



THE PARISH OF OUR LADY & ST. WULSTAN

WOOD STREET, SOUTHAM CV47 1PP

Parish Priest: Fr Arul Samy Deacon: Rev. Terry Hum (Rtd)

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Parish Safeguarding Representative: Angela Scull, Phone: 07847611013

Parish School: St. Mary's Catholic Primary & Nursery School, Daventry Road, Southam CV47 1PS

Tel. No. 01926 812512 Head Teacher: Mr. John Brine

The parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No 234216



18 FEBRUARY 2024 – FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

The Good News of the Covenant

At the beginning of Lent we renew our response to the Covenant, the pact of love that God made with each of us at our Baptism. Imagine what good news it must have been to Noah, alone in a drowned world, when he learned that God's love had not abandoned, nor ever would abandon, the earth and its creation.

Saturday 17	Vigil – First Sunday of Lent
5.30pm	Terry Wood RIP
Sunday 18	First Sunday of Lent
10.00am	Andrew Borg RIP
Monday 19	<i>Lent Feria</i>
9.30am	Betty Williams
Tuesday 20	<i>Lent Feria</i>
	Private Mass
Wednesday 21	<i>Lent Feria</i>
6.00pm	Eucharistic Adoration
7.00pm	Poor Souls in Purgatory
Thursday 22	<i>Feast of the Chair of St. Peter, Apostle.</i>
9.30am	Elizabeth Raffell (Intentions)
Friday 23	<i>Lent Feria</i>
10.30am	Stations of the Cross
11.00am	Mass - Chris Johnson (Intentions)
7.00pm	Vespers (Evening Prayer)
Saturday 24	<i>Lent Feria</i>
	Private Mass
5.30pm	Frank & Julia Vials RIP
Sunday 25	Second Sunday of Lent
10.00am	Montague Pendleton RIP

Eucharistic Adoration: Wednesday 6.00pm – 7.00pm.
Confession: Saturday 4.45pm – 5.25pm
Private Rosary / Quiet Prayer: Sunday - 9.30am – 10.00am
Refreshments: Sundays 11.00am to 11.45am - parish hall.

Pope's Prayer Intention for February - For the terminally ill: We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.

Second Collections in January - March 2024
March 02/02 Cathedral Maintenance
March 29 Holy Places

Lenten Lunches have been organised again! They will be on the following Tuesdays: February 20, 27, March 5, 12 & 19, between 12.00noon and 1.30pm. All proceeds go to Galanos House. Your generous response will be much appreciated.

Celebration of St. Wulstan's Feast takes place on Friday 23rd February. There will be Stations of the Cross at 10.30am and Mass at 11.00am followed by refreshments in the hall (volunteers needed).

At 7.00pm there will be Vespers (Evening Prayer) in our church together with our ecumenical friends, followed by bring & share refreshments in the parish hall. There is a list in the porch for you to contribute. Thank you for your generosity in anticipation.

Walk With Me booklets and calendars are available in our church. A donation of £1.00 per book and 20p for the calendar will be much appreciated.

Sick: Please pray for Janet Pittam, Nora Brown and all those who are unwell currently and those who need our prayers.

Alpha course will be starting at St Joseph's Church, Whitnash on Monday 26th February 2024 at 7.30 - 9.00 pm. This is an excellent introduction to Christianity, also serving to refresh the faith of existing Christians. Food will be provided. All are welcome.

Recently Deceased: Fr. Chris Greaney, Fr. Alexander (Sandy) Brown, Fr. Paul Lomas, Gerry Browne, and Pete Lines. May they rest in peace.

Church Flowers: At Masses on the weekend of 9^h & 10th March there will be a retiring collection for Church Flowers. Some of our silk flowers need replacing and also we have to buy various items to do the arrangements. We would be very grateful for your generous support.

Sanctuary Lamp this week is burning for Katie Hannon RIP. May God grant her eternal rest. We pray for the Hannan family.

Dates to book Sanctuary Lamp are available. The cost is £4 for the week please. Contact Pat Woolston for bookings.

Offertory Collections – 10/11 February 2024

Non-Gift Aided: £129.07 LIFE: £90.28 Refreshments: £17.71

Walk With Me: £ 7.00

Thank you very much for your generosity.

Mass Attendance: Saturday: 35 Sunday 71 Total:106

CAFOD FAMILY FAST: Next weekend there will be a Second Collection for CAFOD Family Fast.

Day of Prayer for Vocations: Our diocesan vocation's office has allotted our deanery the month of March to organise opportunities of special prayers for vocations.

Here in our parish, we shall dedicate the Eucharistic Adoration and Mass on WEDNESDAY 6TH MARCH for this intention. All are welcome and are encouraged to pray for vocations.

Sacristan: I am repeating my request for help with the sacristy work, both on weekdays and weekends. A great deal of planning and preparation go into our liturgical celebrations. This would also involve coming earlier and returning everything back in their places. Anyone generous and willing to help is welcome. – Fr. Arul Samy

Readers: We need more Readers to help at our Masses at weekends and on weekdays. Anyone willing to help, please speak to Fr. Arul

An Appeal for Prayer

I am a member of LIFE and as such I am asking for prayers, not only for LIFE but for all those who are working and promoting respect and protection for life in all stages from conception to its natural end.

A pernicious culture of death is growing in our country. Let me illustrate this by highlighting three areas of grave concern.

A growing campaign to legalise abortion up to birth, with plans to decriminalise abortion whatever the circumstances.

The continued availability to obtain pills through the post which induce abortion at home. This nullifies the precautions put in place by the 1967 Abortion Act, and makes these measures unlawful, as well as taking away protections which were in place for vulnerable women.

Hand in hand with all this is a concerted drive to introduce "Mercy Killing" or so called "Assisted Suicide" by the end of this year.

Prayers are needed – let us pray with confidence. "Never underestimate the power that prayer releases". Thank you. – Val Berridge

Cafod Family Fast Day Friday 23 February 2024: As Lent approaches this year, we are all aware that the cost-of-living crisis weighs heavily on our hearts. I know things are very tough for our church community here in England and Wales. This is a global experience of course - I hear every week from our colleagues and CAFOD's Church partners worldwide about the profound challenges they face in their countries seeing so many grappling with poverty as they strive to provide for their families while prices of essential goods soar.

The cost-of-living crisis presents a dual challenge. Not only does it affect those we serve but it is impacting CAFOD's ability to support people and communities during this critical time. I cannot emphasise enough how important the Family Fast Day appeal is to our work, especially at a time when we see the impact of the cost-of-living crisis on our income. Your endorsement of Fast Day amongst parishes and schools in your diocese over the coming weeks is so needed.... (Christine Allen, the Executive Director of CAFOD)