

NEWSLETTER

ST. ANNE'S CHURCH
PILLORY STREET
NANTWICH. CW5 5SS
Tel: 01270 625494

Email stannesnantwich@btinternet.com Website www.stannesnantwich.org.uk

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>

11th FEBRUARY 2024 SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 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	10	5.00pm	Vigil Mass Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Intention for Mark Oneshchuk for a successful operation Patsy Farrell Birthday Intention Chinese New Year
Sunday	11	9.30am	Mass Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Patsy Farrell Birthday Intention Creighton Morley RIP Recently Deceased Intention of Ryan McIlhone Fr David Craig RIP Anniversary David John Murphy RIP Recently Deceased
Monday	12		No Mass or Service Today	
Tuesday	13	9.30am 10.00am	Adoration and Confession Mass	Lyndsey Royle -for a speedy recovery Paul Dwerryhouse RIP Recently Deceased
Ash Wednesday	14	10.00am	Ash Wednesday Mass KS2 children will be joining us	
Thursday after Ash Wednesday	15	9.30am 10.00am	Adoration and Confession Mass	Creighton Morley RIP Recently Deceased
Friday after Ash Wednesday	16		No Mass or Service Today	
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	The Parish

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 We will be praying 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. Our First Internet Way of the Cross will be on Friday 16th February.

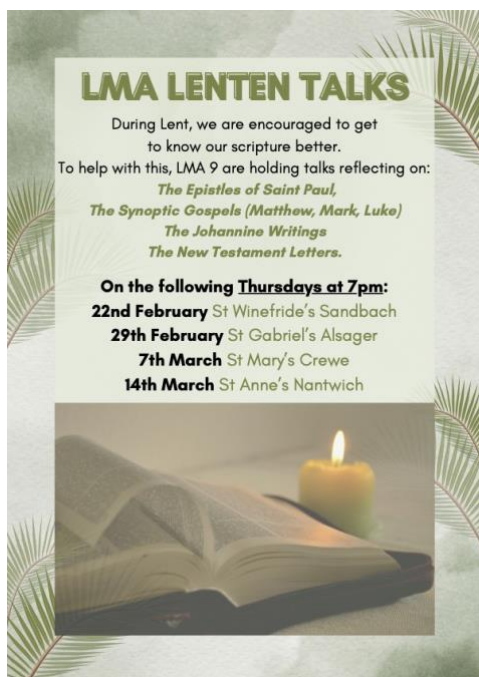
Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2024: Brochures and booking forms are now available on the pilgrimage website www.shrewsburypilgrimage.co.uk or on 07773 324264, if you are aged 16 – 22 please email youth@dioceseofshrewsbury.org for an application form to join the youth section of our pilgrimage. This year our pilgrimage dates are: by air Fri 26 Jul to Thurs 1 Aug, by coach Thurs 25 July to Fri 2 Aug and for our young people Weds 24 July to Fri 2 Aug. If you are a first time pilgrim or a returning pilgrim we look forward to you joining us in Lourdes this year.

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.

The SVP wishes to express our very grateful thanks for the generous donation received in memory of David Perkins. RIP.

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

St. Mary's Catholic Primary school in Crewe invites applications for a Foundation Stage Governor position. As a member of our governing body, you'll contribute to the strategic direction of the school, ensuring its Catholic ethos thrives. More information on the role and application forms can be obtained from our Governor clerk, Sarah Lomas please email sarah.lomas@cheshireeast.gov.uk



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 – '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.https://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.orefice@dioceseofshrewsbury.org



Last week's Envelope &

Loose Plate = £590.41

Offertory received by Bank transfer in December = £2641.00

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 January Prayer Intention For the Gift of Diversity within the Church: We pray that the Holy Spirit may help us to recognise the gift of different charisms within the Christian Community and to discover the richness of different traditions and rituals within the Catholic Church.

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

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE WORD

Year B • 11 February 2024 • Psalter Week 2



THE POWER OF TOUCH

MARK 1:40-45

Think of what it would be like to be deprived of touch, to be starved of it, to never experience it at all. In the 1960s, a social scientist called Harry Harlow carried out an experiment on infant rhesus monkeys.

He cut them off from all contact and deprived them of touch for a full year. He wanted to see how it would affect them. After 30 days, he assessed the monkeys as being enormously disturbed. The longer they were isolated, the more it affected their immune systems and their behaviours. They began to self-harm. After a full year, they were largely incapable of functioning at all. They were suffering from what social scientists call 'skin hunger,' touch deprivation. Harlow's results are replicated each year by the estimated 80 thousand American prison inmates held in solitary confinement. Experts say skin hunger is a major factor in incidents of depression among humans, just as it was among those monkeys.

Now consider the power of loving, gentle touch, skin on skin. Almost a decade ago, I developed chronic lower back pain. Even after five major surgeries, the pain remained as persistent as ever. Loving me as intensely as they did, my parents felt my pain. A wonderful source of comfort to me during that time was when my mother would give me a back rub. She would gently run her hands over that part of my back where the pain was most acute. It was extraordinarily soothing. For just a little while, my pain was eased. Her loving, gentle touch brought me wonderful comfort and consolation. The healing power of a mother's touch.

Jesus's ministry was all about healing, transforming, making whole what was broken. And he knew the power of touch. We see it over and over again in the Gospels. See how Jesus reaches out and touches the man with leprosy in today's Gospel. A gentle touch is all it takes and he is healed.

Time and again in the Gospels we find the same story repeated. Jesus meets someone in distress and reaches out to touch them. He touches them, and their health is restored. He touches them, and they are made new. The blind see, the crippled walk, haemorrhages dry up, the dead are restored to life. All because of Jesus' touch.

Jesus didn't need to physically touch them. His word alone would have been sufficient. But he chose to do so. He wanted to do so. He was deliberately, consciously tactile, because he knew the power and necessity of human touch, its capacity to soothe and heal. ■

REFLECT

Unless we live in solitary confinement, we touch people every day – family, friends, work colleagues – and it's good to think about how we touch them.

We touch them not only through physical touch, but also through word and gesture. The way we touch others can be positive or negative. It can build up or knock down. It can be constructive and life-enhancing or destructive and life-diminishing.

We can touch someone with a warm hug or embrace. Or we can touch someone with a slap or a beating. Domestic violence

and physical and sexual abuse are major problems that we still need to address as Church and society.

We can touch someone with a word of encouragement or gratitude or love. Or we can touch someone with a word of contempt or anger or abuse. We know all too well that words have the power to wound even more deeply than a physical blow, and that bullying in schools and in the workplace is a major problem, made even worse now by the internet.

We can touch someone with a gesture that shows respect or appreciation or thanks. Or

DO

Give someone close to you a gentle hug or hold their hand. Let them feel your loving presence.



PRAY

Pray that the Lord will touch you, as he touched the man with leprosy, so as to make you the kind of person he wants you to be.

SAY

"Jesus, help me to reach out to others in a way that is life-giving. Amen."

LEARN

A sacrament is a grace-filled encounter with Christ. In the sacrament of the sick, in the anointing with oils on the forehead and on the hands, Christ touches us. Christ comes to us, to wrap us in his tender embrace, to bless us in our weariness, encourage us in our sadness, strengthen us in our weakness, ease us in our pain, forgive us in our sins, lift us in our worries, sustain us for whatever lies ahead.

In the Eucharist we encounter Christ in a most intimate way. We receive his own Body and make it part of ours. His gentle, grace-filled touch nourishes us for the journey of life.

a gesture that shows anger or contempt or impatience. Think of the many incidents of road rage we hear about today.

Jesus' touch gave people life. All he said and did gave people life. He gives us life even now when we are touched by him in the Eucharist and in the sacrament of the sick.

And that is our challenge – to invite Jesus to touch and transform us, in the Eucharist, in the sacraments, in our life of prayer. And we are challenged also to bring the gentle touch of Jesus to all those whose lives touch ours. ■

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Be my protector, O God,
a mighty stronghold to save me.
For you are my rock, my stronghold!
Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

COLLECT

O God, who teach us that you abide
in hearts that are just and true,
grant that we may be so fashioned by your
grace
as to become a dwelling pleasing to you.
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 Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46

A reading from the book of Leviticus.
The Lord said to Moses and Aaron, 'If a swelling
or scab or shiny spot appears on a man's skin,
a case of leprosy of the skin is to be suspected.
The man must be taken to Aaron, the priest, or
to one of the priests who are his sons.
'The man is leprous: he is unclean. The priest
must declare him unclean; he is suffering
from leprosy of the head. A man infected with
leprosy must wear his clothing torn and his hair
disordered; he must shield his upper lip and cry,
'Unclean, unclean.' As long as the disease lasts
he must be unclean; and therefore he must live
apart: he must live outside the camp.'

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 113(112):1-2, 8-11

Response:
You are my refuge, O Lord;
you fill me with the joy of salvation.

- Happy the man whose offence is forgiven,
whose sin is remitted.
O happy the man to whom the Lord
imputes no guilt,
in whose spirit is no guile. (R.)
- But now I have acknowledged my sins;
my guilt I did not hide.
I said: 'I will confess
my offence to the Lord.'

And you, Lord, have forgiven
the guilt of my sin. (R.)

- Rejoice, rejoice in the Lord,
exult, you just!
O come, ring out your joy,
all you upright of heart. (R.)

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the
Corinthians.

Whatever you eat, whatever you drink, whatever
you do at all, do it for the glory of God. Never
do anything offensive to anyone – to Jews or
Greeks or to the Church of God; just as I try to
be helpful to everyone at all times, not anxious
for my own advantage but for the advantage
of everybody else, so that they may be saved.
Take me for your model, as I take Christ.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
enlighten the eyes of our mind,
so that we can see what hope his call holds
for us.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mark 1:40-45

A Reading from the holy Gospel according to
Mark.

A leper came to Jesus and pleaded on his
knees: 'If you want to' he said 'you can cure
me.' Feeling sorry for him, Jesus stretched out
his hand and touched him. 'Of course I want
to!' he said. 'Be cured!' And the leprosy left him
at once and he was cured. Jesus immediately
sent him away and sternly ordered him, 'Mind
you say nothing to anyone, but go and show
yourself to the priest, and make the offering for
your healing prescribed by Moses as evidence
of your recovery.' The man went away, but
then started talking about it freely and telling
the story everywhere, so that Jesus could no
longer go openly into any town, but had to stay
outside in places where nobody lived. Even so,
people from all around would come to him.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with
the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven.

(all bow during the next three lines)
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the
Virgin Mary,
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under
Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day

In accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,
the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored
and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic and
apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness
of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the
dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

May this oblation, O Lord, we pray,
cleanse and renew us
and may it become for those who do your will
the source of eternal reward.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

They ate and had their fill,
and what they craved the Lord gave them;
they were not disappointed in what they
craved.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Having fed upon these heavenly delights,
we pray, O Lord,
that we may always long
for that food by which we truly live.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Father in heaven, you have made us for yourself;
our hearts are restless until they rest in you.
Fulfill this longing through Jesus, the bread of
life, so that we may witness to him who alone
satisfies the hungers of the human family. By
the power of your Spirit lead us to the heavenly
table where we may feast on the vision of your
glory for ever and ever. Amen.