

LONG AGO, PROPHETS KNEW CHRIST WOULD COME ...



#### For Your Prayers...

- The sick, especially Eric Nelson, Teresa Nish, Marion Burrows, Jane Goodyear, Edwin Jackson, Joan Lynch, Beattie Murphy, Ellen Hammonds, Rose Cooney and Paul Glover
- All the faithful departed in this their month, especially Mary Hamblett and Frances Howarth whose anniversaries fall this week, Donato Ferrante, Bohdan Mazurkiewicz and Monica McGarry, recently departed
- Madeleine McCann and her parents
- Those fighting Ebola and those suffering from it
- The persecuted Christians of the world
- That we might be prepared to meet the Lord when He comes and live like people expecting His return
- Come, Lord Jesus!

## This Weekend

- Children's Liturgy at the 10.30am Mass
- Coffee after 10.30am Mass at St Anne's
- *Advent Sunday*the Church's year begins anew as once again we ponder the great mystery of Christ's first coming and look forward to His great and final second coming
- Ecumenical Advent Carol Service at 3pm at the Society of Friends, Hartshill

### This Week

- Children's First Holy Communion Class Monday 3.20pm in the Hall
- Soup Lunch this Friday 1230 in aid of Crisis (at Christmas) helping the homeless with food, shelter, medical care and practical advice about employment and training
- Chinthowa Trust Annual Mulled Wine, Mince Pies Tea & Coffee Morning next Saturday 9.30am –12.30am, St Benedict's School, Church Walk, Atherstone

Next Weekend

**Gift** Aid

£236.50

£82.80

• Advent 2

**FINANCE** 

First Collection

**Building Fund** 

## <u>Coming Soon</u>

- Ladies Guild Christmas Party Mon 8th Dec
- Carol Service at St Anne's, Sunday 21st December 3.00pm followed by seasonal refreshments.
- Christmas Mass times will be as usual: Christmas Eve Vigil Mass 5.00pm St Anne's Midnight Mass at Midnight (Carols from 11.30) at St Anne's Christmas Day Mass 8.30am at St Joseph's Christmas Day 10.30am at St Anne's
- Fr Stephen expects to be taking up his new parish very soon after Christmas: there is no date confirmed yet. In any case, a previous parish priest is usually invited back for one last time once his successor has settled in so the 'last Sunday' by that arrangement might be sometime in February. As for a new parish priest although we know that the diocese intends to appoint one, it is not yet known who that will be.

#### <u>Cleaners</u>

St A O Bath St J P & J Parkinson

**Collection Counters** 

Doreen & George

#### <u>Flowers</u>

No flowers in Advent There are baskets for donations to Christmas flowers in both our churches

# NUNEATON FOOD BANK Thank you for all donations!

Short of: tinned custard, Christmas puddings, mince pies, Christmas biscuits, tinned ham, tinned fruit, evap. milk

(Stocked up with pasta, beans, tin toms) Last week, the Foodbank fed 92 people of who 30 were children

nuneaton.foodbank.org.uk

# <u>Thank you</u>

for all your giving

Catholic Youth Service Second Collection £113.47

If you pay income tax there is no good reason not to join Gift Aid and a *very* good reason to join —the tax man adds 25% to your giving! See Fr Stephen

Not Gift Aid

£139.39

£24.50



Sunday's Readings... dvent is not just four weeks of pretending it's already Christmas nor is it the

time for shepherds and Wise Men. Advent is a season given to us by the Church and has a character all its own. The Church calls us to reflect on the coming*s*—in the plural—of Christ: as the Word made flesh at Bethlehem, as the Saviour at the end of time, and in the meanwhile as the one who comes to us on our altars, in his word, in each other and in the needy. Having come among us that first time, Christ is able to come to us again and again. Are we prepared for his coming on the altar, let alone for his coming at the end of time? Consequently, the scriptures for Advent remind us of all those who waited and prepared for the first coming of Christ-the patriarchs, prophets, John the Baptist and Our Lady. For the likes of Jeremiah and his hearers, the coming of the Saviour would have seemed a remotely distant but wonderful event—much like the second coming might seem to us today. But God keeps His promises, and generations who believed His word revealed through the prophets lived in faith and hope: the Savour indeed came. And just as Jesus came as the infant Christ, so He will come again. Until that day comes, we in turn are called to wait in faith and hope, so that like the patriarchs, prophets, John the Baptist and Our Lady we too shall be ready. Many would have passed the stable at Bethlehem unaware of the great event within, and unprepared for Christ's ministry among them. No one will be unaware of the second coming-may we not fail to be prepared for it!

**A DVENT WALK WITH ME** booklets and calendars are now available. The books cost £1, but if that's too much for you, give what you can.





# Thank You...

... to everyone who came to Monica McGarry's funeral and especially to those of you who helped in any way. Please keep Monica and her family in your prayers

\* Ladies Guild \*

MON 8TH DECEMBER The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Our Lady

Mass at 7.00pm St Anne's Mass is of course for anyone, like every other Mass in church

Guild Christmas party follows Mince pie and drinks: Fr Stephen ♂ family's last Guild meeting No meeting in January 2015

CHRISTMAS CARDS AND GIFTS

St Anne's piety stall stocks cards of course. In the porches of both churches there are now (and will be more) catalogues from Catholic charities, offering cards and gifts in support of their work. **CAFOD World Gifts** allow us to buy many wonderful gifts for those in developing countries to help them help themselves. Please consider buying from such worthy causes.

COME LORD JESUS

I say, I say, I say...

The Past, the Present and the Future walked into a bar... It was tense ....!!



TOTE WINNER: No. 144 £75 Prize £15 draw this week THE TOTE! 50P & WEEK

Boom! Boom!

**Baptism** 

By arrangement with Fr Stephen. Speak to him after Mass. Baptism is on a Sunday at 12.30pm



At St Anne's on Fridays, 6.15-6.45pm, Saturdays 9.00-9.15am.

Other times or places by arrangement—see Fr Stephen



Speak to Fr Stephen, who will need to see you both and make the necessary preparation. At least six months' notice is best.

**S T ANNE**, Mother of the Virgin Mary, Grandmother of Jesus, blessed are you! Take us by the hand and turn us towards God, the Father, source of love and life; the Son, Jesus the Redeemer; and the Holy Spirit who lives in our hearts.

Pray with us! Pray for us! Intercede for us who are placed under your patronage!

**S T JOSEPH**, husband of the Virgin Mary, foster-father of Jesus, blessed are you! Guide us to your Immaculate wife and her Divine Son, that fathers may be as loving as you, mothers as cherished as Mary and children kept as safe as the infant Jesus in your care.

Pray with us! Pray for us! Intercede for us, who are placed under your patronage!

The Parish of St Anne, which includes St Joseph's Church, is part of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham, Registered Charity Number 234216

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