

St Peter's & Our Lady's: Part of Catholic Leamington

4th Sunday of Advent: Sunday 22nd December 2024



SCAN TO DONATE

THANK YOU!



Parish Priest: Fr Stephen Day 3a Dormer Place, Leamington Spa, CV32 5AA **Tel:** 01926 423 824.




Office: stpeterapostle.leamington@rcaob.org.uk **Parish Priest:** fr.stephen.day@rcaob.org.uk

Website: catholicleamington.org.uk **Facebook** RCatholicLeamington and ourladyslillington

Working with: St Joseph's, 47 Murcott Road, Whitnash CV31 2JJ **Parish Priest:** Fr David Hartley **Tel:** 01926 772712

Office: stjoseph.whitnash@rcaob.org.uk **Parish Priest:** fr.david.hartley@rcaob.org.uk **Website:** stjoseph47.org.uk

Facebook: stjosephswhitnash **Sunday Masses** 10am and 5.30pm

DAY	AT ST PETER'S	AT OUR LADY'S	INTENTION
SUNDAY 22nd December 4th Sunday of Advent <i>O Rex Gentium</i>	4:15-45pm - Confession 5pm: Vigil Mass	~	Mary Yapp RIP
	 11.15am Mass	9.15am Sung Mass <i>No Children's Liturgy</i>	Kitty & Jack Ryan RIP; Simon & Kevin Daly Emmanuel Toutoungi RIP Anniv.& Lillian McCumisky RIP
Monday 23rd <i>O Emmanuel</i>	10am Mass	~	Fr. David Lloyd RIP
Tuesday 24th <i>Advent Feria</i>	10am Mass	~	The People of the Parish
The Holy Year of Jubilee Begins: <i>Pilgrims of Hope</i> CHRISTMAS MASSES Wednesday 25th <i>Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord</i>	3:30pm Vigil Mass 9pm Midnight Mass	 11:30pm Midnight Mass	Meg Lewis RIP & Kate Briddon RIP; John Coombes RIP Portia Brightburn RIP; Patrick, Sarah, & Mary O'Mullane RIP Jo Murphy RIP
	11:15am Mass	9:15am Mass	Josephine Murphy RIP Terry & Florence Keenan RIP
Thursday 26th <i>Feast of St. Stephen, the first Martyr</i>	11am Mass	~	Eleanor, Diana, & Nuala Bunty RIP
Friday 27th <i>Feast of St. John, Apostle, Evangelist</i>	11am Mass <i>No Divine Mercy Devs today</i>	~	Intentions of Geraldine Anderson
Saturday 28th <i>Feast of the Holy Innocents, Martyrs</i>	9-10am Exposition, 9.15-45	~	Rev. Fr. Christopher Greaney RIP
	Confession, 10am Mass 4:15-45pm - Confession 5pm: Vigil Mass	~	Anniversaries Maureen, Harry, Anthony, Maggie, Anne, & Jonathan Willis RIP
SUNDAY 29th December Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph	11.15am Mass	9.15am Sung Mass <i>No Children's Liturgy</i> 	Walter Robinson RIP Mr. & Mrs. Sunarjo 55th Wedding Anniv.; Intentions of Lily & Jim Kelly

SAFEGUARDING The Parishes operate in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies and procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are: **Our Lady's** Claire Walsh sg.ccolc.lillington@rcaob.org.uk ; **St Peter's** Theresa Goh or Susan Chan email sg.stpeterapostle.leamington@rcaob.org.uk **These emails are for safeguarding matters only**
The Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or at safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concern.

Anniversaries of the faithful departed: Peter Jackson, Domenica Turturici, Winifred Kelly, Yvonne Charters, Johanne Buckley, Francis McCann, Phyllis O'Regan, Paola Urso, Dominick Blake, Agnes Slattery, James Ballantine, Janina Rorynska, Margaret Moore, John Flanagan, Eugene Murphy, Mary Waters, Margaret Astell, Anthony Keegan, Peter McGovern, Ellen Hewitt, Bishop Thomas, Mgr. Cn. William Flint, Mgr. Cn. Thomas Gavin, Cn. Gerard Breen, Fr. Brian Doolan, Fr. Patrick Wall, Fr. Anthony Ireland, Fr. Thomas Meagher, Fr. David O'Callaghan, Fr. Christopher Greaney. **The recently deceased:** Fr. Brian Boyle SCJ, Fr. Jacob Lewis, Mary Yapp, Samantha Wright, James Curran, William Jackson, Denis Donovan, Richard Hardy, Diego Pita. **Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.**

ADVENT: WAITING FOR THE COMING OF THE LORD

In her womb, God is laid, nurtured and protected...



PLEASE PRAY FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST
LORD GOD, your Son Jesus Christ took flesh and trod the soil of His homeland. We pray for all who live on that same soil today that hatred and violence may be replaced by justice and peace. Turn savage hearts from the way of death and let Your message of peace and life be heard once again as it was on the hills of Bethlehem at Jesus' birth. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



WELCOME TO MASS: A welcome to all as we gather to worship God in the great season - the end of Advent and the beginning of the Christmastide.

The Gospel readings for the coming feasts all reflect on the great mystery of the incarnation, of God becoming human just like all of us. The coming of Christ of course begins with Mary's miraculous pregnancy, and Luke describes this mysterious life changing event (for Mary but also for us all) from Our Lady's point of view. Joseph, to whom she is betrothed has his own visit from an Angel—there is nothing in the story that Matthew tells us that we need to think of Joseph as being angry or unbelieving! Of course he is at first confused but how could he **not** be reassured by both the Angel and Our Lady? The birth itself takes place far from comfort and luxury and the Son of God's first visitors are simple shepherds, summoned by the angels. Grander visitors arrive later when the Magi, bringing gifts of mystic meaning, travel from the east. But even their grandness is nothing as they worship God the Son.

May our own celebration of Christmas allow room for the grateful humility of Mary, Joseph, the shepherds and wise men, but also the grandeur of God's coming to earth that humanity and God Himself may be reconciled; that human life is not only made by God but taken on by God in Jesus, two expressions of human worth therefore; and that because of it we have all gained a Saviour who is not remote and 'other worldly' but one of us, our Brother.

May God bless us all in this truly blessed Christmas time,
Fr Stephen

THE QR CODE FOR TODAY'S READINGS: Simply scan on your smart phone. This works for **every day**. The link opens *Universalis* which is using the new translation.



HOLY COMMUNION: If you are **not a Roman Catholic**, a member of a church in full communion with it, or an Orthodox unable to attend an Orthodox Liturgy, you are *warmly invited to come forward for a blessing* at the time of Holy Communion. Holy Communion cannot be given to all, as it is for us the sign of **unity in the faith**. Communion is **not** bread and wine, but the **Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of God the Son**. Let us **pray for unity among all Christians**, as God wills. ***Blessed be Jesus in the most Holy Sacrament of the Altar!***

ADVENT BLESSING OF STRAW This Sunday, straw will be blessed for you take home and place in your crib or under the table cloth for Christmas lunch. This is a sign of Christ dwelling among us and the drawing together of celebration in the home and in the church. You need only take three or four pieces!

AFTER MASS TEA & COFFEE: **Our Lady's after 9.15am** and **St Peter's after 11:15am Mass**. Tea & Coffee after Weds Mass at Our Lady's. **All Welcome.**

MASSES THIS FORTNIGHT: Details are on this sheet (as well as the Catholic Leamington Facebook page and website). There should be a Christmas Mass at a time and place to suit! Times of Masses will vary slightly over the Christmas season—Masses on Bank Holidays will be at 11am rather than 10am, for example. The offering at all Christmas Masses is by custom given to the priest (or priests) of the parish. Thank you for your kindness.

COME & PLAY: Tues 9:30—11am in SP Hall. We welcome parents, and children, no charge. Contact Clare Burdett—07720 887 002. Come & Play will recommence on Tuesday **6th** January.

PASTIMES COMMUNITY HUB: Tuesdays 12-3pm. Join our lively community for good company and activities including a session of chair based exercises. Refreshments throughout. Volunteers for the kitchen? See Margaret. **Now on Christmas break.**

CHRISTMAS EVE AND DAY: The birth of the Saviour. The Jubilee Year proclaimed by Pope Francis begins on Christmas Eve with the opening of the Holy Door in Rome. The theme of the Jubilee Year is *Pilgrims of Hope*. We are encouraged to engage in renewing our faith, promoting peace and justice, to seek reconciliation with God and one another. We are encouraged to make a pilgrimage—long or short—to express our hopeful travelling. More details are on the diocesan website <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/Listing/Category/the-year-of-prayer-2024-and-the-jubilee-year-2025>

ST STEPHEN'S DAY: Mass at 11am. St Stephen is the patron saint of servers and so this day and its Mass are a particular time of praying for and thanking our servers, young and old. Their effort in bringing greater dignity and devotion to our worship is very important to us. If anyone would like to be a server, please do speak to Fr Stephen, or to Bob at St Peter's or to Adrian at Our Lady's. **Thank you servers!**

STUDY & REFLECTION ON MASS READINGS: We are not meeting on Fri 27 Dec but expect to resume at the usual time of 11 a.m. in the Davenport Room on Fri 3 Jan 2025.

DIVINE MERCY DEVOTIONS: Fridays 3pm St Peter's. At the hour of mercy come to implore mercy for the world and praise God! **No devotions on 27th Dec. Restarts 3 Jan.**

SP 200 CLUB: The December draw took place at Pastimes last Tuesday and the winners are: 1st Prize (£50) - J. Coles, 2nd Prize (£20) - M. Russell, and 3rd Prize (£10) - P. Cashman. Congratulations to the winners, if you would like to join the 200 Club please speak to Bill after Sunday Mass or on Tuesdays at Pastimes.

THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY on 29 Dec calls us to remember how the Lord Himself shared in the life of the family, demonstrating the worth and dignity of family life. We should pray for our own families and for others, especially those in trouble or difficulty.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION: There will be a meeting for all parents whose children are **not** at Catholic Schools and wish to have their children prepared on **16 Jan 6 pm** in Our Lady's church hall. Don't forget the weekly meeting that is Sunday Mass too.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY AT ST PETER'S There **will** be a children's liturgy at St Peter's to start on the new year (in addition to Our Lady's). Please speak to Anna-Marie Foley or Fr Stephen or email the parish if you'd like to help. A core group of volunteers has come forward so this **will** be happening. Thank you to the volunteers.

RECYCLING OLD LECTIONARIES The Archdiocese is currently trying to co-ordinate a scheme to recycle the great quantity of old lectionaries now no longer needed.

DISPOSING OF OLD MISSALS: It is an ancient Jewish custom that holy books and scrolls, if no longer usable, should be buried. Just as human bodies may reflect the glory and handiwork of God, so Scripture and books used for worship do the same. Therefore, the reverent placing of holy books in the ground, mirroring the reverent placing in the ground at burial of bodies and of ashes, is not simply a 'disposal' but a returning to the earth. Many older Jewish cemeteries have a particular place within them for the burial of books. This tradition, once also common in Christianity, has been neglected of late. So, the respectful burying of out of date or worn out holy books may be done may be done at home.

SPAN: We wish Catholic Leamington seasonal blessings. Thank you for your generosity supporting so many people this year.

PARISH BUILDINGS: **Our Lady's** architect is still dealing with tenders for the roof work. Unfortunately the heating is not working properly—it is **not** the boiler, but the electric blowers in church that seem

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to be unable to pump out the heat. The new fire doors are almost finished and the builders will be returning at some point for staining and finishing off. **St Peter's** still awaits the professional report from Savill's on possible use and development of the hall and presbytery. It is very frustrating that we still await it: reminders have been sent to all concerned.

ST PETER'S CHOIR CHRISTMAS CONCERT: *Thank you* to all who created and came to the wonderful concert. There are photos and even some sound on the Catholic Leamington Facebook page. Do have a look and a listen.

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED: to open the Piety shop for an hour on both Thursdays and Fridays during the day, if anyone is interested please speak to Anne in the Shop after 11:15am Mass on Sundays

SERVERS AND SERVING: *Thank you* to our servers at both churches. *We'd love a few more!* See Bob at St Peter's or Adrian at Our Lady's.

JUSTICE & PEACE: December prayer intention: that Christmas be a time for families to come together in peace and love.

LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTIONS (15 DEC): SP 1st – £652.66, 2nd (Church Maintenance) - £335.46, OL 1st—£274.56, 2nd (Church Roof Repairs) - £325.46. Weekend of 22 Dec the 2nd collection at SP is for Church Maintenance and OL is for Church Roof. Weekend of 29th Dec the 2nd coll at SP is for Church Maintenance and at OL the 2nd coll is for Church Roof Repairs. At all Christmas Masses the offering is by tradition for the parishes' priests—or priest. *Thank you.* For your giving.

RETIRING COLLECTION FOR CHURCH FLOWERS: The Flower Arrangers wish to thank all the people who gave to the "A Penny For The Christmas Flowers" appeal. So many people gave more than a penny and we are very grateful. We raised £165.87! We hope all Parishioners enjoy the floral tributes.

7 DAY CANDLES: This week the **Our Lady & St. Joseph Sanctuary** candles burn: **In Thanksgiving.** If you would like a Sanctuary can-

dle lit for your intention please complete a 7-day candles envelope, at back of Church.

THIS WEEK'S NOTICE SHEET is a two week edition covering 21 Dec to 4 Jan. Next one out on Friday 3rd for the following week.

CATHOLIC LEAMINGTON FACE BOOK PAGE

IS [HERE](#)

DONATING TO THE PARISHES

As well as the collection bags, via standing order, you may give by scanning the code at the top left on the first page of this sheet with your smartphone or online via the website. *Thank you*

ARRANGING A WEDDING

Congratulations on your engagement! To arrange a wedding, an initial meeting with Fr Stephen is vital so that the canonical and civil processes can be correctly followed. Couples need to give at least six months' notice.

ARRANGING A BAPTISM

Congratulations on the birth of your baby! First, parents must begin the process by seeing Fr Stephen *in person* at a Sunday Mass. He can then check a few simple facts and give out a baptism application form. We do not deal with initial arrangements by phone, email or through friends or other members of the family, but face to face. Parents need to attend a preparation session before the baptism can take place.

PLEASE TAKE THIS SHEET HOME OR RETURN IT TO THE BACK OF CHURCH FOR OTHERS TO SEE, OR TAKE IT HOME, OR BEST OF ALL GIVE IT TO ABSENT PARISHIONERS.

Please don't leave in the pew! Information and evangelisation... Thank you.

A HAPPY AND A BLESSED CHRISTMAS TO ALL PARISHIONERS, AND BEST WISHES FOR THE NEW YEAR!

*Thank you for your support of the parish this past year,
and also for your support given to your parish priest*



God bless you all,

Fr Stephen

St Peter's & Our Lady's: Part of Catholic Leamington

Feast of the Holy Family: Sunday 29th December 2024: Holy Year of Jubilee



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Office: stjoseph.whitnash@rcaob.org.uk **Parish Priest:** fr.david.hartley@rcaob.org.uk **Website:** stjoseph47.org.uk

Facebook: stjosephswhitnash **Sunday Masses** 10am and 5.30pm

DAY	AT ST PETER'S	AT OUR LADY'S	INTENTION
SUNDAY 29th December <i>Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph</i>	4:15-45pm - Confession 5pm: Vigil Mass	~	Maureen, Harry, Anthony, Maggie, Anne, & Jonathan Willis RIP
	11.15am Mass	9.15am Sung Mass <i>No Children's Liturgy</i>	Walter Robinson RIP Mr. & Mrs. Sunarjo 55th Wedding Anniv.; Intentions of Lily & Jim Kelly
Monday 30th <i>6th Day within the Octave of Christmas</i>	~	~	9:30am Mass at St. Joseph's, Whitnash
Tuesday 31st <i>7th Day within the Octave of Christmas</i> <i>Opt. Commemoration of St. Sylvester I, Pope</i>	~	~	9:30am Mass at St. Joseph's, Whitnash
Wednesday 1st January 2025 <i>Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God.</i>	~	11am Mass	Intentions of Pat & Alfreda McHale
Thursday 2nd <i>Mem. of St. Basil the Great & St. Gregory Nazianzen, Bps., Doctors of the Church</i>	10am Mass	~	Rev. Fr. Edwin Cownley RIP
Friday 3rd <i>Opt. Mem. of the Most Holy Name of Jesus</i>	10am Mass Divine Mercy Devotions 3pm	~	Intentions of Anne McHale
Saturday 4th <i>Christmas Feria</i>	9-10am Exposition, 9.15-45 Confession, 10am Mass	~	Deceased of the Tudor Family
	4:15-45pm - Confession 5pm: Vigil Mass	~	Rev. Fr. Christopher Greaney RIP
SUNDAY 5th January 2025 <i>Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord.</i>	11.15am Mass	9.15am Sung Mass <i>No Children's Liturgy</i>	Eamonn & James Prior RIP Vito La Barbera RIP

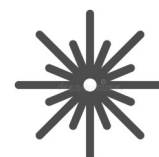
Anniversaries of the faithful departed: Peter McGovern, Ellen Hewitt, Concetta Scinaldi, Sheila Collins, Maisie Buckley, Reginald Burge, Kenneth Mulrone, Patricia Ash, Mary Healy, Mary Shakesheff, Consuelo Connell, Patrick Gleeson, Margaret Thornton, HH Pope Benedict XVI, Fr. Christopher Greaney, Fr. Patrick Lynch, Fr. Anthony De Vere, Fr. Martin Cassidy, Fr. Philip Garrett, Dcn. Peter Mason.

The recently deceased: Fr. Brian Boyle SCJ, Fr. Jacob Lewis, Mary Yapp, Samantha Wright, James Curran, William Jackson, Denis Donovan, Richard Hardy, Diego Pita. *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*

Our prayers for the Sick: Bill, Giovanni Allurlino, Marie Clare Banner, Edward Behan, Sarah Bonnalie, Pam Brambles, Norman Byrne, Mario Fasi, Wilfrid Feely, Sheila Freeman, Barbara Gekoski, Joe Graham, Eileen Hiorns, Sandra Hunt, Mist Johnson, David Kendall, John Kiernan, Peter McCarthy, Una Maddocks, Nathaniel Manning, Deborah Meades, Kate Miles, Fina Monastero, Michael Mulcahy, Andrew Murray, Ahmed Musa, Paula Newton, Gill Parker, George Pearson, Steven Robertson, Fr. Tony Rohan, John Sawyer, Gilly Schweigert, Nell Smyth, Christine Tam, Terena Tam, Terry Tam, Elizabeth Weston, Uta Winter, Peter Wright & all those at home, or in the nursing homes, & hospitals of the Parish, who receive Holy Communion at home. *Lord Jesus, watch over all who suffer and are in pain. Bless all those who care for them.*



CHRISTMAS 2024



**THE WORD WAS MADE FLESH AND DWELT AMONG US...
AND WE BEHELD HIS GLORY!**