

NEWSLETTER

ST. ANNE'S CHURCH
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Parish Twitter Feed @stannesnantwich

Parish Priest: Fr. Tony Grace

Fr Michael Ryan OMI

Permanent Deacons: Rev. Peter Mascarenhas and Rev. John Penny



OUR COMMUNITY HUB is now available for booking for private events. Here is the link to the public website for information and bookings <https://hallbookingonline.com/stanne>

18th FEBRUARY 2024 FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR B

IN NEED OF A PRIEST Please contact Fr Tony Grace on 01270 877736

Prayer and Mass Intentions can be sent by email to us at stannesnantwich@btinternet.com

Saturday after Ash Wednesday	17	5.00pm	Vigil Mass 1 st Sunday of Lent	Intentions of Lawrence Hassall & Jack Muskin Christopher Rudham RIP Anniversary
Sunday	18	9.30am	Mass 1 st Sunday of Lent	Intentions of Kathy, Alan and Helen Intentions of Gill and Dave David John Murphy RIP Recently Deceased
Monday	19		No Mass or Service Today	
Tuesday	20	9.30am 10.00am 10.35am	Adoration and Confession Mass Stations of the Cross	Lyndsey Royle -for a speedy recovery Paul Dwerryhouse RIP Recently Deceased Jeffrey Hindle RIP Recently Deceased
Wednesday St Peter Damian	21	11.30am	Funeral Service for David Murphy RIP	
Thursday The Chair of St Peter	22	9.30am 10.00am 10.35am 7.00pm	Adoration and Confession Mass Stations of the Cross Lenten Talk, St Winefride's Sandbach	Please pray for Mark, Bishop of Shrewsbury on the anniversary of his ordination to the Episcopate (2010)
Friday St Polycarp CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY	23		No Mass or Service Today Lent Reflection Group	Special Day of Prayer for the Needy and Hungry of the World
Saturday CAFOD 2 ND COLLECTION	24	5.00pm	Vigil Mass 2 nd Sunday of Lent	Creighton Morley RIP Recently Deceased David John Murphy RIP Recently Deceased Amelia and Gerard McKenna RIP Anniversaries
Sunday CAFOD 2 ND COLLECTION	25	9.30am	Mass 2 nd Sunday of Lent	The Parish Intentions of Ruth Farey

Funeral Service for Creighton Warren Morley RIP on Tuesday 20th February 2024 at Crewe Crematorium at 11.30am. Please pray for his soul and keep Creighton's family and friends in your prayers.

Funeral Service for David John Murphy RIP on Wednesday at St Annes at 11.30am followed by committal at Crewe Crematorium at 1.00pm. Please pray for his soul and keep David's family and friends in your prayers.

Lent Reflection Group on Fridays 2.00 to 3.30 pm starting 23rd February in the church. Based on the readings for the following Sunday, with some short audios or videos. Further information: Chris Oliver 07481 476 333, chris@chris-oliver.net.

Stations of the cross During Lent after the weekday Masses. For those who would like to travel the way of the cross but cannot get to Mass during the week there will be an Internet Way of the Cross via Zoom each Friday at 7pm. Log into Zoom and use Meeting ID: 854 6364 3824 and Passcode: 7a1V76 each week. If you are uncertain about making the connection contact Deacon John on 07973375422 to arrange a test run.

Extraordinary ministers of communion We are reintroducing the distribution of Holy Communion under both kinds from Easter. Would all of our existing extraordinary ministers please contact Deacon John if they would like to continue to serve the parish with distribution of Holy Communion at Mass and out to the sick and housebound. You will need to attend a formation day, training session and be commissioned.

Privacy Notice The parish of St Anne's sometimes collects personal information about parishioners. All personal information is collected, processed and stored in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations. This is retained only as necessary and used by the Parish/Diocese for the benefit of the Parish and for legitimate reasons such as administrative and religious purposes. You can read our full privacy notice at www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/privacy-notice.

RC Diocese of Shrewsbury is a Registered Charity No. 234025

St Anne's Safeguarding Officer is Philippe Blenkiron philippe.blenkiron@gmail.com 07492 063835

CAFOD Family Fast Day appeal – Lent Collection at Masses this week This Lent, your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day appeal will help hardworking people like James the fisherman in Liberia with resources, tools and training to feed their families for good. Give today using the envelope or online at cafod.org.uk and please join us in praying with James that our sisters and brothers around the world have what they need to feed their families. Use the envelope in church or give online at cafod.org.uk

St Annes 200 Club 2024 If you would like to join the 200 club and support the running of St Anne's please see information at the back of church or contact Michael Wilcock Mob: 07968520276 email: mjwilcock64@gmail.com

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2024: Brochures and booking forms now available on www.shrewsburypilgrimage.co.uk or on 07773 324264, if you are aged 16 – 22 please email youth@dioceseofshrewsbury.org to join the youth section of our pilgrimage. Our pilgrimage dates are: by air 26 Jul to 1 Aug, by coach 25 July to 2 Aug and for our young people 24 July to 2 Aug. If you are a first time pilgrim or a returning pilgrim we look forward to you joining us in Lourdes this year. **If any parishioners would like to join with St Mary's, Crewe and St Anne's on our annual pilgrimage to Lourdes, please can you contact Martin Massey on 567263 or Ann Alexander on 623784. This year there will have to be a change of travel arrangements because of the Paris Olympics. Thank you.**

Wistaston Hall Lenten Retreats



Lenten Weekend: 1st – 3rd March 2024, £175.00

During the first centuries of Christianity, the forty days leading up to Holy Week took on a special significance. Those forty days are called Lent, a name taken from the Old English word meaning "spring". The liturgical season of Lent is meant to be a time of spiritual spring-training, so to speak: a special time during which we prepare for Holy Week.

Our Lenten retreat is an opportunity to prepare our hearts to commemorate and celebrate the mystery of Easter. We hope you will join us to pause and reflect on the last days and death of Jesus, as we prepare our hearts to joyfully greet the Risen Christ on Easter morning.

The weekend will include reflective inputs, prayer times and some quiet times, and an opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation or talk one-to-one with a trained Spiritual Director. As St Teresa of Avila reminds us, "Prayer is the lifting up of mind and heart to God".

Lent Day Retreats: 5th and 6th March 2024, £25.00 (includes lunch)

Enrich your Lenten journey through the transformative embrace of scripture, reflection, adoration, and prayer. Experience Lent through a unique process of engagement that draws you deeply into this holy season. There is much wisdom in a text from the Psalms: 'Be still and know that I am God' (Psalm 46.10). May our God who is rich in love and mercy, bless us all as we journey towards Easter.

Celebrate Easter: 28th – 31st March 2024, £260.00

This is an opportunity for you to discover the Sacred "Three Days" (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday) leading up to Easter. This retreat begins at 6pm on Holy Thursday with the celebration of the Lord's Supper and the Washing of the Feet. It includes time for personal and communal prayer as well as the opportunity to fully participate in each of the services.

Diocesan Choir Festival – 24th February 'Sing a New Song' You are invited to come along and sing as part of a diocesan choir. Learn music throughout the day and lead the singing for Mass at 5pm. The cost is £5 per person, payable on the day. Book by completing the form at [HTTP://TINYURL.COM/DIOCESANCHOIRFESTIVAL](http://tinyurl.com/diocesanchoirfestival) The deadline for bookings is Friday 16 February. For more information contact reception@dioceseofshrewsbury.org

Our local Catholic High School St Thomas More is looking to recruit foundation governors to support it in continuing to deliver first class education in keeping with Catholic values and Ethos. Applicants must be practising Catholics. Previous experience isn't required. There is usually only one or two meetings per term. Further information: www.st-thomasmorehigh.greenschoolsonline.co.uk/Governor-Information/ St Thomas More is one of the highest performing schools in Cheshire; recently it also received the highest score possible of Outstanding from the National Catholic Schools Inspectorate. If you are interested please contact Simon Burns at mr.s.burns@st-thomasmore.cheshire.sch.uk

The Year 2025 is the next Jubilee year in the Church. Pope Francis has asked the church to prepare well, and in order to help us do so Pope Francis has called 2024 'A year of Prayer'. In response the team for evangelisation and mission will be organising retreat days on Prayer throughout the year. Come and Understand what the Church teaches about prayer and experience different types of prayer throughout the day. Please bring a packed lunch. For more information: Jane Deegan 07517 906435 jane.deegan@dioceseofshrewsbury.org Natalie Orefice 07730526826 natalie.oreface@dioceseofshrewsbury.org



Loose Plate = £424.97

Offertory received by Bank transfer in January = £2360

Last week's Envelope &

Thank you



Here is your webpage link to support the Mission of the Church in St Anne's and through the Red Boxes and Missio, to the poorest parts of the world or please scan QR code. Many thanks.
<https://donate.mydona.com/st-annenantwich>

Pope's February Prayer Intention In February, we pray with Pope Francis that parishes, placing communion at the centre, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.
<https://youtu.be/e507Ge8fsEw>

Missio Red boxes – Please bring your boxes for counting ensuring your name is on the box. You can hand them to Pauline Binnie our Missio Local Secretary. New boxes are available at the back of church – why not take one for your house to collect for this worthy cause – all those spare pennies soon add up!

Missio Red Box holders can donate to Missio – Mill Hill Missionaries in a variety of ways: Please leave your Red box in church with name on it for counting or Give online: missio.org.uk/redbox. Make a bank transfer: Account name: Missio; Sort Code: 16-00-16; Account Number: 10824230. Please use the reference RB + your postcode.

- Donate by telephone with your debit/credit card by ringing 020 7821 9755 during office hours.
- Donate via texting REDBOX 5 (to donate £5.00) or REDBOX 10 (to donate £10) to 70085. To ensure that your donation is attributed to **St Anne's, Nantwich**, it would be helpful (but not essential) if you would quote reference **SHR063/1117**.
- If you are a Gift Aid contributor, please inform Missio, so that they can recoup the tax from your donation.

☆☆☆☆☆ Is your child joining Reception in 2024? Do you want to find out more about St. Anne's? Open to Catholics and non-Catholics. Ring school on 01270260783 or e-mail office@stannes.cheshire.sch.uk to come to look around ☆

Mass Preparation: WEDNESDAY WORD: www.wednesdayword.org/parish
PREGO: <https://stbeunosoutreach.wordpress.com/prego/>

NANTWICH FOODBANK HELPING LOCAL PEOPLE IN CRISIS.

We praise God for our many volunteers however we have a particular shortage of delivery drivers. If you are interested in volunteering to drive please contact Teri at the presbytery to obtain more details. Our current shopping list is: Long life milk and fruit juice, coffee, tinned vegetables and tinned fruit, toothbrushes and nappies [size 5 & 6]. **DONATIONS CAN BE MADE IN NANTWICH** at St Anne's, (Box in porch), St Mary's Parish Office, Morrisons, Sainsburys, Nationwide, M&S and Elim Church.

Mary's Meals <https://marysmeals.us18.list-manage.com/track/click?u=71642ed3d70deb2b1c25da8f0&id=7d7f84ea81&e=f7949e3fb3>

Carmelite Priory in Oxford. The Friars are looking to increase their ministry to Young Adults to help grow and form the faith of Young Adults. The Friars are currently hosting free online talks on the formation of Young Adults and if this interests you, please see here: <https://www.carmelite.uk.net/events/young-adult-formation-for-the-third-millennium/>

Useful links and resources

Shrewsbury Youth Mission Team – Online Ministry Find us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram by searching for @Shrewsbury_ymt. Find us on YouTube by searching for Shrewsbury Youth Mission Team – SYMT, don't forget to subscribe.

Sanctuaries, shrines Catholics can 'visit' virtually in Europe, Mideast. <https://catholicsentinel.org/Content/Arts/Arts-and-Entertainment/Article/Sanctuaries-shrines-Catholics-can-visit-virtually-in-Europe-Mideast/6/31/40431>

Journeying Together <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/events/journeying-together/>

The National Shrine for Our Lady of Walsingham www.walsingham.org.uk/livestream

Laudato Tree <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/world/news/2020-05/laudato-tree-sahel-pope-francis-laudato-si-year.html>

Watch a Mass from home. Live-streaming of Masses Shrewsbury Diocese: <http://www.churchservices.tv/shrewsburycathedral/embed#tab-player> Church Services TV: <https://www.churchservices.tv/timetable/>

Prayer resources at: <http://pathwaystogod.org/>. <https://www.sacredspace.ie/> <http://ln54.blogspot.com>
<http://prayasyougo.org/>

Life Helplines and Information can be found at <http://www.dayforlife.org/article/helplines-and-information-2020/>

Young Catholics Resources <https://young-catholics.com/3636/22nd-sunday-in-ordinary-time-year-c/>

Sunday Message

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

THE WORD

Year B • 18 February 2024 • Psalter Week 1

DUST AND A CROSS

MARK 1:12-15



Mark's account of Jesus' temptation in the desert is shorter than those of Matthew and Luke. Mark simply records that Jesus went into the desert to do battle with Satan, and that he emerged victorious forty days later to begin his ministry.

Still, for Mark, as for the other Gospel writers, Jesus' time in the desert is of crucial importance. This is the time when Jesus steps back from the world to think, to pray, and to discern what God wants him to do. It is the time when he gets the measure of his enemy - Satan.

In the desert, Satan desperately tries to get Jesus to betray his mission. He hopes to steer Jesus from the path of salvation planned for him by the Father, and to follow Satan's way rather than God's way. But all Satan succeeds in doing is helping Jesus to clarify his mission.

Now Jesus is ready to become God's spokesman. He tells people that the time has come to let God rule in their lives. It is time to believe the Good News.

Just as his forty days in the desert helped Jesus to focus on his mission, and to test his commitment to his Father, the forty days of Lent is that time when we are called to look more closely at our relationship with God, and to confront the power of darkness that prevents us from letting God rule in our lives. ■

DO

Lent is a time for prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Traditionally, Christians fasted and shared what they saved with the poor. This Lent, keep a record of what you save as a result of your fasting, and give it to charity.

PRAY

Pray for the Church this Lent, for the renewal it needs, so that it can give more effective witness to Christ.

SAY

"Lord, give me a spirit of repentance during these 40 days so that I can become the kind of person you want me to be." ■

LEARN

Lent originally began on the first Sunday - and not on Ash Wednesday - giving six weeks of Lent with six fasting days (excluding Sunday). In order to bring the number up to 40, additional days from Ash Wednesday onwards were included, and Ash Wednesday became the 'official' beginning of the Lenten season.

REFLECT

Several years ago, then American Vice President Joe Biden was attending a news conference in Washington. Biden had a large, dark mark on his forehead, and journalists at the event noticed it. The Sky News presenter back in London was especially curious. After the news conference ended, she asked Sky's Washington correspondent if he knew what had happened to the vice president. Did he have a fall? Had he bashed his head against something? The correspondent didn't know but promised to find out. A few minutes later, back on air after an ad break, the suitably abashed presenter apologised for not realising it was Ash Wednesday and the blob on Biden's forehead was the ashes he had received at Mass that morning.

Not very long ago, especially in Catholic countries, it would have been impossible to not know when Ash Wednesday had come round. Almost everyone wore ashes, often the darker and more prominent the better. People were happy to wear them as they

went about their business, going to work or to the shops. They wore them as a sign of faith and penance.

Sadly, that is no longer the case, and fewer people wear the ashes than even a decade ago. Which is a pity because the little ceremony of the ashes is a beautiful, powerful ritual that eloquently describes what the season of Lent is all about, indeed what life is all about for people of faith: dust and a cross. Our foreheads are marked with dust in the form of a cross. There are several formulae that can be used when the ashes are applied. One of the most common says: "Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return."

Dust reminds us of our nothingness. It is the symbol of coming to nothing, as the German theologian Karl Rahner, once described it. Dust has no content, no form. We find it everywhere. It is anonymous, useless, shapeless, valueless. And yet dust is what we are.

The ashes placed on our foreheads remind us that we are dust. From the moment we are born, we are in the process of dying. No matter how rich, powerful, fit, healthy, significant or seemingly indestructible we are, we will die one day. Our bodies will become dust.

But, thank God, that is not the whole story. Because the dust placed on our foreheads on Ash Wednesday is done very deliberately in the shape of the cross. The symbol of the cross reminds us that we are redeemed people. Yes, we will die one day, we will encounter setbacks and pain and loss, we remain dust, but the sign of the cross is a statement that death is not the end of our dust. The Son of God took on flesh like ours, and became dust on a cross to save us from sin and bring us to salvation. The cross is the symbol of our redemption.

Dust and cross bookend our Lenten journey. Dust and cross also tell us Christians all that we need to know. ■

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

When he calls on me, I will answer him;
I will deliver him and give him glory.
I will grant him length of days.

COLLECT

Grant, almighty God,
through the yearly observances of holy Lent,
that we may grow in understanding
of the riches hidden in Christ
and by worthy conduct pursue their effects.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of
the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

FIRST READING

Genesis 9:8-15

A reading from the book of Genesis.

God spoke to Noah and his sons, 'See, I establish my Covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; also with every living creature to be found with you, birds, cattle and every wild beast with you: everything that came out of the ark, everything that lives on the earth. I establish my Covenant with you: no thing of flesh shall be swept away again by the waters of the flood. There shall be no flood to destroy the earth again.'

God said, 'Here is the sign of the Covenant I make between myself and you and every living creature with you for all generations: I set my bow in the clouds and it shall be a sign of the Covenant between me and the earth. When I gather the clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the Covenant between myself and you and every living creature of every kind. And so the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all things of flesh.'

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 24 (22) 4-6, 7b-9

Response:

**Your ways, Lord, are faithfulness and love
for those who keep your covenant.**

- 1 Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour. **(R.)**
- 2 Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.
In your love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord. **(R.)**
- 3 The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray.
He guides the humble in the right path.
He teaches his way to the poor. **(R.)**

SECOND READING

1 Peter 3:18-22

A reading from the first letter of St Peter.

Christ himself, innocent though he was, died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life, and, in the spirit, he went to preach to the spirits in prison. Now it was long ago, when Noah was still building that ark which saved only a small group of eight people 'by water', and when God was still waiting patiently, that these spirits refused to believe. That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now, and which is not the washing off of physical dirt but a pledge made

to God from a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has entered heaven and is at God's right hand, now that he has made the angels and Dominions and Powers his subjects.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!
Man does not live on bread alone,
But on every word that comes from the
mouth
of god.
Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

GOSPEL

Mark 1:12-15

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan. He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him.

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

(all bow during the next two lines)

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the
dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the
Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living
and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting.
Amen.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Give us the right dispositions, O Lord, we pray,
to make these offerings,
for with them we celebrate the beginning
of this venerable and sacred time.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes forth from the
mouth of God

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Renewed now with heavenly bread,
by which faith is nourished, hope increased,
and charity strengthened,
we pray, O Lord,
that we may learn to hunger for Christ,

the true and living Bread,
and strive to live by every word
which proceeds from your mouth.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

May bountiful blessing, O Lord, we pray,
come down upon your people,
that hope may grow in tribulation,
virtue be strengthened in temptation,
and eternal redemption be assured.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Lent stimulates us to let the Word of God
penetrate our life and in this way to know
the fundamental truth: who we are, where we
come from, where we must go, what path we
must take in life.

Pope Benedict XVI