

**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, Sheila Cooney, Bridget Cooper, Joan Dixon, Sean Hooper, Barbara Jarvis, Michelle Price, Veronica Smith, Pat Wilkins.*

**Of your charity, please pray for the repose of the souls of DAVID TURNER RIP & BRIAN JENNINGS RIP both recently deceased, and for the souls of the faithfully departed whose Anniversaries occur in October:** † *Paul Agg, Teresa Agg, Joe Burnside, Christine Byrne, Mary Sheila Cashmore, Peter Cole, Charles Cowley, Mary Davis, Lucia Demitri, Edward Fairless, Winifred Fairless, George Gibbs, Frances Groves, Mary Guinane, Jane Hooper, Joseph Jennings, David Anthony Jones, Catherine Joyce, Ann Marie & Henry Keay, Charles Kirinich, Joseph Lally, Mary A.J.Lowe, Marcella Moore, John Moran, Marina Morgan, Joyce O'Connor, Fr Francis E. O'Hanlon (former Parish Priest) Fr Patrick O'Sullivan (former Parish Priest) Mary Peach, James Ernest Peach, Joel & Maria Reed, Lynn Reynolds, George Turner, Violet Williams, Winifred Williams.*

**Funeral Service for David Turner RIP 12.15pm Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October in Church  
Requiem Mass for Brian Jennings RIP 12 noon Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November**

**The Altar of Our Lady and the Sacred Heart – to have a candle lamp burn for your intentions or loved ones for the week – please see Cate.**

**The candle lamp on Our Lady's Altar burns this week for:**

*Joshua Clarke RIP (Birthday Remembrance 13<sup>th</sup> Oct)  
Michael Wilson RIP (Birthday Remembrance 18<sup>th</sup> Oct)*

**The candle lamp on the Sacred Heart Altar burns this week for:**

*Ken Baxter RIP (Birthday Remembrance 14<sup>th</sup> October)  
Lucia Demitri RIP (Anniversary 18<sup>th</sup> October)*

**NOVEMBER IS THE MONTH WHEN WE REMEMBER THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED - THERE WILL BE A BOX ON THE ALTAR TO PLACE THE NAMES OF YOUR LOVED ONES. (PLEASE ONLY PLACE NAMES IN THE BOX) ANY MASS INTENTIONS, PLEASE PASS TO FR MICHAEL OR CATE. THANK YOU.**

**CONFESSIONS ARE AVAILABLE SATURDAYS 4.15PM-4.50PM AND FRIDAYS DURING ADORATION. TUESDAY-THURSDAY BY REQUEST UP TO 10 MINUTES BEFORE EACH MASS**

**PLEASE CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR REGULAR UPDATES! The website is regularly updated and the newsletter is on usually every Friday.**

[www.saintmaryswednesbury.org.uk](http://www.saintmaryswednesbury.org.uk) Please note the cut-off is Wednesday lunchtime

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

**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](mailto:sg.stmaryoth.wednesbury@rcaob.org.uk) or the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted at [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) or on 0121 230 6240 if you have any concern.



**OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS PRAY FOR US  
Saint Mary's Catholic Church, Wednesbury**

Saint Mary's Road, WS10 9DL

0121 505 7927 <http://www.saintmaryswednesbury.org.uk>

Parish email: [stmarvoth.wednesbury@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:stmarvoth.wednesbury@rcaob.org.uk)

**Parish Priest: Fr Michael Vaughan**

[fr.michael.vaughan@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:fr.michael.vaughan@rcaob.org.uk)

**Parish Secretary:**

Cate Maddox

[ga.stmaryoth.wednesbury@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:ga.stmaryoth.wednesbury@rcaob.org.uk)

**Safeguarding & Extraordinary**

**Minister for the Sick:**

Mary Jones

[sg.stmaryoth.wednesbury@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.stmaryoth.wednesbury@rcaob.org.uk)

**Health & Safety:**

Paul Piddock

[hs.stmaryoth.wednesbury@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:hs.stmaryoth.wednesbury@rcaob.org.uk)

**Parish Hall Bookings:**

Margaret Holden

[hall.stmaryoth.wednesbury@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:hall.stmaryoth.wednesbury@rcaob.org.uk)

**TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR**

**13<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2024**

Saturday Oct 12	<b>12 noon – Wedding – Bethany Grace Lily Goddard &amp; Feria</b> <i>Matthew Keeble</i>
	5.00pm Mass (Helen Follos RIP)
Sunday Oct 13	<b>10.00am Mass (People of the Parish)</b> <i>28th Sunday of the Year</i>
Monday Oct 14	<b>NO MASS</b> <i>Feria</i>
Tuesday Oct 15	<b>9.30am Holy Rosary</b> <i>Mem of St Teresa of Jesus, Virgin, Doctor of the Church</i> <b>10.00am Mass</b>
Wednesday Oct 16	<b>10.00am Mass (Holy Souls)</b> <i>Feria</i>
Thursday Oct 17	<b>10.00am Mass</b> <b>Plus a decade of the Rosary with the children after Mass</b> <i>Mem of St Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop, Martyr</i> <b>(Schoolchildren in Attendance)</b>
Friday Oct 18	<b>9.00am – 9.45am Adoration &amp; Benediction</b> <i>Feast of St Luke, Evangelist</i> <b>10.00am Mass</b>
Saturday Oct 19	<b>5.00pm Mass (Priest's Intention)</b> <i>Feria</i>
Sunday Oct 20	<b>10.00am Mass (People of the Parish)</b> <i>29th Sunday of the Year</i>

## PARISH NEWS:

### RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION:

IF YOU WISH TO JUST HAVE A BLESSING FROM FR MICHAEL, PLEASE PUT YOUR HAND ACROSS YOUR CHEST. THANK YOU.

### HEALTH & SAFETY MESSAGE:

PARISHIONERS ARE ADVISED TO TAKE CARE WHEN ACCESSING CHURCH AS THERE ARE POTENTIALLY A NUMBER OF TRIP HAZARDS WITH DAMAGED MORTAR AND SLABS. AS THERE ARE MANY JOBS, IT IS ON THE "TO DO" LIST. THANK YOU.

TEA/COFFEE & TOAST EVERY THURSDAY AFTER MASS.

TEA & COFFEE AFTER MASS ON SUNDAYS.

FOOD BANK: BOX IN PORCH PLEASE SUPPORT IF YOU CAN.

### CHILDREN'S LITURGY:

STARTS PROMPT AT 10AM, DOORS OPEN FROM 9.50AM.

EVERY WEEK, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTIFIED. HELD IN PARISH HALL GARY, CHRISTINE & JOE

SIMPLE ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT BETWEEN 9.15AM-9.45AM TUES, WED AND THURS, WITH LATIN ADORATION, AND CONFESSION, AND BENEDICTION AS NORMAL ON A FRIDAY 9AM-9.45AM.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE: SATURDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER IN PARISH HALL AT 11AM 50P ADMISSION. **CHRISTMAS RAFFLE STARTS SAT 19<sup>TH</sup> OCT.** ANY JEWELLERY, COSMETICS, TOYS OR DONATIONS MOST WELCOME. PLEASE LEAVE AT BACK OF CHURCH. ANY CAKE DONATIONS ON THE DAY DOORS OPEN 8.30AM. ANYONE WHO CAN HELP SET UP ON FRIDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> NOV 10AM-2PM WE WOULD BE MOST GRATEFUL. THANK YOU.

LUCKY SQUARE: Proceeds to Church & Hall Restoration Fund, 3 cash prizes, if you wish to join, please see Tracey.

FR MICHAEL'S PERSONAL WEBSITE:  
[www.frmichaelvaughan.com](http://www.frmichaelvaughan.com)

## DIARY:

### SOVEREIGN BRASS CONCERT:

SUN 20<sup>TH</sup> OCT IN PARISH HALL 3PM  
OLD PARK SCHOOL VISIT: 22<sup>ND</sup>/23<sup>RD</sup> OCT 1.30PM

BLESSING OF GRAVES: SAT 2<sup>ND</sup> NOV 11AM FALLINGS HEATH CEMETERY

WWII TEA PARTY: FRIDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER IN SCHOOL HALL 2PM

CHRISTMAS FAYRE: SAT 9<sup>TH</sup> NOV 11AM PARISH VISITATION: 5<sup>TH</sup>/6<sup>TH</sup> APR 2025

FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS: SAT 17<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2025 10AM & CONFIRMATIONS:

WEDNESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2025 6PM (REVISED DATE)

Baptisms. It is usual for infants to be baptised in the Catholic Church by the age of reason, which is 7 years of age. Preparation for this is usually a month. After the age of reason your child will be baptised similar to how adults are baptised, and in many cases they will receive Confirmation and communion at the same time. For this reason the child will need to be prepared, and the priest needs permission from the Archbishop to administer the sacraments. This could take up to 3 months or longer. Parents: Please give serious thought to your child's baptism. Your child cannot receive first holy communion or Confirmation without first having been baptised. Children and parents wishing to have their children baptised are required to attend church regularly at the weekend. Becoming a Catholic. If anyone is interested in becoming Catholic, please have a word with Fr Michael and he will get you to fill in a form and let you know more.

### SOVEREIGN BRASS CONCERT:

SUNDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 3PM IN THE PARISH HALL - SEE NOTICE BOARD.

BLESSING OF GRAVES: SATURDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> NOVEMBER 11AM FALLINGS HEATH CEMETERY. ALL SOULS DAY - THIS WILL BE PRECEDED BY MASS AT 10AM.

### WWII TEA PARTY:

FRIDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2PM IN SCHOOL HALL - ALL WELCOME.

## PARISH NEWS:

Offertory: £230.20 (Week)

Attendance: 41 + 60 = 101

Altar Candles: £30

Church & Restoration Fund: £10

Baptism Fee: £50 CAFOD: £21.50

Standing Orders: (MONTHLY):

£813 (SEPT) Thank you for your continued generosity. Next Weekend: Retiring Diocese Collection for APF World Mission Sunday

### PARISH CLUSTERING:

We have been very lucky in this Parish, because unlike many parishes today we have our own Priest. Many parishes share a Priest, with the priest being responsible for up to as many as 4 parishes, maybe even more. Clustering is becoming the norm in the diocese, with some Churches having to be closed. These changes are having to be taken because of a fall off in Mass attendance and because of the fall off in income for most if not all parishes in the diocese. The truth is, many parishes cannot afford to have a priest of their own today.

The diocese has now announced that Saint Mary's, known as Saint Mary on the Hill, Wednesbury, is to be clustered with Tipton and Dudley. Both parishes are known to Fr Michael. This clustering is to occur in January 2025. Historically, the three churches all had their own priest, in some cases, they also had curates, so most had at least 2 or even three priests. But as mass attendance has declined, it's become unsustainable for each parish to have its own Priest. Therefore, from January, we will be working in collaboration with Tipton and Dudley Parishes. Initially, there will be little change at first. There are 2 priests looking after 3 churches for the time being. However, if one of the priests retire, gets sick, or is moved, then it's unlikely he will be replaced. This means that 3 parishes that were probably looked after by up to 6 priests, will eventually be looked after

by 1 priest. This means that there will be changes to services in all three parishes eventually. Fr Michael has worked in such a situation before, and is aware of the challenges ahead.

### PARISH VISITATION:

Bishop Timothy Menezes is to visit our parish on the weekend of the 5th and 6th April 2025. During his time here he will say mass, speak to the congregation, and meet with people informally after mass in Saint Mary's Hall and have refreshments. It will give everyone a chance to speak to Bishop Timothy. The Bishop will also visit the sick, visit the school, parents, staff, and governors. He will also meet formally with Fr Michael

OPENING SESSION FOR PARISH VISITATIONS; St Joseph's Wolverhampton 7pm Wed 16<sup>th</sup> Oct.

### PLANNED GIVING DRIVE:

In September the Trustees of the Archdiocese met to reflect on the priorities for the Archdiocese moving forward. There were a number of priorities, however the one priority that will affect all parishes is for the Trust to be financially secure and sustainable. Therefore, beginning this month a working party is to be established with the intention to begin a planned giving drive in the New Year which will focus on increasing the Parish financial income. The deanery is to nominate 3 to 4 lay people with experience in finance and/or fundraising, to meet in late October/November. The outcome of this, is that there will be an appeal in the parish in the New Year for us to reflect on our parish finances in respect of the burdens now being placed on parish finances. I ask you all please to pray about this in light of the Gospel message that it is better to give than receive, and those who give receive ten times more. If anyone in the parish feels that they would like to help on the deanery working party, please see Fr Michael and he will give your details to the dean. Thank you.