

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, Pauline Agg, Christine Cadman, Sheila Cooney, Bridget Cooper, Margaret Cooper, Joan & Terry Dixon, Sean Hooper, Barbara Jarvis, Michelle Price, Moya Wells, Pat Wilkins.

Of your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of HELEN PENNINGS RIP recently deceased, and for the souls of the faithfully departed whose anniversaries occur in December †

Gordon Bacon, Baby Bennett, Basil Bridgwater, Peg Byrne, Patrick Byrne, Martha Cowley, Albert Diggett, William Fairless, Catherine Gallagher, George Green, Kevin Groves, Michael Haken, Graham Harper, Jean Hunter, Brenda Jennings, James Lambley, Betty Langford, Arthur Maddox, Raymond Mason, Eileen Mole, Christopher Morris, Elizabeth Morris, Fr Michael O'Meara (former PP), John O'Connell, Leonard William Peach, Magdalene Perkins nee Churchill, Catherine Rose Piggott, Roy Probert, Lee Potts, Stuart Roper, Maria Sylvana Rossi, Joseph Ryan, Ronald Turner, Winifred Ward.

Anniversaries occur in January †

Trudie Burns, Archie Burrows, William Clarke, Michaela Cole, Margaret Cousins, Mary P. Dalton, Sid Davies, Joan Derry, Albert Diggett, Kathleen Garbett nee Mason, Raymond Gayden, Rose Giddins, Lola Haken, Rene Hall, Gordon Holt, Betty Joynes, John Patrick Kelly, Con Kiley, Mary Kirk, John Joseph Lane, Joyce Maddox, James McNally, Marian Maczka, Monica & Joseph Moran, Norman Morris, Patrick O'Connor, Alan Payne, George Payne, Albert Peach, Bernard George Peach, John Peach, Fr John Piris – former PP, Mary Stanley, Roland Vernon, Bridget Ward, Derek Wilkins, Clara Withers, Margaret Woodcock, William Whorriskey.

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 lamps on Our Lady's Altar burn this week for:

Deceased of the Hakan Family RIP

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

Frank & Olwen Borg RIP

CONFESSIONS ARE AVAILABLE UP TO 10 MINUTES BEFORE EACH MASS – OR CONTACT FR MICHAEL

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

www.saintmaryswednesbury.org.uk

Please note the cut-off is Wednesday lunchtime



OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS PRAY FOR US

Saint Mary's Catholic Church, Wednesbury

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Parish Priest: Fr Michael Vaughan

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Parish Secretary:

Cate Maddox

ga.stmaryoth.wednesbury@rcaob.org.uk

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Paul Piddock

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Safeguarding & Extraordinary

Minister for the Sick:

Mary Jones

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Parish Hall Bookings:

Margaret Holden

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FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

31ST DECEMBER 2023

Saturday Dec 30	5.00pm Mass (<i>Dec'd Members of the Moran Family RIP</i>)
Sunday Dec 31	10.00am Mass (<i>Roy Probert RIP – Anniversary</i>)
Monday Jan 1	<u>NO MASS</u> <i>Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God</i>
Tuesday Jan 2	<u>9.30am Holy Rosary</u> <i>Mem of St Basil the Great</i> 10.00am Mass (<i>Fr John Piris RIP – Anniv – former PP</i>) <i>& St Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops, Doctors of the Church</i>
Wednesday Jan 3	10.00am Mass (<i>Annual Mass for Benefactors J.A.</i>)
Thursday Jan 4	10.00am Mass (<i>M.E. Connelly RIP – J.A.</i>)
Friday Jan 5	<u>9.00am – 9.45am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</u> 10.00am Mass (<i>Elizabeth Morris RIP</i>)
Saturday Jan 6	5.00pm Mass (<i>Michael Ryan RIP</i>)
Sunday Jan 7	10.00am Mass (<i>People of the Parish</i>) <i>Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord</i>

PARISH NEWS:

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.

RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION: EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO RECEIVE COMMUNION. TO AID DISTRIBUTION, THOSE WHO RECEIVE IN THE HAND, PLEASE COME TO THE ALTAR FIRST, FOLLOWED BY THOSE WHO RECEIVE ON THE TONGUE. IF YOU WISH TO HAVE A BLESSING ONLY, PLEASE PUT YOUR HAND ACROSS YOUR CHEST AND I WILL GIVE YOU A BLESSING ONLY. THANK YOU. FR MICHAEL.

DIARY:

CHILDREN'S LITURGY:

7th Jan (please bring a doll or teddy to be baptised for this session)

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: 19TH MAY 10AM MASS PENTECOST
CONFIRMATIONS: THURS 6TH JUNE 6PM CANON MCNALLY, EPISCOPAL VICAR FOR STAFFORDSHIRE & THE BLACK COUNTRY

WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE:

8-12th July 2024 FURTHER DETAILS AVAILABLE FROM SUSAN OR BARBARA ALEXANDER
01902 633959 OR 07946 611376

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.

FR MICHAEL'S PERSONAL WEBSITE:
www.frmichaelvaughan.com

Roman Catholic Initiation of Adults & Children:
Fr Michael is to begin catechesis of adults & children wishing to become full members of the Catholic Church. The course begins on Tuesday 9th January 2024, and continues until Easter. Those who wish, will be received into the Church during the Easter season.

FOOD BANK: THERE IS A BOX IN THE CHURCH PORCH FOR ANY DONATIONS OF TINNED OR DRIED FOODS, TOILETRIES ETC WHICH WILL BE GRATEFULLY RECEIVED. **THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN THIS TIME OF NEED**

TEA/COFFEE & TOAST EVERY THURSDAY AFTER MASS.
TEA & COFFEE AFTER MASS ON SUNDAYS.

PARISH NEWS:

Offertory: £397.54 (Week) 17/12/23
Attendance: 135 17/12/23
Christmas: 4pm 119 6pm 100
10am 52 Total: 271
Standing Orders: (MONTHLY):
£690 (OCT) Thank you for your continued generosity.

LUCKY SQUARE: - THREE CASH PRIZES OF £25, £12 AND £7.
PLEASE NOTE THE DRAW WILL BE MADE ON THE 3RD SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH, SO PLEASE ENSURE THAT ALL MONIES ARE PAID PRIOR TO THIS, OTHERWISE THE NUMBER WILL NOT BE INCLUDED. IF ANYONE WISHES TO JOIN THE LUCKY SQUARE, PLEASE SEE TRACEY OR ONE OF THE STEWARDS. PROCEEDS TO THE CHURCH RESTORATION FUND. THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH.

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR GIFTS, PRESENTS, AND KIND WORDS OVER THE CHRISTMAS SEASON, I AM MOST GRATEFUL FOR YOUR KINDNESS. I HOPE YOU ALL HAD A WONDERFUL TIME. MY THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED IN SO MANY WAYS TO MAKE THE CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS SO ENJOYABLE, THE FLOWER LADIES, THOSE WHO PUT UP THE CRIB, THE TREE AND SO ON, THANKS ALSO TO OUR ORGANIST, OUR SERVERS, AND ALL WHO HELP THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, AND TO ALL WHO SUPPORTED THE MASSES BY THEIR PRESENCE HERE. THE LAST FEW WEEKS HAVE BEEN EXTREMELY BUSY BUT VERY ENJOYABLE. THE INDUCTION, CELEBRATION OF MY 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION, SOVEREIGN BRASS CAROL CONCERT, PARISH CHRISTMAS LUNCH, AND THE SCHOOL CAROL CONCERT PLUS THE CHRISTMAS LITURGIES TO NAME A FEW WERE EXTREMELY WONDERFUL,

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ORGANISED AND PARTICIPATED IN THESE EVENTS. SINCE ARRIVING TO THE PARISH, I HAVE BEEN BUSY LOOKING AT OUR EXPENSES WHICH HAVE BEEN QUITE HIGH. I HOPE TO REDUCE THESE OVER THE NEXT MONTHS. IN LINE WITH THIS, THERE IS ONGOING WORK TO IMPROVE THE FACILITIES AT CHURCH. THE BOILERS IN BOTH THE CHURCH AND HALL HAVE NOW BEEN REPAIRED. MY THANKS TO THOSE WHO HELPED ME WITH THIS. BROKEN BOILERS WAS ONE OF A FEW THINGS TO BE DEALT WITH, A LEAKING CEILING IN THE PRESBYTERY OFFICE, BROKEN KETTLE, BLOCKED DRAINS IN THE KITCHEN ARE AMONGST OTHER THINGS TO BE DEALT WITH. WE WILL BE HAVING A FINANCE COUNCIL MEETING IN THE NEW YEAR. TO FACILITATE THIS, IN THE FUTURE, IT IS MY INTENTION TO POST THE MONTHLY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ON THE NOTICE BOARD FOR PARISHIONERS INFORMATION. FIRST HOLY COMMUNION FOR 2024 WILL BE HELD ON PENTECOST SUNDAY 19TH MAY AT THE 10AM MASS. CONFIRMATION 2024 WILL BE CELEBRATED BY CANON PAUL MCNALLY, THE EPISCOPAL VICAR FOR STAFFORDSHIRE AND THE BLACK COUNTRY. THIS WILL TAKE PLACE ON THURSDAY JUNE 6TH AT 6PM. CANON MCNALLY WILL VISIT CONFIRMANDI IN SCHOOL AT 2PM. FR MICHAEL.



The Holy Family Window