



ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PARISH BREWOOD

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Parish Priest Fr Tomas Zuna	Permanent Deacon Rev Stephen Gee Tel. 07923127398	Parish Secretary Teresa Blunn	Safeguarding Jan Fergusson sg.stmary.brewood@rcaob.org.uk
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FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD (CANDLEMASS)

Saturday 1 st February	4.30 – 4.45pm 5.00pm	Confessions Sunday Vigil Mass	James Wilcox SI
Sunday 2 nd February	9.00am 11.00am	Sunday Mass (in Penkridge) Sunday Mass	People of the parish Sean Gaffney RIP
Monday 3rd St Blaise	9.00am	Holy Mass (with throat blessing)	Sally Fitzgerald RIP
Tuesday 4th Feria	9.00am	Holy Mass	Denis Horgan SI
Wednesday 5th St Agatha		No Mass	
Thursday 6th St Paul Miki and Co	5.00pm 6.00pm	<u>Adoration and Benediction</u> Holy Mass (Latin)	Shannon Kileen SI
Friday 7th Feria	9.15am	Holy Mass (with Primary School)	Bishop Williams RIP

5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 8 th February	4.30 – 4.45pm 5.00pm	Confessions Sunday Vigil Mass	People of the parish
Sunday 9 th February	9.00am 11.00am	Sunday Mass (in Penkridge) Sunday Mass	Frank Birch Anne Beckett RIP

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

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

THE FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

The Feast of the Presentation is celebrated forty days after Christmas day to commemorate the moment when, in accord with the Law of Moses, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to the temple, forty days after his birth, to present him to God as their first-born son. Until the 20th century this feast was known as the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary as both events would have occurred on the same day.

The old English word for this feast is Candlemas because of the custom of blessing and lighting of candles, a symbol of Christ, the true Light of the world who came to illumine our lives.

The Gospel of Luke speaks of the encounter that Simeon and Anna had with the infant Jesus, whom they have revealed as the long-awaited Messiah, the "light to the nations" and the "glory of Israel". The sword of sorrow predicted for Mary also pointed towards Christ's sacrifice on the cross as the salvation God had "prepared in the presence of all peoples.

At the 5pm and 11am Mass in Brewood the Mass will begin at the back of the church with the blessing of Candles. During the procession to the altar please join in chanting this traditional Latin chant after each verse of the antiphon. These are the words of Simeon and they translate to in English as: 'A light of revelation to the gentiles and the glory of your people Israel'.

Ant.
8 G.

Lumen * ad reve-la-ti-ónem génti-um, et gló-ri-am
ple-bis tu-æ Isra-el.

Feast of St Blaise (3rd Feb) – St Blaise was a 3rd century bishop and martyr in present day Armenia. Many miracles have been attributed to him, including numerous healings. One story tells of a miraculous curing of a little boy who nearly died because of a fishbone in his throat. After his martyrdom St Blaise became invoked on behalf of the sick, especially those afflicted with illnesses of the throat. A special blessing of throats with the candles blessed at Candlemas is traditionally imparted on his feast. This will be done at the end of the Mass this Monday.

Deacon Stephen's Thanksgiving Celebration – Mass of Thanksgiving will be on Friday 14th February at 6.30pm followed by a celebration in the

Hall. It would be great to have as many people as possible to make the Mass.

Deanery Vocations Month – The Month of February is, for our parish and the rest of our deanery, a month dedicated to praying for Vocations, especially to the Priesthood and Consecrated Life.

As a parish we will pray for this intention on Thursday 13th February. The 5pm Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament will be offered for this intention and so will be the Mass at 6pm. If you can attend please do come along! On February 28th at 7pm there will be a Prayer Vigil for Vocation at SS Mary & John, Wolverhampton. More information to follow.

SVP Winter Clothing Appeal – The SVP would like to say a big thank you to those who helped in their appeal for winter clothing for Asylum seeker families. They were delighted with the number of donations that came in from a number of our Catholic parishes; St Mary's Brewwood, St Christopher and St Thomas of Canterbury, Codsall and Tettenhall, St Anthony's, Bushbury and Blessed Carlo Acutis, Wolverhampton. It has been brilliant. At this time there is no further need for anymore clothing.

Parish Readers – I would like to thank you for your ministry of proclaiming the word of God. The new translation of the lectionary presents us with a good opportunity to think about how each one of us carries out this liturgical ministry. For this purpose I have updated our parish guidelines from 2022 in order to make sure we're all on the same page. They are available at the back. Please take them home and carefully study them.

First Holy Communion and Confirmation for Children – This year these two Sacraments of Initiation will be celebrated on the following dates:

First Holy Communion: Saturday 5th July at 5pm
Confirmation: Thursday 19th June at 7pm

If you would like your child to receive either of these Sacraments (irrespective of whether he/she attends a catholic school) please speak to Fr Tomas and come to the meeting on Tuesday 11th February at 5pm at St Mary's Primary School.

OTHER PARISH NEWS

Lourdes Pilgrimage – Booking now open for this year's Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage from 24th – 30th May 2025. If you would like to go but are in need of assistance, please contact to discuss assistance requirements: 0121 230 6288 / admin.lourdes@rcaob.org.uk. We're also keen to hear from doctors,

nurses and carers eager to volunteer their time and experience. For more information go to: www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/lourdes-pilgrimage.

PLEASE NOTE

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.

Please also pray for the sick, especially Tom Rochford, Philip Harding, Jean Ellson, Susan McLuckie, Mary Stokes, Frank Birch, Rev Stephen Gee, Philip & Christine Elson, Bill Baker and Bernard Boyes.

COLLECTIONS

	Weekend of 26th January 2025	
Loose:	Brewood:	Penkridge
	£80.06	£28.05
Gift Aid:		£98.00
	TOTAL: £206.11	

**The total Gift Aid Standing Orders for December was £1,242.50
(average weekly total £248.50)**

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Jan Fergusson. She can be contacted at sg.stmary.brewood@rcaob.org.uk or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concern.