



ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PARISH BREWOOD

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Parish Priest Fr Tomas Zuna	Permanent Deacon Rev Mr Stephen Gee Tel. 01902 782969	Parish Secretary Teresa Blunn	Safeguarding Collette Hughes sg.smmary.brewood@ rcaob.org.uk
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6 th SUNDAY OF EASTER			
Saturday 21st	4.30 – 4.45pm 5.00pm	Confessions Vigil Mass	People of the parish
Sunday 22nd	9.00am	Sunday Mass (in Penkridge)	Michael Marren RIP
	11.00am	Sunday Mass	Simon Harvey RIP
Monday 23rd Easter Feria	9.00am	Holy Mass	Paddy Donough RIP
Tuesday 24th Easter Feria	9.00am	Holy Mass	Catherine Farris RIP
Wednesday 25th St Bede	6.00pm	No Mass Rosary & Benediction	
Thursday 26th Ascension of the Lord	9.10am	School Mass	Deceased members of Murphy & O'Mara family
	6.00pm	Holy Mass	Audrey Richmond
Friday 27th St Augustin of Cantebury	9.00am	Holy Mass	Margaret Roberts
7 th SUNDAY OF EASTER			
Saturday 28th	4.30 – 4.45pm 5.00pm	Confessions Vigil Mass	Emmie Venables RIP
Sunday 29th	9.00am	Sunday Mass (in Penkridge)	Charles & Honora Elliott RIP
	11.00am	Sunday Mass	People of the parish

Please pray for the sick of the parish: Chris Rauchmann, Philip & Christine Elson, Bill Baker, Bernard Boyes & Gerald Kierans.

Collection last weekend was **£187.29** – of **£67.00** Gift Aid envelopes & **£120.29** loose (**£89.99** Brewood & **£30.30** Penkridge). Thank you.

Dear Parishioners

This week on Thursday we will celebrate the **Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord**, which would traditionally have been a Holy Day of Obligation. This is an important 'milestone' feast for the season of Easter, as we mark the moment Jesus ascended back to His Father so that he could be present for the entirety of the Church in all places and at all times. I do encourage you to come to Mass that day either in the morning at 9.10am with our primary school or 6pm in the evening.

New Newsletter Format – We are trialing a double-sided format for our parish newsletter. Whilst the Mass Readings sheet has to be separate, this gives us more space and makes the font bigger and more readable.

Help for Ukrainian Refugees – Father Hudson's Care is working with the Archdiocese of Birmingham and Ukrainian communities to provide support for people forced to leave Ukraine because of the war. Many people want to help Ukrainian refugees by offering accommodation in their homes. The Archdiocese has asked Father Hudson's Care to work with Catholic Ukrainian communities to co-ordinate such offers of help, working alongside matching agencies, local councils and CSAN. If you wish to offer accommodation, please contact Father Hudson's on 01675 434000 between the hours of 8:30 – 5:00pm Monday to Thursday, and 8:30 - 4:30pm on Friday. It has now become necessary to start a Diocesan Fund for this work and **therefore this weekend there will be an emergency retiring collection**. The money raised will go towards recruiting a worker for 6 months to support host and refugee families with complex visa and matching services and ensuring support is given from local authorities and other agencies. It is also clear that some families and individuals will need destitution support and some of the collection will be used as a crisis fund. Thank you for your generosity to this collection.

Bell Ringing – We are blessed to have a church bell here in Brewood and it would great to use it during our Sunday Masses. There are three moments when bells are rung at Mass, most importantly at the Consecration. Would people be willing to take that upon themselves? Perhaps our stewards? I'm happy to show you the ropes (no pun intended).

Offertory Procession – The Offertory is part of the Mass where the gifts of bread and wine are offered to God, asking him to accept them and transform them into Christ's Body and Blood (this then happens at Consecration). The Offertory Procession, at which the bread and wine is brought forward often includes a member of the congregation also bringing the money that has just been collected. This symbolises that the money is also offered to God to be used for the good of the Church or a worthy cause. Therefore it is important that, when money is being collected, that the bread and the wine are brought together with the money (and not separately). It would also be good to have the stewards place the money bags in a basket (if available) for the procession and place the basket with the money in front of the altar, in the middle.

Sunday Obligation – The obligation for Catholics to attend Mass on Sunday and Holy Days is to be re-introduced in England and Wales from Pentecost, June 5th. The Bishops recognise that for those who are sick and housebound this obligation does not apply. They make clear that for everyone else the “watching” of Mass via livestream and other media sources *does not fulfil this obligation*.

The Shroud Exhibition – A life sized copy of the Shroud of Turin, believed to be the shroud in which Jesus was buried, is being exhibited at the church of St Mary and St Chad here in Brewood between 13th – 27th. Please see the poster at the back for more info.

Corpus Christi – The Feast of Corpus Christi is June 19th and we are planning a Eucharistic procession through Brewood after the 11am Mass. It would be great to have as many parishioners to attend (even from Penkridge) to bear witness to our faith. Please put the date in your diary!

Martin Crowther's Sponsored Bike Ride – Martin is cycling from Land's End to John o' Groats, in aid of 'Aid to the Church in Need' Ukraine Appeal. You can sponsor him here:
www.justgiving.com/fundraising/ukraineemergencyappeallejog

Altar Servers – It's my firm hope to increase our number of altar servers. If any children or adults are interested please speak to me. Don't worry – training will be provided.

Tea & Coffee – Come and join us after the 11am Sunday Mass for refreshments and chat!

Opening St Mary's for private prayer – It would be good to see our church open during the day. For this we would need a team of volunteers who would be happy to lock the church at some point in the evening each day the church is open. There is a sign up sheet at the back to see if we have enough people willing to help.

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 our local Food Bank.

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.

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.

Gift Aid Envelopes: There are still a number of Gift Aid and planned giving boxes in the office. If you haven't collected yours, please could you collect them this week, or let us know you no longer want/need the envelopes. Thank you.