

St Peter's & Our Lady's: Part of Catholic Leamington

Solemnity of Pentecost Year C: Sunday 8th June 2025: Holy Year



SCAN TO DONATE
THANK YOU!

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr Stephen Day 3a Dormer Place, Leamington Spa, CV32 5AA **Tel:** 01926 423 824.
Office: stpeterapostle.leamington@rcaob.org.uk **Parish Priest:** fr.stephen.day@rcaob.org.uk
Website: catholicleamington.org.uk **Facebook** RCatholicLeamington and ourladystillington

Working with: St Joseph's, 47 Murcott Road, Whitnash CV31 2JJ **Parish Priest:** The Very Rev Canon David Hartley VF
Tel: 01926 772712 **Office:** stjoseph.whitnash@rcaob.org.uk **Parish Priest:** fr.david.hartley@rcaob.org.uk
Website: stjoseph47.org.uk **Facebook:** stjosephswhitnash **Sunday Masses** 10am and 5.30pm

DAY	AT ST PETER'S	AT OUR LADY'S	INTENTION
SUNDAY 8th SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST	Confession 4.15-4.45pm 5pm: Vigil Mass	~	Intentions of the McVeigh Family
		9.15am Sung Mass	Holy Souls
	11.15am Sung Mass		People of the Parish
Monday 9th <i>Mem. of Mary, Mother of the Church</i>	~	~	9:30am Mass at St. Joseph's, Whitnash.
Tuesday 10th <i>Feria</i>	6.00pm Mass	~	Jay Powell RIP
Wednesday 11th <i>Mem. of St. Barnabas, Ap.</i>	~	10am Mass	Thanksgiving for Annabel
Thursday 12th Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest	1pm Funeral Mass	~	<i>Requiem: Mary Behan RIP</i>
Friday 13th <i>Mem. of St. Anthony of Padua, Pr., Dr. of the Church</i>	9.30am Mass at St Ant's Sch Noon Mass 3pm Divine Mercy Devs	~	The School Jarlath Perera RIP
Saturday 14th <i>Opt. Mem. of Our Lady on Saturday</i>	9am Holy Hour 9.15-45am Confessions 10am Mass Confession 4.15-4.45pm 5pm: Vigil Mass	~	Holy Souls Esteban & Trinidad Capua; Ulysses & Adelaida Capua
SUNDAY 15th SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY	11.15am Sung Mass	9.15am Sung Mass	Stan Godwin RIP David Hannan RIP; Richard Power RIP

COME HOLY SPIRIT! ENKINDLE IN US THE FIRE OF YOUR LOVE!

SAFEGUARDING The Parishes operate in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies and procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are: **Our Lady's** Claire Walsh sg.ccolc.lillington@rcaob.org.uk ; **St Peter's** Theresa Goh or Susan Chan email sg.stpeterapostle.leamington@rcaob.org.uk **These emails are for safeguarding matters only**

Anniversaries of the faithful departed: Joseph Hegarty, Robert Harkin, Mary Crawford, Leon Chalaczkiewicz, Charles Dobbin, Denis Murray, Vera Maguire, Denis Fitzmaurice, William Egan, Bridget Mahony, Michael Dowling, Jeremy Moore, Lee Neale, Bp. Dey, Mgr. Bernard Robinson, Fr. Peter Gallagher, Fr. John McIver, Fr. John Lane, Fr. Timothy Cronin, Fr. William Quinn, Fr. Gerard McArdle, Fr. Cyril Adams, Fr. Joseph Lanny. **The recently deceased:** Dcn. Tony Hewitt, Fred Pauling, Margaret Dewar, Jay Powell, Lourdes Samper, Fr. John Baggley, Patrick Gregory, Malcolm Sheridan, Mary Behan, Dcn. Tony Rigby, and Edward O'Rourke. **Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.**



SCAN TO SEE THE
MASS READINGS

TEA & COFFEE

After Sunday
Morning Masses in the
church halls
All Welcome!



Online news [here](#)

MORE SERVERS ALWAYS WELCOME

Young or old—see Fr Stephen, or Bob at St Peter's, or Adrian at Our Lady's

FACE BOOK PAGES

CATHOLIC LEAMINGTON is [here](#)
OUR LADY'S is [here](#)
 Links from website too



JUNE IS THE MONTH OF THE SACRED HEART

'Christ's heart invites us to return to the Father's love, which is the source of every authentic love'. Pope Francis 2024 in Dilexit Nos



WELCOME TO MASS, as we celebrate the triumph of Jesus, risen from the dead being completed in the outpouring of the Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Like the Resurrection and the Ascension of Jesus, the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost means that nothing will be the same again. Not only has God in Jesus shown His love by dying for us, shown us eternal life by rising again and offered us a place in heaven by going back there Himself in His human flesh at the Ascension, but today He does even more. He pours out the gifts of the Spirit on his Church so that it has the power and abilities it needs to make Him known to all the world, to know and love him and to serve the needs of all mankind. The Spirit breaks down barriers—whether that is the confusion of language, the distance between sinful humans and perfect God, our own reluctance to witness to the Gospel, or the barriers put up by much else besides. God has called us, marked us and equipped us with the Holy Spirit. All the baptised are dwelling places of the Holy Spirit and all confirmed have received a special outpouring of His gifts. Now we have to respond! **God bless us all this Eastertide. Fr Stephen**

HOLY COMMUNION: If you are *not* a Roman Catholic, a member of a church in full communion with it, or an Orthodox unable to attend an Orthodox Liturgy, you are *warmly invited to come forward for a blessing* at the time of Holy Communion. Holy Communion cannot be given to all, as it is for us the sign of **unity in the faith**. Communion is *not* bread and wine, but the **Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of God the Son**. Let us **pray for unity among all Christians**, as God wills. **Blessed be Jesus in the most Holy Sacrament of the Altar!**

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: At both parishes—Thank you to *all* involved!

HOLY ROSARY DEVOTION: On **Sundays at 10:45am at St Peter's Church** an offering of the Rosary for discerning the renewed future of the parish.

PENTECOST PARTY: This **Sunday 8 June 1pm** to welcome those who were received into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil and to celebrate the birthday of the Church, there is a shared lunch from **1pm in St. Peter's hall**. *All parishioners are invited*. Please bring a plate of food for the shared table, savoury or sweet, if possible representing your country of origin. Details: Gareth on rcia.cathleam@gmail.com or **07539 502436**

FOLLOWING THE AGM—WHAT DO WE THINK, WHAT CAN WE DO?

This weekend there will be available in both churches three flipcharts, loads of post its and pens. Please take a post it and answer the question 'What do I value most about this parish?'. Let's start seeing the glass half full and rejoice in the good. Take another to give us your fundraising ideas. And take a third to state what skill you can offer to the parish (this is the card offered at the AGM so if you filled out one of those, you don't need to use a post it). Let the Holy Spirit inspire us!

WAPPENBURY WALK & JUBILEE: see posters in the porch

COME & PLAY: **Tues 9:30—11am** in SP Hall. We welcome parents and children, no charge. Contact Clare Burdett—07720 887 002.

PASTIMES COMMUNITY HUB: **Tuesdays 12-3pm**. A warm welcome awaits you at this lively weekly gathering in St. Peter's Hall.

STUDY & REFLECTION ON MASS READINGS: Every Friday from 11-12 Davenport Room in SP hall. *All welcome*.

DIVINE MERCY DEVOTIONS: **Fridays 3pm St Peter's**. At the hour of mercy come to implore mercy for the world and praise God!

MASS FOR THE SICK: Thank you for all who supported this, especially SVP volunteers. Pray always for the sick.

YOUTH JUBILEE DAY AT ST CHADS, BIRMINGHAM Saturday 5 July - includes games, workshops, a tour and gives young people from across the Diocese the opportunity to come together and celebrate the great joy of being Pilgrims of Hope! A group will be attending from St Peter's/Our Lady's. More info contact Paul Milton – paulmilton04@gmail.com

ORDINATION TO THE DIACONATE: **Paul Milton** will be ordained on **13 July at 3pm**. Please pray for him and please be at the Cathedral. **A coach has been booked** from St Peter's to the Cathedral. The fare will

be £14. Please sign up on the sheet.

OUR LADY'S HERITAGE OPEN DAY: afternoon of **14 Sept 2025**.

LEAMINGTON HERITAGE OPEN DAY: **13 Sept** from 11am—4pm.

Volunteers have come forward for St Peter's—**thank you!**

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP: Gabriel and Freya from St Peter's are now running the young adults group (18-30). Please contact Gabriel on 07778 184 345 for more information and the next meeting.

PARISH AGM—GENERAL MEETING OF THE JOINT PASTORAL COUNCIL:

Thank you to all who came to the meeting and to those who spoke. It's good to talk! The pastoral Council meets soon to reflect on all that was said to suggest ways forward.

CONGRATULATIONS TO CANON HARTLEY: On Tuesday at St Chad's Cathedral, Fr David Hartley of St Joseph's Whitnash, and Dean of Banbury & Warwick Deanery, was installed as a canon of St Chad's Cathedral.

OUR LADY'S OUTDOOR SHRINE at St Peter's has been restored after the vandalism of March, thanks to Freya. Pray for us O Holy Mother of God!

COULD YOU BE A SERVER? COULD YOUR SON OR DAUGHTER?: **Thank you** to our servers at both churches. **We'd love more!** See Bob at St Peter's or Adrian at Our Lady's.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION: SP 1st: £335.38, 2nd (Church Maintenance): £214.38; OL 1st: £492.31, 2nd (Church Roof Repairs): £325.98. The second collection at both Churches is for the **DAY FOR LIFE**. **Thank you**.

7 DAY CANDLES: If you would like a candle lit for your intentions or for a friend or relative, there are envelopes at back of church. Please post in the collection at Mass along with the donation of £10. **Thank you**.

NEW VESTMENTS: The imminent arrival of a deacon means the need of new vestments for Mass including deacon's dalmatics. A couple of sizeable donations have been given, for which we are grateful. If you would like to contribute please speak to Fr Stephen. They can of course be dedicated in memory of departed loved ones.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS' FOUNDATION GOVERNORS: Could You Help Support Catholic Education? Our Lady of the Magnificat Multi Academy invites practising Catholics to consider becoming school governors within its schools. No experience in education needed; just a willingness to contribute your time and insight. For more, visit www.magnificat.org.uk/join-us/become-a-governor or email governor@magnificat.org.uk

ARRANGING A WEDDING

Congratulations on your engagement! To arrange a wedding, a meeting with Fr Stephen is vital so that the canonical and civil processes can be followed. At least six months' notice is needed.

ARRANGING A BAPTISM

Congratulations on the birth of your baby! First, parents must begin the process by seeing Fr Stephen *in person* at a Sunday Mass. He can then check a few facts and give out a baptism application form. **We do not deal with initial arrangements by phone, email or through friends or other members of the family, but face to face**. Parents need to attend a preparation session before the baptism can take place.



COME HOLY SPIRIT!

Give us Your Gifts! Give us Your Power! Give us Your guidance! As you were given to Our Lady and the Apostles, make us fit for your service!

Our prayers for the Sick: Bill, Giovanni Allurlino, Marie Clare Banner, Edward Behan, Sarah Bonnalie, Pam Brambles, Silvia Brookes, Lee Burbury, Norman Byrne, Mario Fasi, Wilfrid Feely, Sheila Freeman, Barbara Gekoski, Joe Graham, Eileen Hiorns, Mist Johnson, David Kendall, John Kiernan, Peter McCarthy, Alfreda McHale, Una Maddocks, Nathaniel Manning, Deborah Meades, Kate Miles, Fina Monastero, Michael Mulcahy, Andrew Murray, Paula Newton, Marcella Nicholls, Gill Parker, Jane Parker, Fr. Tony Rohan, John Sawyer, Gilly Schweigert, Nell Smyth, Christine Tam, Terena Tam, Terry Tam, Elizabeth Weston, Uta Winter, Peter Wright, & all those at home, or in the nursing homes, & hospitals of the Parish, who receive Holy Communion at home.

Lord Jesus, watch over all who suffer and are in pain. Bless all those who care for them.

THE PARISHES' FIRST AGM

The meeting and what next? Some personal reflections by Fr Stephen

First, a **huge thank you** to everyone who came to the parishes' first AGM. There were roughly 100 people, about a fifth of the total who pass through our two churches each weekend. Not bad at all. Thanks are due to council and committee members. Second, **thanks to all who spoke**: that's what the meeting was for, so that ideas might be heard. And ideas there were.

Already the Pastoral Council is preparing to address issues raised at its next meeting in a couple of weeks or so, and these will be shared as usual.

Minutes of the AGM will be available in due course—this is simply my thoughts as one who was there and parish priest.

We began with prayers to the Holy Spirit and our patron saints, and introductions from Pastoral Council members and its chair, Martin Foley.

A month or so ago, the Council had been asked at short notice by the diocese to produce a vision statement for each parish

These are not set in stone! They were presented and may be seen on the Catholic Leamington website (Pastoral Council page). Comments welcome.

Parish accounts were presented. **At Our Lady's** there is the challenge of mending the church roof which if not done will eventually make the building unusable. The hall and access deserve attention too.

At St Peter's, we are running at a deficit and have three buildings that are all expensive to maintain and have pending expensive maintenance needs. The fact is that we can't do this forever as we are now: the money will run out.

The following discussion was largely taken up by St Peter's Hall and the Finance Committee's decision that it should close at the end of the year. That was understandable. **No one** in the room (and probably the entire parish) wanted the hall to shut: the Finance Committee and Pastoral Council had discussed the issue on and off for a while, with heavy hearts. However the accounts for the hall might be presented, the parish itself does not have the money to pay for all our buildings indefinitely. (This has been explained many times and is graphically illustrated by the condition of the church's interior). A very promising idea that came up was to run the hall on the lines of 'Heart of Warwick'. In other words, to create a charity specifically to take on the running and finances of the hall and using the practical skills of parishioners for maintenance and cleaning as far as possible. This is already actively being pursued and that's great: a positive result of the AGM. There were also suggestions of fundraising.

Other issues spoken about included: the great work of Pastimes; the importance of co-responsibility; the need to involve young people and people from different ethnic backgrounds; the serious threat to Our Lady's future that the roof problems pose; the need for Our Lady's to demonstrate strong viability before permission would be given to spend large sums on the building; the diocesan system of accounting compared to other systems; the improved flow of information from the parish priest; the

need for all to be involved; the need to remember that we can have only what we can afford; whether having a hall in the old 'Pergola' restaurant be a possibility.

Finally, cards were distributed on which parishioners could give details of how they were prepared to help the parishes.

I concluded by saying that the meeting had gladdened my heart—people were speaking and listening and generating ideas, exactly what's needed as we go forward. I am glad to be the parish priest of St Peter's and of Our Lady's and **together** we can reach a sustainable future, loving God and our neighbour, without problems over finance and buildings. What a blessing.

Next steps..?

Please keep yourselves informed—read the AGM paperwork available in church and on the website; look at occasional information on the news sheet; make use of the shared information. I have already heard inaccurate stories of how information is shared, how decisions will be made, and false tales about sales of property and about its disposal. The parish **is not being kept in the dark!** If it hasn't been announced, it isn't happening.

Ask Questions, make suggestions Please do so—in person or by email to me, or equally, please speak to Martin Foley, chair of the pastoral Council, or email him using this address: martinfoley73@gmail.com

Nothing has been decided about the future of our buildings—if you hear that it has, that will be untrue. Decisions about reaching sustainability are for us all! Currently, new options for the hall are being looked at for our consideration. Remember, the **hall is open** for at least **seven months** allowing a proven solution to be found and agreed, but **the presbytery and church at SP need solutions too, as well OL church and hall.**

Sharing is happening and is encouraged—everything in the AGM agenda had been mulled over by the Finance Committee, the Pastoral Council or both! And now by parishioners too.

Decisions are not made by the parish priest acting alone. That's what openness, a finance committee, the AGM, and a Pastoral Council are about—consultation and co-responsibility.

This weekend, after all Masses, it will be possible for everyone to express themselves. There will be three flipcharts, stacks of sticky notes and pens in both churches. Take a note and write on it what you value most about your parish (St Peter's or Our Lady's), take another and write what skills and talents you could bring to help the parish (if you filled in a card at the AGM, you've already done this), and a final note to make any suggestions about fundraising. Quick, easy and open to all. Let's celebrate what we value here and, as Martin said at the meeting, we see our glass half full, not half empty.

Again, thank you to all parishioners whose presence, giving, and effort support our two churches. **Thank you** for tolerating me for nearly three years.

God bless you all. Our Lady and St Peter pray for us.
Fr Stephen