



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 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



17 MARCH 2024 – FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (FEAST OF ST. PATRICK)

Please gather in prayerful silence. Be encouraged “to speak to God before Mass and to speak to your neighbour after Mass”.

Saturday 16 5.30pm	Vigil – Fifth Sunday of Lent Helena Byrne, George Byrne & Canon Garry Byrne RIP
Sunday 17 10.00am	Fifth Sunday of Lent Tessa Hyland RIP
Monday 18 9.30am	<i>Lent Feria</i> Mass
Tuesday 19	<i>Solemnity of St Joseph, Spouse of the BVM</i> Private Mass
Wednesday 20 6.00pm	<i>Lent Feria</i> Eucharistic Adoration
7.00pm	Sarah-Louise & Niall (Intentions)
Thursday 21 9.30am	<i>Lent Feria (Whole School Mass in Church)</i> Mass
Friday 22 10.30am	<i>Lent Feria</i> <i>Stations of the Cross</i>
11.00am	Lyn & Steve Cope (Intentions)
Saturday 23 5.30pm	<i>Lent Feria.</i> Private Mass Mass
Sunday 24 10.00am	Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord Maria Blanco 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 March – For the new martyrs: We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.

Lenten Lunch on Tuesday March 19, between 12.00noon and 1.30pm. in our parish hall. All are welcome.

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 Mondays at 7.30 - 9.00 pm. All are welcome.

Thank You to all who contributed so generously for the Church flowers last weekend.

EASTER CARDS will be on sale at Piety Stall at rear of the Church after the Weekend Masses. Please come & have a look.

Sanctuary Lamp is burning this week for Gladys & Franck McDonagh Family. May God be with them and bless them.

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

APPEAL FOR SPRING BINGO PRIZES: As the time leading up to Easter will be busy, Easter Bingo is postponed. However, a Spring Bingo will be organized (date to be confirmed) in April.

Hence, by way of preparations, we are appealing for the following prize items: Eggs, chocolates, bottles, plants. Vouchers too are welcome! Your support will be much appreciated. Thank you.

Parish Hall Repair Work: We are very pleased to inform that the builders have completed their work on the hall wall.

It will be very much appreciated if those responsible for events in the hall, could, before leaving the premises, give a thorough check on: doors secured, heating, lights / & taps in the kitchen and the toilets turned off, alarm turned on. Thank you.

Lent 2024 - Penitential Day at St Peter's: On Friday 22nd March, between 11.00am and 6.00pm, priests from this part of our deanery

will be hearing Confessions. Parishioners are reminded and encouraged, by way of our spiritual preparation, to celebrate this sacrament of God's mercy and forgiveness.

Offertory collections at Mass: From now on, the church wardens / offertory collectors will pass the collection bag to those seated in the front (bench) first. Please pass the bags around from the front to the back of the church, where the wardens would do the needful.

Wardens: We need help in collecting the offerings at Mass. Volunteers are welcome.

Day of Recollection scheduled for Saturday 23rd March has been postponed to **Saturday 27th April** 9.30am - 12.00noon at the Olde Retreat House. Understandably, the renewal of Commitment will now take place on Corpus Christi (2nd June).

Extraordinary Ministers of the Holy Eucharist are expected to do this as part of their commitment. Please book you places with Sr. Sharon.

Offertory Collections – 24/25 February 2024

Non-Gift Aided: £104.17 Candles £15.00 Refreshments: £7.18

Flowers: £ 147.10 Lenten Lunch: £102.00

Thank you very much for your generosity.

Mass Attendance: Saturday: 30 Sunday 52 Total:82

Logo - Jubilee 2025: The Logo shows four stylized figures to indicate all of humanity from the four corners of the earth. They are each embracing another, indicating the solidarity and brotherhood that must unite peoples. It should be noted that the first figure is clinging to the cross. The underlying waves are choppy to indicate that the pilgrimage of life is not always on calm waters. Oftentimes personal circumstances and world events call for a greater sense of hope. This is why the lower part of the Cross is elongated turning into an anchor, which dominates the movement of the waves. As is well known, the anchor has often been used as a metaphor for hope. In fact, in maritime jargon, the hope anchor is the name given to the spare anchor, used by vessels for emergency manoeuvres to stabilize the ship during storms. It should be noted that the image shows how the pilgrim's journey is not individual, but rather communal, with the signs of a growing dynamism that moves more and more toward the Cross. The Cross is by no means static, but it, too, is dynamic, bending toward and meeting humanity as if not to leave it alone, but rather offering the certainty of its presence and the reassurance of hope. Finally, the Jubilee 2025 Motto, *Pilgrims of Hope* is clearly visible in the colour green.



Passiontide: The last two weeks in the season of Lent are called Passiontide which begins on the Fifth Sunday of Lent. This is when the Church shifts her focus from Christ in the desert (the Gospel for the First Sunday of Lent) to Christ during His Passion.

During Passiontide, the crucifix and other statues and images around the church are veiled with a purple cloth.

In the *Roman Missal* we find the instruction: The practice of covering crosses and images throughout the church from this Sunday may be observed, (if the Conference of Bishops so decides). Crosses remain covered until the end of the Celebration of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday, but images remain covered until the beginning of the Easter Vigil.

This practice alerts us that something is different, it can be startling at first, but the last two weeks of Lent are a time of immediate preparation for the celebration of the Sacred Triduum. Hence the use of veils:

- Alert us of the special time that we are in.
- Help focus our attention on the words being said at Mass.
- Create a heightened sense of anticipation for Easter Sunday.