

SAFEGUARDING: PERMANENT NOTICE FROM THE ARCHBISHOP

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese's policies and procedures at all times.

Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is J. Barr who can be contacted

at sg.stfrancis.kenilworth@rcaob.org.uk or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or at safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concern.

WELCOME TO ALL VISITORS AT OUR CHRISTMAS SEASON MASSES,

WE HOPE THAT YOU ENJOY YOUR STAY IN KENILWORTH

THIS SUNDAY - THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

We celebrate today the Holy Day of Obligation for the **Epiphany of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ transferred to this Sunday.**

As we then see the Magi or Wise Men at the manger we are reminded that people of every race and nation may find their true home and destiny in the presence of the Lord. Please pray for greater harmony and understanding throughout the world, for better race relations and above all, for peace in the Holy Land.

Masses will be at the usual Sunday times for the Solemnity.

The **Feast of the Baptism of the Lord**, will be celebrated on **Monday, 8 January**, at 9.30 am, and will bring the season of Christmas to its conclusion on that evening.

You may have noticed an item on the BBC web-site bemoaning the availability of Easter eggs already in the shops and supermarkets.

Please **do not** buy or eat them yet – it is still Christmastide after all!!

LAST OPPORTUNITY TO GIVE – THIS SUNDAY

Crib donations this year will be again sent to 'Let the Children Live!' to assist Fr Peter Walters in his work with the street children of Medellin, Colombia.

NEXT SUNDAY: PAX CHRISTI

There will be a second collection for this Catholic Charity which promotes peace in the world, on **Sunday 14 January 2024**, which is kept as Peace Sunday.

ANNUAL PRO-LIFE CHARITY COLLECTION

The collection in 2024 will take place at all masses over **Sunday 10 / 11 February**. I commend to you all this collection for such an important work locally based and working nationally.

CWL

CWL starts to meet again on **Tuesday, 9 January at the new time of 2.30pm.**

SVP COMMUNITY WARM HUB

The SVP Warm Hub continues to meet **every Tuesday morning** (10am to 12 noon) in the Parish Centre. Everyone is welcome to come along for the morning, or just drop in for refreshments and enjoy the warm, friendly atmosphere.

THANKS FOR CHRISTMAS 2023

I send thanks on behalf of the whole parish, to all those who were involved in the preparations for and celebration of Christmas.

Once again, I also wish to express my own thanks for the considerable kindness and generosity shown in the Christmas offering and in the personal cards and gifts received. **I am very touched by all your support and goodness.**

Father David also joins me in thanking all parishioners who also showed such generosity to him at Christmas.

LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS THIS YEAR

Ash Wednesday	14	February (Lent begins)
Palm Sunday	24	March (Holy Week begins)
Easter Day	31	March
Ascension Day	9	May (now restored to Thursday)
Pentecost	19	May
Corpus et Sanguis Christi	2	June (still observed on Sunday)

May Our Lord continue richly to bless our liturgical life together during 2024.

OCTAVE OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

We shall begin the octave of prayer for the unity of all Christian people on **Thursday, 18 January.**

All parishioners are invited to a United Service at St John's Church, Warwick Road on Sunday, 21 January at 6.00pm.

The prayer of Jesus: - "Father that they may be one, as we are one" must be in our hearts and minds as we pray for all our baptised sisters and brothers in Christ.

PARISH MEETINGS

The next Parish Finance Committee meeting is on **Monday 22 January 2024 at 7pm.**

The next Parish Pastoral Council meeting is on **Tuesday 23 January 2024 at 7.30pm.**

Both meetings will take place at the Priest's House.

CTKD MEETING

The next Meeting of 'Churches Together' will be at Abbey Hill United Reformed Church on **Thursday, 25 January at 7.30 pm.**

Mass at St Francis' Church will be at 9.30 am that morning.

CONDOLENCES

We all received the sad news of the unexpected death of **Peter Jarvis**, the husband of Jackie and father of Sam, late on Christmas Eve. Peter had received surgery recently, but his health deteriorated dramatically shortly afterwards. We offer our sympathy to Jackie and the family, for whom a second unexpected family death in just over a year is so hard to bear. We assure them of our love and prayers at this time. Funeral details are to follow. May Peter rest in peace.

I have also heard that **Monica Hermolle**, sister of the late Kathleen Hermolle, our former parish organist, died on Christmas Eve. May she rest in peace.

We pray for Leamington Catholic parish, mourning the death of **Father Christopher Greaney**. May he be rewarded for his faithful priestly ministry and rest in peace.

Cathy McKay's brother, **Patrick O'Connor**, and Mike Davies's brother-in-law, **Patric McDonald**, have died recently. May they both rest in peace.

Our dear parishioner, **Anne Waterhouse**, died last Wednesday, Anne, a resident of Ashdene Gardens and a great lover of bridge, died in Walsgrave Hospital. She was so regular at Mass, and a friend of Breda and Tony Stokes and many other parishioners as well. May she rest in peace.

**WITH EVERY BLESSING AND GOOD WISH TO YOU ALL FOR 2024,
FATHER KEVIN.**