



OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS PRAY FOR US

Saint Mary's Catholic Church, Wednesbury.

Saint Mary's Road, WS10 9DL

Telephone 0121 505 7927

Parish Website <http://www.saintmaryswednesbury.org.uk>

Parish email: stmaryoth.wednesbury@rcaob.org.uk

Parish Priest: *Fr Michael Vaughan*

fr.michael.vaughan@rcaob.org.uk

www.frmichaelvaughan.com



SAFEGUARDING: The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Mary Jones. She can be contacted at sg.stmaryoth.wednesbury@rcaob.org.uk or the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted at safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk or on 0121 230 6240 if you have any concern.

The Archdiocese of Birmingham has a zero-tolerance approach to **ALL** abuse.



HYMNS

SUNDAY. 337 61 32 408

ST PATRICK. 191 79 365

LAETARE (REJOICE) SUNDAY

14th March 2026/15th March 2026

Saturday March 14th Lent Feria.		4.15pm - 4.50pm. Confession. 5pm Intentions of Aquila Gambin (Birthday)
Sunday March 15th Laetare Sunday.		9.30am - 9.50am. Confession. (Request) 10am People of the Parish.
Monday March 16th Lent Feria.		10am No Mass.
Tuesday March 17th Feast. St Patrick.		9.15am – Adoration, Rosary, Confession. (Request) 10am Phylis Mary Woodward. (RIP)
Wednesday March 18th Lent Feria.		9.15am NO Adoration, Rosary. Confession. 10am NO MASS 11am Funeral Service Michael Piggott. (RIP) 12.15pm Committal Sandwell Crematorium.
Thursday March 19th Solemnity. St Joseph.		9.15am Adoration, Rosary. Confession. (Request) 10am Mass intentions of the Perpetual mass fund.
Friday March 20th Lent Feria.		9am Adoration. Benediction. Divine Mercy. Confession. 10am Phylis Mary Woodward. (RIP) 10.30am Stations of the Cross.
Saturday March 21st Lent Feria.		4.15pm - 4.50pm. Confession. 5pm Arthur Roberts
Sunday March 22nd 5th Sunday of Lent. Family Mass.		9.30am - 9.50am. Confession. (Request) 10am Cyril Dawes RIP.



HAPPY MOTHERING SUNDAY.

Proverbs 31:27-29

“[A Mother] watches over the affairs of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness. Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her: 'Many women do noble things, but you surpass them all.'”

Communion.

Everyone is most welcome to come to the altar rails to receive Communion, or to have a blessing from Fr Michael. Please put your hand across your chest to indicate a blessing only. Thank You.

Children's Liturgy.

Is held in the church porch every Sunday at the 10am Mass. Children will be called forward at the beginning of Mass. Parents who wish to do so, are most welcome to join their Children.

Tea and Coffee. After Mass every Sunday.

Gift Aid. Thank you to those who Gift Aid their offertory. This enables the parish to benefit from the tax paid on your offering at no extra cost to you. If you would like to know how your tax can benefit the parish (which is a charity) then please have a word with Gary Linford. Thank you.

Baptism Preparation for children under 7.

The next Baptism preparation meeting will be held on **Tuesday 31st March at 7pm**. All parents wishing for their children to be baptised should attend this meeting to help you prepare for your child's baptism.

Finance.

1 st Coll G.A.	£65.00
1 st Coll	£280.62
2nd collection (Cathedral maintenance)	
Gift aided:	£10.00
Non-GA loose:	£237.05
Piety	£10.00
Occasional Income	£500
Total	£1122.67

Thank you all for your generous offerings.

Food Bank: There is a box in the Porch. Please support if you can. Thank you to all parishioners who support this Ecumenical Ministry.

Clergy Training Fund.

Thank you to those who regularly donate to the CTF.

Baptism Certificates.

Please note that Baptism Certificates are given to those who have been baptised one month after the Baptism, and not on the day of the Baptism itself. Thank you.

Replacement Certificates.

Please note that a charge of £10 per certificate is made on ALL Copies of Baptism and Confirmation certificates.

Please Pray for All the Sick of our Parish, may God bless and comfort them.

Also remember in your prayers, those who bear their illness privately, and those that care for them. Theresa Adams, Melesi Chapo, Bridgitt Cooper, Joan Dixon, Lynne Harper, Barbara Jarvis, Michelle Price, Veronica Smith, Pat Wilkins, Pat Morris, Mavis Green.

Last Week's Attendance.

Saturday 52

Sunday 69

Total 121

Fr Michael is available to parishioners Tuesday to Sunday but please note that he is not available on Mondays. Thank you.

RETIRING COLLECTION

The next collection will be on Good Friday, for the Holy Places.

For your Diary.

Sunday 15th March 10am Mass. Blessing of new Chasubles. Green in Honour of Saint Patrick. Red. In Honour of Saint Stephen. White. The New Diocesan Vestment.

Tuesday 17th March. Blessing of Statue of Saint Patrick on Saint Patrick's day.

Easter Sunday, 5th April. Mass 10am.

Corpus Christi and First Holy Communion, Sunday the 7th June. Mass 10am.

SOCIAL EVENTS.

Easter Raffle 14th & 21st March Prizes out 28th March.

Sunday 15th March whisky cake and Irish coffee in celebration of St Patrick's day.

4th April Bingo 2.30pm

9th May. Spring Fair

Barn Dance April date to be confirmed.

Cream Tea in May date to be confirmed.

Summer Fair 4th July

Bingo through August

Proposed concert maybe with cream tea.

Proposed quiz evening.

These are just some of the parish events we hope to be holding this year, please support if you can. Many Thanks. Margaret Holden and the Belles of St Mary's.

EASTER FLOWERS.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A DONATION TOWARDS THE EASTER FLOWERS, PLEASE HAVE A WORD WITH ANNE BAXTER. IT WOULD BE LOVELY TO SEE THE CHURCH FULL OF FLOWERS AT EASTER. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A DONATION IN MEMORY OF A LOVED ONE, THEN AGAIN PLEASE SPEAK TO ANNE. THANK YOU.

FR. MICHAEL.



Standing Orders. Many thanks to those parishioners who choose to support the mission of the church by giving by Standing Order. Anyone who would like to support the mission of the church in this way, please have a word with Gary Linford or Fr Michael, who will be glad to help.

Of your Charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of Anthony (Tony) Enoch Alexander (RIP) and for his family at this difficult time. The funeral service will be held on Wednesday 25th March at 12pm in Church, followed by committal at Sandwell Crematorium at 1pm. Please note, there will not be mass at 10am that morning. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Also, of the late Julia Clynes who recently died. More details to follow concerning her funeral when we have them. May she rest in peace.

Today, the fourth Sunday of Lent is known as Laetare Sunday, a day of celebration and relaxation within the solemn Lenten season. Derived from the Latin word for "rejoice," it signifies a joyful pause in fasting, marked by rose-coloured vestments and often called Mothering Sunday, when we give thanks to God for our Mother Mary, our own Mother, and our Mother, the Church. There are no flowers during Lent, but today we make the exception for Mary our Mother.

NEXT SUNDAY.

Will be a 'Family Mass', where we encourage children and their parents to participate in the Mass on a Sunday as well as at the School Mass on a Thursday. Please come to encourage them. Thank you.

Old School/Social Club.

I am soon to meet with the property services coordinator for the diocese to discuss the future of the Old School/Social Club. Currently we're still responsible for business rates on the building, and I'm told we still owe £7000. I hope to get the building declassified as a business. There are a few proposals. To demolish. To restore and rent out like the hall and use for parish events. To lease. To convert into apartments and rent out. This is to be discussed considering the parishes' future clustering and merger with Saint Michael's and Holy Cross. I understand that those two parishes are soon to be merged. I will be meeting soon to discuss this with Fr Daniel.

PASSIONTIDE AND EASTER SERVICES.

Passion (Palm) Sunday.

Saturday 5pm. 28th March. Mass and blessing of Palms in Church.

Sunday 10am. 29th March. Mass. Beginning in the Church Hall. Please go straight to the hall, where Mass will begin and the palms will be blessed. We shall then process into Church.

Monday 30th and Tuesday 31st March.

There will be no mass in Church on these days.

Spy Wednesday. 1st April.

Chrism Mass. 11.30am St Chads Cathedral. Parishioners welcome. Please note, there will not be mass in church today.

Maundy Thursday. 2nd April.

No 10am Mass today.

Mass of the Lords Supper 7pm.

8.30pm Watching at the Altar of Repose & Stripping of the Altars.

9pm Night Prayer.

Good Friday 3rd April.

Mass is not said on Good Friday. The Sacraments are not celebrated at all today except for those in danger of death.

3pm. Celebration of the Lord's passion. Veneration of the Holy Cross, and Holy Communion, followed around 4.30pm by Stations of the Cross. There is no evening service.

Holy Saturday. 4th April.

10am Blessing of the Easter food.

7.30pm Mass for the Easter Vigil.

1. Liturgy of Light.
2. Liturgy of the word.
3. Liturgy of Baptism.
4. Liturgy of the Eucharist.

Easter Sunday. 5th April. Solemnity of the Resurrection of the Lord.

10am Easter Sunday Mass and renewal of baptismal promises.

Saturday 11th April.

10am Mass, Sacraments of Initiation, and Reception into the Church.

5pm Mass.

Sunday 12th April. Divine Mercy Sunday.

10am Mass.

3pm Divine Mercy.

Please support these services during the most solemn time before Easter. Please also use this time to prepare to celebrate Easter by going to Confession, either here, or in another Church. There may be a service of Reconciliation you could attend if you prefer, in Saint Michael's, or Holy Cross.

PARISH DIRECTORY.

Parish Treasurer & Church Cleaning: Kristine Moseley.

pt.stmaryoth.wednesbury@rcaob.org.uk

Health & Safety: Paul Piddock.

hs.stmaryoth.wednesbury@rcaob.org.uk

Gift Aid & Children's Liturgy/Catechesis: Gary Linford.

ga.stmaryoth.wednesbury@rcaob.org.uk

Parish Hall Bookings: Margaret Holden.

hall.stmaryoth.wednesbury@rcaob.org.uk

Safeguarding & Extraordinary Minister for the Sick:

Mary Jones.

sg.stmaryoth.wednesbury@rcaob.org.uk

St Mary's School Headteacher Mrs Amy Pritchard.

Flowers: Ann Baxter. Bridget Lane. June Lefan.

All voluntary jobs by appointment.

Of your charity, please pray for the repose of the souls of the faithfully departed whose Anniversaries occur in **March**: Lino Advantaggiato, Marie Angell, V. Rev Canon Stuart Bathurst (built our Church), Julie Bailey, Lileth Biggs, Cecilia Bridgwater, Ann (Dolly) Davies, William Alfred Davies, Margaret Davies, Harold Davis, Kate Dennis, Terry Dixon, Margaret Durkin, Kenneth Thomas Gibbs, Monica Green, Sheila Hadley, Marjorie Harrison, Dorothy Ilsey, Theresa Ingamels, James Mason, Dawn Ann Mattocks, Rev George Montgomery (founder of our Church), Thomas Moran, Patrick Mulvaney, Pop Pallet, Albert Peach, Maureen Peach, Michael Leonard Peach, Tony Piggott, David Severn, Monica Severn, Kathleen Small, Joan Smith, Catherine Varley, Elvira Watson, Terry & Jenny Wilks, Canon Brian Withers former Parish Priest, Dawn Wood. Collette Hinz.

Our Lady and the Sacred Heart. Sanctuary Lamps.

To have a Sanctuary Lamp lit in one of the chapels, for your intentions or loved ones, please fill in an envelope, available at the back of church, place your £10 in and give to Fr Michael. Thank you. Candles cost £10.

The Sanctuary lamp in Our Lady's Chapel burns for:

WILLIAM ALFRED DAVIES (MARCH 15th) Remembrance.

IN MEMORY OF GERALDINE O'CONNOR (RIP) (MARCH 15TH)

The Sanctuary lamp in the Sacred Heart Chapel burns for:

JULIE BAILEY. ANNIVERSARY REMEMBRANCE. Thursday 12th March.

WELLDONE

To members of Sovereign Brass who worked so hard for their latest composition. It is always the taking part that's most important. You have my heartfelt thoughts and prayers in all that you do and achieve. God Bless. Fr Michael.

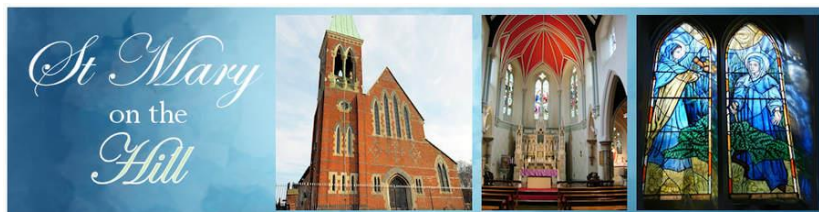
Passports The priest is available to sign passports upon request, but please note that he must have known the person for at least 2 years, and not the parishioner asking the priest to sign the passport on their behalf. The passport office does phone the presbytery to check, and a fee of £30 is charged per passport. Thank you.

Please check the Parish Website for regular updates. We receive more information than what can be put on the Newsletter, so please check our website for more information.

Thank you.

Please note that the cut-off for all notices to be included in the weekend newsletter is Wednesday at 12pm. Items for the Newsletter can be given to Fr Michael or emailed to Fr Michael's email address. The Newsletter is also available on the parish website.

Family Mass
Sunday 22nd
March. 10am.



STATIONS OF THE
CROSS EVERY FRIDAY
AFTER MASS DURING
LENT.

The Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham registered Charity No. 234216