WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Sunday 6 September 2026

St. Anne's Catholic Church
Lynton Avenue Weeping Cross Stafford, ST17 0EA. Telephone: 01785 661012 – Website https://catholicstafford.org.uk
St. Patrick's Catholic Church
48 Sandon Road, Stafford ST16 3HF. Telephone 01785 661012 - Website https://catholicstafford.org.uk
Email: stannestpatrick.stafford@rcaob.org.uk
Parish Administrator: **Father Robert Devaney** - *Parish Secretary*: **Marie Badger**
Deacon: **Rev. Michael Horsnall**
The parishes are part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham. Registered Charity No.234216

TWENTY- THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

ST. ANNE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL
Lynton Avenue, ST17 0EA
Telephone: 01785 663128 Fax: 01785 662987
Email: office@st-annes-weepingcross.staffs.sch.uk
Executive Head: Mrs K Bennett

ST. PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL
Marston Road, ST16 3BT
Telephone: 01785 413275
Email:
Principal: Mr. M. Brandon

Day	Date	Mass Time	Church	Liturgical Day		
Sat	5th	4.00 pm 6.00 pm	**St Patrick's** **St Anne's**	**Vigil**		Private Intention Well-Being of Desiree
Sun	6th	9.00 am 10.00 am	**St Patrick's** **St Anne's**	**Twenty-Third Sunday of the Year**		Patty & Tim Tiernan RIP Thanksgiving. Rosiane and Jonatan
Mon	7th	**9.15 am**	**St Anne's**	**MASS IS IN SCHOOL** Feria		Damian McKinlay RIP
Tue	8th	**NO MASS**	**St Patrick's**	The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Feast	
Wed	9th	10.00 am	**St Anne's**	**Communion Service**	Feria	
Thu	10th	9.30 am	**St Patrick's**		Feria	Private Intention
Fri	11th	9.30 am	**St Anne's**		Feria	Holy Souls
Sat	12th	10.00 am 4:00 pm 6.00 pm	**St Anne's** **St Patrick's** **St Anne's**	**Exposition, Holy Hour and Confession** **Vigil**		 Bill Hawkins RIP John McDonnell RIP
Sun	13th	9:00am 10:00am	**St Patrick's** **St Anne's**	**Twenty -Fourth Sunday of the Year**		Holy Souls People of the Parish

Prayers for the sick: [**St Patrick's:**] Susan Prince, Gregory McKinlay, Linda Reavy, Rebecca Kilkenny, Graham Burningham, Matty Fury, Mark Douglas, Joan McKinlay. [**St Anne's:**] Thomas McCormick, Patsy Connelly Smith, Andrea Hulse, Winifred Meehan, Georgina Copp, Marie Geal, Molly Hukin, Nick Harrison, Neve Collins.

Prayers for the departed loved ones whose anniversaries occur at this time: [St Anne's] Thomas Fenton, Peter Gough, Harold Nelson, Anne Nelson, Marie Smith, Tony Hukin, Mabil Austin, Rosemary Mitcherson, Donald Skeen. [**St Patrick's]** John Breen, Dorothy Goodall, Martha Figel, William Millward, Bernard Gunn, Julie O'Doherty, Vanessa Traversari, Norma Dodd, Patrick Porter, Mary Mason, Maud Gosling.

Income 30/8/26	Source	Gift Aid	Non-Gift Aid	Standing Order	Total	Attendance
St Anne's	Offertory	**£**	**£**	**£408.25**	**£**	**Sat 68 Sun 89**
St Patrick's	Offertory	**£50.10**	**£211.20**	**£152.16**	**£413.46**	**Sat 53 Sun 82**

On the archdiocese website there is a standing order and gift aid form for parishioners so they can transform the way they donate. Please direct any such enquiries to: https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/pages/FAQS?category/finance-resources

Parish Tote 150 Club Winners of August Draw
Thank you for your support. A lot of numbers are available at £4 per number per month. Further details from Marie (parish secretary) on 01785 661012.

Gift Aid ***If anyone wishes to make a commitment; whether weekly, fortnightly, monthly or annually, it would make such a difference. You remain in control for as long as you want. Switching your giving via Standing Order mandate would be a great help also.***
Information cards *[gift-aid it]* can be found at the back of the churches for any parishioners who are not in the gift aid scheme. The cards explain how the system works (at no extra expense for the doner) and provide information as to how you can be part of the scheme. It is a simple, free and effective way to help our parishes increase our funds. Do consider this if you are not already gift-aiding. Many Thanks

The Drop-in Group Do Come and join us on Wednesdays in the Meeting Room after the St Anne's 10 am Communion Service. All Welcome.

Refreshments after Mass: Join us after the **10:00am** Sunday Morning Mass for tea and coffee in **St Anne's Hall.** Many thanks to those who prepare this valuable facility. **More volunteers always welcome.**

St Anne's Choir
At present we have no formal choir and lack a choir leader and an organist. Music plays an important part in our liturgy and enhances our worship. If you would be able to help with the music in any way please would you contact Fr Bob. [The choir meets in church at 7pm (Tue) on particular dates so keep an eye out for the next one. If anyone would like to pop in we will be going through the hymns for the next few weeks].

Exposition and Holy Hour: There is Exposition and Holy Hour, including opportunity for the sacrament of reconciliation, at St Anne's: From 10:00am until 11:00am. This is offered every Saturday, except the third Saturday of the month, upon which the Mass of Our Lady of Walsingham will be celebrated.

**** SAFEGUARDING*** ***The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies & procedures at all times. Our St Anne's Parish Safeguarding Representative is Ann Kelly and can be contacted at sg.stanne.stafford@rcaob.org.uk. Our St Patrick's Safeguarding Representative is Geraldine Thickett and can be contacted at sg.stpatrick.stafford@rcaob.org.uk or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 safeguarding@ rcaob.org.uk if you have any concern.***

*** Could we remind parishioners that pictures should not be taken using phones in church during services. Also, it is against safeguarding policy for children to be photographed without parental consent. Thank you.**

CHRISTIAN FOOD HELP: Due to the ever-increasing problem of food poverty, nationally and locally within many families, there is a continual need for donations. At the back of each church we have clearly marked boxes for your donations of food items. Please deposit them in the back of each church in the clearly marked boxes. Many Thanks

St Patrick's Eucharistic Ministry. St. Patrick's Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, ROTA: This covers both Saturday Evening and Sunday Morning. If you are an extraordinary minister and would like to be included in the rota, please contact Angela Russell (07765560153) or Fr Bob..

Youth Connect returns after the summer break with our first sessions in September. We meet fortnightly on Fridays, welcoming young people in School Years 5–9 for fun, faith and fellowship.
Time: 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM
Location: St Anne's Church Hall, ST17 0EA
September Dates:
- Friday 4 September 2026

- Friday 18 September 2026
For attendance or to join the Youth Ministry Team, please contact Fr Bob on 01785 661012 or stannestpatrick.stafford@rcaob.org.uk. Consent forms are available from the parish office.

ST ANNE'S PLAYGROUP [for ages 0 – 5 years old].
It is a chance to connect with other parents and bring your little one for nursery rhymes, sensory play, books and more. £2 per child, snack included and tea or coffee for carers.
Volunteers to support us would be most welcome (where the usual application procedures apply). This is a Catholic Stafford initiative so it's for all parishes. Please contact: stannestpatrick.stafford@rcaob.org.uk **01785661012 OR Letalya 07848893395.**
Please note that the group will meet again on Friday September 4th.

New to the Parish? **If you are new to either of the parishes of St Anne or St Patrick you are very welcome. Please let Fr Bob know (on 01785 661012 OR stannestpatrick.stafford@rcaob.org.uk) There are numerous aspects of our parish life that might be of interest to you. We hope that you will feel 'at home' within our parish community.**

YOUTH CONNECT: "The harvest is plentiful…" From September, Youth Connect hopes to meet twice a month, but we need more DBS-checked adults who can offer only 2 hours a month. Your gifts and talents aren't meant to be hidden — they can help our young leaders run sessions with confidence. If you can volunteer, please speak to Fr Bob.

****The Assisted Suicide bill is back after Lauren Edwards MP (Lab) Rochester and Strood decided to use her second place in the Private Members' Bill ballot to re-introduce it from the last Parliamentary Session. A Debate could be as early as 11 September. Let us join in work and prayer to prevent this bill from succeeding.***

Safeguarding Update

As a parish, we are incredibly fortunate to have so many generous volunteers who give their time and talents to support the priest in his ministry. All parishes are now required to carry out Safer Recruitment which at its simplest level is a General Volunteer Registration Form. These forms are available at the back of the Church and should be completed by all volunteers, new or old.
Please return the forms as soon as possible to Father Bob or Geraldine [for St Patrick's] or Ann [for St Anne's] (the Parish Safeguarding Representatives). Forms can be left safely in the sacristy in their absence.
If you are new to volunteering at St Patrick's, can you please also take with you a copy of the Level 1 Safeguarding Leaflet. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Father Bob or Geraldine or Ann.

This Sunday 6th September in the afternoon we have our usual annual Pilgrimage to Harvington Hall in Worcestershire.
1:45 – 2:30pm Confessions
3pm Holy Mass

Free timed tours of Harvington Hall are available on the day and can be booked upon arrival. The Apostolic Nuncio (Archbishop Miguel Maury Buendia) will be the main celebrant of the Mass.

Note: [St Anne's] Please be aware that from **September** of this year, when the schools start back, the **Monday morning Mass will be the weekly 9:15am school Mass for St Anne's**, whereas the **Friday morning Mass will be at 9:30am for the parish**. I am hopeful that this change should not inconvenience parishioners too much, apart from maybe the slight change in start time. As usual, of course, parishioners are welcome to both Masses.
[We welcome the new term with Mass in School at 9:15am Monday 7th September]

Between 2nd – 7th September, one of St Austin's Parishioners, Martin Sullivan, will be taking on his third CAMINO de Santiago challenge in Northern Spain, walking 62 miles of the "Camino Primitivo", the "original way", the oldest of the Pilgrim trails, from the city of Lugo to finish at Santiago de Compostela, and the famous Cathedral of St James, where the relics of the Apostle are kept in the crypt beneath the main altar.

Martin is using this challenge to raise funds for Blood Cancer UK, in memory of a friend of his walking companion who sadly lost her battle with this disease earlier this year. If you would like to support Martin with a donation, go to justgiving.com and search for "Graeme and Martin's fundraiser for Blood Cancer Uk", or see Martin for a chat after 11.00 am Mass on Sunday at St Austin's.

Stafford Folk Dance Club Come and join us
Walton Village Hall, Walton on the Hill. ST17 0LD
Thursdays 7:30 – 9:30pm [No experience or partner needed]
First Evening FREE---- Musicians (any instrument)
Contact Maggie Kaye 07974649311

Opportunities within the Archdiocese: SAFEGUARDING ADVISER
The Birmingham Diocesan Trust is seeking to appoint an experienced safeguarding professional to join its safeguarding team. The successful candidate will have a background in many of the related and relevant areas. Please see the noticeboard for details. Or, contact Claire Reay, Head of safeguarding: claire.reay@rcaob.org.uk