



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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5 th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME			
Saturday 3 rd February	4.30 – 4.45pm 5.00pm	Confessions Sunday Vigil Mass	Jim Hughes RIP
Sunday 4 th February	9.00am 11.00am	Sunday Mass (in Penkridge) Sunday Mass	Tom & Jean Szewczyk RIP People of the parish
Monday 5th St Agatha	9.00am	Holy Mass	Maggie Morris RIP
Tuesday 6th Sts Paul Miki & co	9.00am	Holy Mass	O'Keefe & Gallagher families
Wednesday 7th Feria		No Mass	
Thursday 8th St Josephine Bakhita	5.00pm	<u>Adoration and</u> <u>Benediction</u>	Dolly Bradley
	6.00pm	Holy Mass	
Friday 9th Feria	9.15am	Holy Mass (with Primary School)	Pat & Harry Wrennalls RIP
	12noon	Requiem Mass for Colette Hughes	

6 th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME			
Saturday 10 th February	4.30 – 4.45pm 5.00pm	Confessions Sunday Vigil Mass	Mary Pritchard RIP
Sunday 11 th February	9.00am	Sunday Mass (in Penkridge)	Mary & Tommy Rochford RIP
	11.00am	Sunday Mass	People of the parish

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.

MONTH OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

In February each parish of our deanery has been asked to help promote and to pray for more vocations in the Church. Living in a secular culture like ours it's easy to forget the fact that each person has a unique God-given role to play in the world in which he or she is born. It's very easy to go along with the flow merely asking 'what do I want' without asking 'what does God want'. As parents or grandparents, it's important that we instil this in our children and, if we are young, it's important that we ask it ourselves.

Whilst each of us will have our own particular calling, the main overarching vocations of any Christian are **Marriage, Religious Life** and **Priesthood or Diaconate**. Out of all these we might say that there is no shortage of vocations to marriage. However, in reality, marriage is often seen as 'what most people do by default' rather than a God-given vocation (and even a Sacrament). Likewise, over the last several decades, there has been a steady decline in vocations to Religious Life and Ordained Ministry as these are often seen as 'counter-cultural' and most do not even contemplate the possibility that God might be calling them in such a way.

As Catholics we are asked to pray for more vocations in the Church as well as for young people who are in the process of discerning their vocation. There is of course a particular focus on the vocation to the Priesthood, Diaconate and to Religious Life as it is through the missionary or contemplative work of the religious and is through our Priests and Deacons, as ministers of God's Word and the Sacraments, that God continues to work in a special way in the world of today.

In this month of February I will be going to our school to speak to the children about vocations and I am asking parishioners to offer special prayers each day for this intention. After each Sunday Mass this month we will also pray our **diocesan prayer for vocations**. Likewise you are most welcome to join the **WhatsApp Prayer Group for Vocations** which our Deanery Vocations Group have set up with the aim of forming a 'prayer bank' for Vocations. This was started with a target of 1000 Hail Marys collectively, which has already been achieved. If interested please email: deanery.dw.vocations@rcaob.org.uk with your name and number (please note you must be 18 or over for safeguarding purposes).

Finally our deanery will be hosting a series of online vocation events **"Listening to God's Call"** 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=Bkfm1pgM2iXaYczxemTzmzdH7IJSld.1> (Meeting ID: 880 3319 9202, Passcode: 218505). **There will also be two special Masses for Vocations:** Wednesday 7th February at 2pm at St Michael's, Coalway Rd, Wolverhampton and Thursday 22nd February at 5pm at St Joseph's, Willenhall Rd, Wolverhampton.

Diocesan Prayer for Vocations

Heavenly Father,
we ask you to send labourers
into your harvest.
Inspire, in the hearts of your people,
vocations to the priesthood, diaconate
and religious life.

Bless our families with a spirit of generosity,
so that those whom you call
have the courage to give themselves
to your Church in faith.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Stewards – We are looking for more stewards especially at the 11am Mass. Please speak to Fr Tomas or Margaret Parry if you're interested.

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.

New Vestments – Just after Christmas the parish purchased two new sets of Mass vestments as we didn't have a decent set in red (used for certain Sundays of the year and feast of martyrs) and the one in green (used for Ordinary Time) was in a very poor condition so that even dry cleaners couldn't help. Consequently the vestments used were mostly my own. The two sets were purchased on an offer for £650 each. Any contributions towards their cost will be most welcome.

Sacramental Preparation for Children in non-Catholic Schools – If your children are not in Catholic schools, or, for whatever reason, have missed the their First Holy, please speak to Fr Tomas.

SEASON OF LENT

Ash Wednesday, this year celebrated next week on **14th February**, marks the beginning of Lent, the season of preparation for the annual commemoration of the Lord's suffering, death and resurrection at the end of March. Lent is a spring time in the Church, inviting us to become ever dependant on the life of faith which we have received in Baptism and which is nourished by the sacraments and lived out by our acts of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. **The Walk with Me Booklets** are now available at the back of the church. As always, they are free but please feel free to

leave a donation. **Stations of the Cross** will be prayed every Friday of Lent at 6pm.

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.

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

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

COLLECTION

Weekend of 28th January 2024

Loose:	Brewood	Penkrige
	£123.50	£35.50
Gift Aid	£78.00	

TOTAL: £237.00

**The second collection taken last weekend for Lepra raised £172.75.
Thank you.**

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.