

Parish Priest: Fr. Sean Gough

St. Anne's Church: 281a Bosworth Drive, C'Wood B37 5DP.

St Anthony's Church: Oakthorpe Drive, Kingshurst, B37 6HY.

St Johns Church: Arran Way, Smiths Wood, B36 0QE.

E-Mail: stanne-chelmsleywood.bham@rcaob.org.uk

Telephone: 0121 798 4101

Web Site: www.stannesb37.uk

Parish Safeguarding Rep St Anne's: Philip & Linda Hudson

Parish Youth Leader: Judith Anwunah

Three C's Club Danny Matthews Tel 07950 445280



DIVINE MERCY PARTNERSHIP ST ANTHONY'S ST ANNE'S ST JOHN'S



Join the parish WhatsApp Community

14 TH DECEMBER 2025: THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT		
Sat 13 th Dec	5.00pm: St Anthony's Mass	Paul Worth
Sun 14 th Dec	9.00am: St John the Baptist	People of the Parish
Sun 14 th Dec	11.00am: St Anne's Mass	Bridie Powell

Mon 15 th Dec	No Mass	
Tues 16 th Dec	8.30- 9.15am Adoration 9.15am: St Anne's Mass	Margaret & Mary Connolly
Weds 17 th Dec	8.45- 9.15am Church Open for Private Prayer 9.15am: St Anthony's Mass	Carl Dawkins
Thurs 18 th Dec	8.30- 9.15am Adoration 9.15am: St Anne's Mass	Holy Souls
Fri 19 th Dec	9.00 St John's Mass 6.00pm: Solemn Holy Hour and Benediction 7.00pm: St Anne's Mass	Val R.I.P. Rosie Dawson

21 ST DECEMBER 2025: FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT		
Sat 20 th Dec	5.00pm: St Anthony's Mass	Canon Gerry Breen
Sun 21 st Dec	9.00am: St John the Baptist	People of the Parish
Sun 21 st Dec	11.00am: St Anne's Mass	Maurice O'Carroll

Confessions	Mass Today in the Sunday Missal
St John On request St Anthony: Saturdays 4.30pm St Anne: Fridays 7.30pm	Readings and Prayers: Page 13 Preface: Sunday Preface II on page 464. Eucharistic Prayer: on page 487

Message from Fr Sean - Christmas at the Divine Mercy Partnership of Parishes

Christmas Crib Appeal - Our Christmas Crib Appeal will this year support those less fortunate in our local area, in partnership with Lily's Tea Parlour in Chelmsley Wood Shopping Centre. Next Sunday and on Christmas Day, you will be able to buy a heart for £5. Each heart placed in the crib provides a lunch for someone in need, and you are invited to write a short message on the heart which will be given with the meal. I am hoping that, across the partnership, we might offer at least 300 hearts. A card machine from Lily's Tea Parlour will be available at St Anne's on Sunday 20th and at the Christmas masses.

Alongside this, we are making a major effort to evangelise this Christmas. We have bought **3,000 Christmas cards** to be shared widely. Every child in our primary schools and at John Henry Newman Secondary School will receive a card, and every parishioner will receive one too. **The Challenge: How many can you give out to family, friends, neighbours, colleagues and others you meet?** It's a simple but effective way to share the message of Christmas, and to invite people to our churches.

At Christmas we will welcome many who do not usually come to church. To must ensure everyone receives a warm and personal welcome. If you would be willing to serve as a **Christmas welcomer**, offering a friendly smile and greeting, please join the WhatsApp group called "Welcomers". Your help really might be the difference between that person coming know Jesus or not!

Christmas Donations- You are also invited to donate towards the Christmas flowers in our churches using the card machine (select "Christmas flowers"). A card machine will be installed shortly at St John the Baptist; in the meantime, donations there may be made using a clearly marked envelope. Christmas offering envelopes are now available for those who wish to make the traditional Christmas offering to the priest of the parish. This remains one of the priest's main sources of income and your generosity is very gratefully received. Donations may be made using the envelopes provided or via the card machines in church.

Huge thanks to contributors to the Christmas Bazaar, which has so far raised an excellent £3,049.57, with more still to come!

St Anthony and St John Discernment meeting.

Looking ahead, 2026 will mark the 60th anniversary of St Anthony's Church. This is a joyful moment for our parish family, and we will celebrate it together. It also invites us to reflect honestly on the challenges we face: declining attendance over many years, an ageing congregation, and a church building that requires a significant investment very soon. Primarily, there is a pressing need for a new roof. Although numbers have risen recently, primarily due to reductions in masses in nearby parishes, the underlying challenges are still the same. It is important we have a shared vision for the future before making any substantial decisions. To begin shaping a shared vision for the future, there will be parish meetings at St Anthony's Church, open to parishioners from both St John's and St Anthony's. **The first meeting will be on Thursday 15th January at 7pm.** These gatherings will help us discern a common vision for the future together, and how we can best use our resources towards that end.

Card Machines

Many people now support the parish in different ways, and I want to reassure you that there is no need to feel embarrassed or uncomfortable if you do not put anything on the collection plate when it is passed around. The card machines are extremely straightforward to use and can be used before or after Mass, whichever you prefer. If you are using the card machine for the first time for a parish collection, you will also be given the option to Gift Aid your donation. If you are able to do so, I would strongly encourage this, as it allows the parish to reclaim an additional 25p for every £1 given, at no extra cost to you.

Sick and Housebound.

Fr Sean is trying to visit all of the sick and housebound of the parish during Advent. If you are Sick and Housebound, or if you know someone who is, please make contact via email. We're also currently trying to establish arrangements so that everyone will regularly be able to receive the holy communion home visits.

Baptisms

To have a child age 6 or under baptised it is necessary for the **Catholic** parent to first attend two classes. Only one parent needs to attend, the other can babysit - please do not bring children. Both classes will be held monthly. After attending both classes you will be able to apply for baptism. Please let Fr Sean know of your intention to attend.

1) What is Baptism?

(Next class: **Saturday 3rd Jan 10.30am**)

2) Responsibilities after baptism.

(Next class: **Saturday 10th Jan 10.30am**)

Sunday Morning Refreshments

Parishioners, families and friends are warmly invited to join in the parish centre every Sunday morning after 11.00am Mass, where tea, coffee and biscuits are served. This is a opportunity to come together, socialise and get to know other members of the parish.

Mass Intentions and Votive Lamps

Intentions for Masses should be made using the envelopes in church, indicating your intention and enclosing your donation. To have a lamp for the Blessed Sacrament (Sanctuary Lamp) or for Our Lady lit for your intention please use the same envelope indicating that it is for a lamp.

Week Beginning 14.12.25:

Sanctuary Lamp: Babs Mill Boys R.I.P.

Our Lady's Lamp: Babs Mill Families

Church Rotas - St Anne's, Week Beginning 14.12.25

Cleaning: Kathleen and Feby

Counting: Margaret and Kathy

Collections- 7.12.25

St Anne's: £288.05 (GAD £37.00)

Weekly Standing Order Donations £81.57 (GAD £50.34)

Poor Parishes of the Diocese: £113.12 (£42.90)

Ss. John & Anthony's: No counting this week

Thank you for your kind generosity!

Bonus Ball Winner: 6.12.25: No. 40- Debbie Nash

Going into Hospital

Please inform the hospital Chaplain (Fr Roger Raven- 0121 424 1369) and the Parish Priest.

Deaths

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Teresa Sullivan, Patricia Powell, Christine Cox, Brendan O'Beirne, Thomas McGinley, Ernest Price, Karen Hill, Sean Keegan, Barrington Brown, Sister Therese, Marcia Irons, Lena Lynch, Michael McKinney, Jack Byrne, and the souls of all the recently deceased. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace, Amen.

Up and coming Funerals

Martin Patrick Kavanagh

Requiem St Anne's, 19th Dec 2.30pm

Ellen Josephine Merrins

Requiem St Jospeh's, 6th Jan 11am

Local Cluster Churches Sunday Mass Times			
MASS TIME	CHURCH	MASS TIME	CHURCH
5pm (Sat)	St Anthony's church, Kingshurst	10.45am (Sun)	Sacred Heart and St Teresa's church, Coleshill
5.30pm (Sat)	Sacred Heart and St Teresa's church, Coleshill	11am (Sun)	Mother of God & Guardian Angels church, Shard End
9am (Sun)	St John the Baptist church, Smiths Wood	11am (Sun)	St Anne's church, Chelmsley Wood
9.30am (Sun)	Our Lady Help of Christians church, Tile Cross	5pm (Sun)	Our Lady Help of Christians church, Tile Cross

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese's policies & procedures at all times.

Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are Philip Hudson & Linda Hudson (EMAIL: sg.stanne-chelmsleywood.bham@rcaob.org.uk) or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 / safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concerns.

These parishes are part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No 234216.