecting on the unconditional love of God for us all, images this as the love between mother and child: "Can a mother forget the baby in her womb?", (Isaiah 49:15) assuring us that God knows each of us through and through. When we meet a mother whose baby was not privileged to grow up, our empathy must be such that we understand the mum's pain to the extent that the mother knows that we do understand. There lies the essence of empathy. What must never be said is what one mother heard and what she has never forgotten: "you are young still, you can always have another baby" while she knew herself that she could not.

***What do you think?***

**Mass streamed live from St Anne's using [fb.me/stanneswappenbury](https://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 11 October    | 9.30am<br>11.00am | Wappenbury ( <i>live stream</i> )<br>Princethorpe | Happy Birthday, Marie Malin.<br>Happy 24th wedding anniversary, Mary and Dan<br><b>Remember Covid-19 rules – arrival by 10.50am with a face mask – DO NOT COME IF YOU HAVE ANY SYMPTOMS OF ANY TYPE</b> |
| Monday 12 October    | 9.30am            | Wappenbury ( <i>live stream</i> )                 | St Wilfred, Bishop  |
| Tuesday 13 October   | 9.30am            | Wappenbury ( <i>live stream</i> )                 | St Edward the Confessor   |
| Wednesday 14 October | 9.30am            | Wappenbury ( <i>live stream</i> )                 | St Callistus, Pope and Martyr   |
| Thursday 15 October  | 9.30am            | Wappenbury ( <i>live stream</i> )                 | St Teresa of Jesus Virgin, Doctor of the Church   |
| Friday 16 October    | 9.30am            | Wappenbury ( <i>live stream</i> )                 | <b>St Hedwig, Religious;<br/>St Margaret Mary Alacoque, Virgin;<br/>St Richard Gwyn, schoolmaster, Martyr</b>   |
| Saturday 17 October  | 9.30am            | Wappenbury ( <i>live stream</i> )                 | <b>St Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop, Martyr</b>   |
| Sunday 18 October    | 9.30am<br>11.00am | Wappenbury ( <i>live stream</i> )<br>Princethorpe | <b>Remember Covid-19 rules – arrival by 10.50am with a face mask – DO NOT COME IF YOU HAVE ANY SYMPTOMS OF ANY TYPE</b>   |

**Forward Dates For Your Diary**

|  |         |                                   |   |
|--|---------|-----------------------------------|---|
| Sunday 11 October<br>(Second Collection) | 11.00am | Princethorpe                      | Archdiocese request collections for CAFOD/APF/Peter's Pence. The collections will be divided between the three charities. If you are not attending Mass then please leave a donation at the Presbytery with Fr Teddy. Please do not use any bank details you have for the parish to donate to these causes. |
| Sunday 18 October<br>(Second Collection) | 11.00am | Princethorpe                      |   |
| Tuesday 20 October                       | 7.00pm  | Wappenbury via Zoom               | Finance Committee Meeting   |
| Monday 2 November                        | 7.30pm  | Wappenbury ( <i>live stream</i> ) | Mass of the Day for All Souls   |
| Wednesday 4 November                     | 7.00pm  | Wappenbury via Zoom               | Evening Prayer for Month of November  |
| Wednesday 11 November                    | 7.00pm  | Wappenbury via Zoom               | Evening Prayer for Month of November  |
| Wednesday 18 November                    | 7.00pm  | Wappenbury via Zoom               | Evening Prayer for Month of November  |
| Wednesday 25 November                    | 7.00pm  | Wappenbury via Zoom               | Evening Prayer for Month of November  |

**NOTE: The ID and Passcode for the Zoom sessions in November will be issued on Sunday 1 November**

**Parish Finances**

The Finance Committee meet regularly via Zoom to keep a close eye on the parish finances on behalf of you all. As you can imagine this year has been particularly difficult and will continue to be so for some time to come.

If you would like to discuss how you can help in any way with the parish finances please email Fr Teddy directly at [fr.teddy.obrien@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:fr.teddy.obrien@rcaob.org.uk) or phone any time. 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 – Can You Help, Please?**

Pam Hopwood and the team are asking if you would be able to spare £2.50 to cover the cost of the transport of one box. Pam currently has received about £1000 in donations from friends and contacts in Stretton on Dunsmore. There are approximately 2000 boxes to be transported. If you can help at all please put your money in an envelope marked for 'Pam Hopwood' and either give to Fr Teddy, Loretta or leave in the presbytery porch. Princethorpe College will again be moving the boxes to the Evesham depot sometime in the next couple of weeks. 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](mailto: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.

### Thank You

Thank you to the parishioners that came along yesterday morning to bring furniture back into the chapel at St Anne's. It was lovely to have a band of merry men and ladies to assist in the tasks.

### 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.

### The Parish Is On Facebook! Yes Really! - 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'!**

### Princethorpe Foundation – Vacancy

**Cover Supervisor – Princethorpe College:** This role would give an ideal opportunity for those looking to pursue a career in teaching, particularly graduates looking to gain essential classroom skills in a teaching environment before embarking on a teacher training programme. Cover Supervisors will support our existing Teaching team in order to continue to deliver high quality supervision within the teaching and learning environment. This opportunity would also ideally suit any individuals who have a keen interest to work within a school and classroom environment in a support role, where training and development will be provided. Required on an ad hoc basis, Cover Supervisors will cover staff absence and provide additional support when required. An enthusiasm to become involved with the wider life of the school is essential.  
Closing date Monday 12 October 2020.

For further information visit <https://www.princethorpe.co.uk/page/?title=Join+Us&pid=1185> or call 01926 634200

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

**John Deery**, who died this week. John was a faithful member of the parish community who regularly attended St Anne's, please pray for his family and friends.

**Augustin** (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 Augustin's family.

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

**Norman**, very dear friend of Paul Whittle, who died recently. Norman's funeral will be held this week.

**Tom**, Fr Teddy's brother-in-law, whose sister died this week in Ireland

**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.

**Sue**, as she recovers from her operation yesterday. Hold Sue's family in your prayers.

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

**Tom** who continues his treatment

**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.

**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.

**Bill**, as he continues his recovery from six weeks of treatment. Hold Bill and Yvonne in your prayers.

**Tom** who is undergoing treatment for prostate cancer.

**David Ratcliffe** whose father in law, Tony, died recently

**Fr David Bazen, Kenilworth**, who is recovering after an accident.

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

**Young people** as they begin get used to lock down at universities.

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

**Margaret Patrick**, former headteacher at Our Lady's School, whose husband died suddenly recently

**John and Veronica** as they cope with John's health.

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

**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.

**Members of the medical profession** as they prepare for another possible 'spike', and those who have died.

**Peter Power** and family.

**Karen, Tom and Emily** as they remember.

**School and College leadership** for all the hard work they have undertaken in preparing schools and college for the return of the pupils and students.

**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.

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

**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.

**Alice** whose Lupus has returned.

**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**, who is waiting for further tests.

**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** who died recently.

**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**