

MASS TIMES	Ss Peter & Paul	Holy Cross	Intention
Saturday 20th April		12 noon	Margaret Barry RIP
Fourth Sunday of Easter 21st April	8.30am 11am		For the People Fr Michael Sharkey Golden Jubilee priesthood
Monday 22nd April		7pm	
Tuesday 23rd April <i>St George, Patron of England</i>	10am school mass		For the people in ALL war torn places of the world
Wednesday 24th April		8am	
Thursday 25th April <i>St Mark, Evangelist</i>		7pm	For vocations to the priesthood
Friday 26th April		10am 3pm	Divine Mercy Rosary
Saturday 27th April		12 noon	For the People
Fifth Sunday of Easter 28th April	8 30am 11am		
Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham, Charity No. 234216			

HOLY CROSS and SS PETER & PAUL, LICHFIELD
UPPER SAINT JOHN STREET AND DIMBLES LANE

Priests : Fr Anthony Dykes, Fr John Hancock, Mgr Anthony Wilcox.

Presbytery Tel: 01543 263234 email: holycross.lichfield@rcaob.org.uk

Parish Website: www.romancatholiclichfield.co.uk

Parish Office Tel: 01543 257930 Parish Secretary: Mrs Sam King

Mgr Anthony Wilcox (for emergency contact only) 07976 359565

Fourth Sunday of Easter - Good Shepherd Sunday 21st April 2024

John's words 'the good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep' sets the tone for Good Shepherd Sunday. As a child I was fascinated by the Good Friday liturgy where the clergy would lie flat on the church floor. I wanted to lie down too.!

We all make sacrifices in this life, often in ways hidden to many, but seen by God. In loving others, sacrifice is always involved as we reach out of ourselves and seek to understand the other, and this helps us understand the power of the call to lay down our lives.

Laying down ourselves is not about being a doormat or self-neglect. Rather, as Pope John Paul II reminded us, we are called to be bridges (*pontifex*) in helping people reach God through the way we reveal the love of God incarnate in the reality of our own lives.

We are all called to be shepherds, then, and we lie down every day and not just on Good Friday. Let us give thanks for the shepherds and shepherdesses whom we have known and who have helped reveal something of the face of God to us, bridging the gap between heaven and earth.

Fr Ryan Service, Holy Trinity parish, Sutton Coldfield.

SAFEGUARDING: our Parish Website has a dedicated page which provides links to Safeguarding, who to contact and details of our ongoing commitment to keeping everyone safe. Simply go to the parish website to find all the details.....romancatholiclichfield.co.uk/safeguarding

Prayers & Resources

www.universalis.com has the **mass readings for the day.**

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THE SICK

Jonathan Dick, David Clough,
Paul Howells, Tamara Murtagh,
Ellen Russell, Patrick Glendon,
David Greatrex, Anna Nicholls,
Terry Hazell, Carlos Wright,
Matthew McCleod, Barbara Cleaver,
Sulamith Corbett, Tony Corbett,
Jayne Wright, Jean Christie,
David Finnemore Wain,
Christine Ratcliffe, Eileen Walmsley,
Liz Graham, Nigel Lewis,
Philip Flahive, Mike Kilgallen,
Jean Watson, Maria Huong Huynh,
Rohan Jenkins, Oscar Wordsworth,
Mary Rowe,
Fr Anthony Dykes, Eddie Ryan,
Angela White, Terry & Gussie Finn
Hazel Kenny.
and those known only to you.

Hear us, O Lord, from heaven thy
dwelling place;
Hear us, O Lord, and have mercy.

Recently died :
Mr Simon Loveland
Mr Brian Smith

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT : Saturdays before 12 noon Mass in Holy Cross from 11.15am

CONFESSIONS : Saturday from 11.15am Holy Cross & before any Mass & at any reasonable time by arrangement

HOLY CROSS : as far as possible the church is open for private prayer and meditation during the day.

CONTACT OF A PRIEST during Fr Anthony's absence : Fr Linh at Burntwood has kindly offered to assist if a priest is urgently needed. He can be contacted by email fr.linh.nguyen@rcaob.org.uk or by phone 01543-686-266

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY : the Fourth Sunday of Lent is Good Shepherd Sunday, when we pray for vocations to the religious life. There is a second collection as you leave church this weekend 20th/21st April for the Clergy Training Fund.

FR MICHAEL SHARKEY : Fr Michael was parish priest here in Lichfield from 1998 to 2016 and this weekend he celebrates the Golden Jubilee of his ordination to the priesthood.(ord.20 April). Fr Michael is now the parish priest of Sonning Common, a parish in the deep south of the archdiocese near Reading. Congratulations to Fr Michael.

BIBLE STUDY : Tuesday 23rd April, 10.30am in the Community Room at Holy Cross. You are welcome.

MISSIO (Red Box) : please take one of their booklets MISSION TODAY which are at the back of church.

FRIENDS OF THE HOLYLAND: Our parish FHL group wish to say a 'big thank you' to parishioners for their recent support and generosity. The retiring collections taken the weekend (April 5/6) Peter Rand spoke at the masses raised £840.00. And the Beetle Drive last weekend brought in another £567.00. A cheque for £1407 has been sent to FHL head office, who now forward the money on to their bank account in Palestine.

VISITATION OF SICK and HOUSEBOUND : The visitation of the sick and housebound in the parish is a priority. We are looking for two Eucharistic Ministers who would be willing, on a regular basis, to visit and take Holy Communion to two housebound parishioners. Please speak to Fr John or Mgr Anthony if you can help.

PARISH NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL : would you like to receive this newsletter each week by email..??
If you would, please email the parish office, and your name and email address will be added to the 'send to' list.
please send a message to holycross.lichfield@rcaob.org.uk

COFFEE IN THE COMMUNITY ROOM : every FRIDAY from 10.30 to 12noon at Holy Cross.