



ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PARISH BREWOOD

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Parish Priest Fr Tomas Zuna	Permanent Deacon Rev Mr Stephen Gee Tel. 07514183389	Parish Secretary Teresa Blunn	Safeguarding Please contact the Diocesan Safeguarding Team: safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk
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2 nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME			
Saturday 20 th January	4.30 – 4.45pm 5.00pm	Confessions Sunday Vigil Mass	Maggie Morris (months mind)
Sunday 21 st January	9.00am	Sunday Mass (in Penkridge)	David Bold RIP
	11.00am	Sunday Mass	People of the parish
	4.00pm	Ecumenical Service	
Monday 22nd St Vincent	9.00am	Holy Mass	Chris & Anne-Marie Fewtrell
Tuesday 23rd St Nicholas Owen	9.00am	Holy Mass	James & Jo Askey
Wednesday 24th St Francis de Sales		No Mass	
Thursday 25th Conversion of St Paul	5.00pm	<u>Adoration and</u> <u>Benediction</u>	Irene Jones RIP
	6.00pm	Holy Mass	
Friday 26th Sts Timothy & Titus	9.15am	Holy Mass (with Primary School)	Paddy Conway RIP

3 rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME			
Saturday 27 th January	4.30 – 4.45pm 5.00pm	Confessions Sunday Vigil Mass	People of the parish
Sunday 28 th January	9.00am	Sunday Mass (in Penkridge)	Kenneth Clafferey RIP
	11.00am	Sunday Mass	Roy Fletcher RIP

Please join us for refreshments in the Hall after the 11am Sunday Mass

The Sacrament of Confession is celebrated every Saturday 4.30-4.45pm or after each weekday Mass or by appointment.

Sunday of the Word of God – This Third Sunday of Ordinary Time is also called 'Sunday of the Word of God' - a day, instituted by Pope Francis on the Feast of Saint Jerome in 2019 and devoted to the celebration and study of Sacred Scripture. For us today is a good opportunity to reflect on the importance of Scripture in our own prayer life. Some of you might have also heard that a new translation of the Lectionary, the book that contains all the readings for the celebration of Mass and other Sacraments, will come into use from next Advent. The new Lectionary will use the 'English Standard Version (Catholic Edition)'. This will give us an opportunity to hear that word with fresh ears as we engage with texts which are intended for public proclamation and reflect up to date biblical scholarship.

Readers at Mass – I would like to thank our team of parish readers. It's important to remember that what you are doing is not mere 'reading' – you are proclaiming God's Word, which requires dedication and preparation. I would like to encourage additional parishioners to consider enriching our celebration of Mass with this important ministry. If you're interested please speak to Fr Tomas.

Stewards – Stewarding is an important ministry by making sure parishioners – but especially visitors – feel welcome when attending Mass. As we are running low on number of stewards, I would like to encourage new volunteers. Please speak to Fr Tomas or Margaret Parry if you're interested.

Second Collection next Weekend will be for Lepra, a charity that aims to support people affected by leprosy through prevention, diagnosis, disability aids and mental health support.

Deanery Month of Prayer for Vocations – In February our Deanery will be hosting a series of vocation events "**Listening to God's Call**". There will be 3 online sessions on Tuesday evenings at 7pm: 20th Feb: Consecrated Life, 27th Feb: Marriage & Single Life, 5th March: Priesthood & Diaconate. Everyone is welcome to join the sessions. The Zoom link is: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88033199202?pwd=Bkfm1pGm2iXaYczxemTzmzdH7lJSld.1> (Meeting ID: 880 3319 9202, Passcode: 218505). **There will also be two special Masses for Vocations**, after which there will be an opportunity to meet some of the speakers: Wednesday 7th February at 2pm at St Michael's, Coalway Road, Wolverhampton, Thursday 22nd February at 5pm at St Joseph's, Willenhall Road, Wolverhampton. For more information, please contact: deanery.dw.vocations@rcaob.org.uk

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begun on Thursday and concludes this Thursday with the Feast of the Conversion of St Paul. As part of it we are invited to pray in a special way for the unity of the Church. It is also a time to give thanks for the unity that already exists and to pray that Christians may find new ways of working together despite their differences. This year we are hosting an 'Ecumenical Christian Unity' which will take place at St Mary's this Sunday 21st January at 4pm. We are also providing the refreshment in our hall afterwards so I would be grateful for some volunteers. Please speak to Fr Tomas.

Feast of the Presentation of the Lord – This feast, also called Candlemas, is celebrated on 2nd February. Although our Christmas festivities are officially over, the crib still remains in our church until Candlemas because of the feast's connection to the Christmas season. Please put the day in your diaries. There will be a sung Mass that evening at 6pm celebrated by candlelight with the traditional blessing of candles.

House Blessings – Speaking of which, if you've moved recently or if you haven't had your home blessed, feel free to ask Fr Tomas and he will be happy to come over and bless it any point though out the year.

Recently Deceased – Please pray for the repose of the souls of Colette Hughes and Gerry Kierans and also for their families. Colette's Funeral will be celebrated on 9th February at 12noon. Gerry's Funeral will be celebrated on 12th February at 12.30pm.

Crib Collection – This year's crib collection will be in support of Friends of the Holy Land which help the most deprived Christian families, especially those living around Bethlehem, in Gaza, Israel and Jordan.

SVP Meeting – Next meeting will be on Thursday 1st February at 7pm in the parish hall.

OTHER PARISH ITEMS

Interested in being Catholic? – If you are thinking of becoming a Catholic or know of someone who is please speak to Fr Tomas. We would be glad to accompany you on your journey of faith.

If you are going into hospital, please contact Fr Tomas in order to receive the sacrament of the Sick before you go. When you are admitted to the hospital, you will have to explicitly ask for the catholic chaplain to be informed you are there.

If you know of a parishioner with a serious/long-term illness or who is dying, please let Fr Tomas know so that he can get in touch and arrange a visit.

Food Bank – There is a basket at the back of the church where you can leave non-perishable items that will then be given to The Well, our local Food Bank.

Parish Finances – A big thank you to everyone for supporting your parish financially by your generous contributions. Just to remind you, there are three options of giving – Direct Debit, Planned Giving envelopes and Sunday Collections. Out of these Direct Debit is the easiest and the best option for the parish. If you're a taxpayer please also consider signing up to the **Gift Aid** scheme. Gift Aiding your contributions makes a huge difference to parish income at no extra expense to you. Every £1 you contribute to the parish enables us to claim of 25p back. This makes an incredible difference. Please take the information handout at the back from the archdiocese for more information.

COLLECTION		
<u>Weekend of 14th January 2024</u>		
Loose:	Brewood	Penkrige
	£119.49	£36.90
Gift Aid	£63.00	
TOTAL: £219.39		
The total Gift Aid Standing Orders for December was £1127.51		
(average weekly total (£281.87))		

Please pray for the recently deceased, especially Maggie Morris, Collette Hughes, Gerry Kierans, Fr Sandy Brown, Fr Paul Lomas and Fr Christopher Greaney.

Please pray for the sick, especially Delia Sheehan, Clive Baker, Jean Ellson, Susan McLuckie, Mary Stokes, Frank Birch, Deacon Stephen Gee, Philip & Christine Elson, Bill Baker and Bernard Boyes.

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies & procedures at all times. Please contact the Diocesan Safeguarding team on 0121 230 6240 or safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concern.