

Postscript from Brian Wood:

During the war, my father was in the army. As D-day approached, they all had to have their injections, so a medical team arrived. They set up two tables with a doctor at each and soon two long queues formed. My dad noticed that all the men in the left-hand queue were shouting out in pain whereas the right-hand queue were peaceful and silent. He joined the right-hand queue and when his turn came he felt nothing. Afterwards, when the medics were packing up, he asked the doctor who had injected him why the other queue were all in pain and his queue wasn't. The doctor said "Well actually I'm a vet, and if I hurt my patients, they bite me." Dear Jesus, give strength and health to all in the NHS. They really must be approaching exhaustion.

REPEAT NOTICES

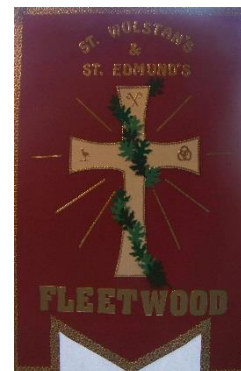
Foodbank Donations: Thank you as always to so many who donate to our Foodbank. For those of you who pay tax, if you would like to, it's now possible to gift aid your donation. Bank details for Faith in the Community are attached to the Gift Aid forms at the back of church.

Alpha 2022: As mentioned last week, the next Alpha course will take place at St Nicholas, starting on Saturday 15th January, with breakfast at 1000. If you have done the course and would like to help in some way, please put your name on the sheet at the back of church. If you haven't done the course but would very much like to - and it is really worthwhile - please put your name on the other sheet at the back of church, preferably before the 8th January. Thank you.

Free Wood: Keith Urwin, as well as making reindeer, is also in the process of taking down a dead tree in the presbytery garden. If anyone would like the wood for their fire or wood burner, you are welcome to take it for free. Please let Keith, Steven, or Fr Alf know and we will arrange it into portable sections.

Exploring Vocation to Priesthood: A Day of reflection Exploring Vocation to the Priesthood. On Saturday 22 January 10.30am - 4pm we are hosting a day for any men, from 18yrs old, who are thinking about a priestly vocation. The day will include Mass, some time for reflection, discussion, adoration. Lunch will be provided. The venue is Our Lady and St Joseph, Warwick Square, Carlisle, CA1 1LB. There is no expectation of commitment. This day is offered to provide an occasion to reflect and think about vocation. If you would like to join us please book a place by email: fr.ruscillo@carlislecatholicchurch.org

A very happy and blessed New Year to all our wonderful parishioners and their families



Catholic Parish of St Wulstan's & St Edmund's

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2nd Sunday of Christmas Year C 2/1/22

Sunday 2nd 1000 Val Earnshaw (RIP)
Monday 3rd **No Mass**
Tuesday 4th 1800 Frank Dillon (RIP)
Wednesday 5th 0930 Bob Rawcliffe (RIP)
Thursday 6th **THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**
1800 People of the Parish
Friday 7th 0930 Dilys Hone (LD)
Saturday 8th 0930 Kenny Warr (LD)
Sunday 9th **BAPTISM OF THE LORD**
1000 Margaret McCann's Intentions



SUNDAY MASS IS NOW LIVESTREAMED ON YOUTUBE VIA OUR PARISH WEBSITE

CONFESSIONS: 0900 on Saturdays and 1730 on Thursdays

*St Edmund's church is closed until further notice.
St Wulstan's will be open from 30 minutes before the start of each Mass.
The Lady Chapel is now open again every day from 0800-1700*

Collection	Attendance
19 th Dec £ 707.80	Sunday - 12 Weekdays (total) - 99 Website - 85 Households
Christmas £1073.50	1800 - 133 2000 - 70 0930 - 58 Website - 190 Households
26 th Dec £ 337.00	Sunday - 60 Weekdays (total M-Th) - 65 Website - 69 Households

Thankyou

Keeping in Touch:

- Follow Twitter <https://twitter.com/ssWulstanEdmund>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/st.wulstansfleetwood/>
- Instagram: St Wulstan & St Edmund



Please pray for: All the sick and housebound of our parish family and also those in care or in hospital

Anniversaries this Week: David Cowen, Laura Harrison, Con Peoples, Irene Nolan, Irene Scott, Frances Tomlinson, Agnes McGreevy, Evelyn Flynn, Audrey Andreas, Sheila Squirrel.

Churches Together Prayer Calendar: This week we are praying for St Edmund's and the people of Abbots Walk, Broadway, Edmondson Place, Lothian Avenue, Penrhos Avenue, Southfleet Place and Wood Street with the prayer: *May the peace of Christ be in their hearts and in their homes.*

NEW NOTICES

Bonus Ball: Winning No for 18th December was 59. No-one has that number. Winners for 25th December were Maria Doherty and Sheila Young with No 18

Thankyou: Not only for the very generous Christmas offerings, gifts and cards, but for so many other things. We've all had the experience of yet another difficult year in the life of our parish, but, somehow, we've muddled through quite well, all things considered, and may have to for a bit longer yet. Thanks to all who have supported the parish so well, especially the many people involved in making the Mass available through stewarding, sacristan ministry, altar serving, reading, broadcasting, decorating, etc, and for our wonderful Eucharistic Ministers who take the Bread of Life to our sick and housebound every week. Lots of other good stuff goes on, largely unseen, by parishioners, such as our House Prayer Groups, maintenance of our property, and what we do outside the parish for the community in general. As a family, we've a lot to be thankful for. My firm heartfelt prayer for the new Year is that more of our young families will make their way back to join us. We miss them, and, let's face it, without them, we have no future.

Thoughts about St Edmund's Future: As promised, there will be a meeting in the Green Hut from 1800-1900, (just before Choir Practice) this Wednesday, 5th January, to discuss what parishioners think should happen to St Edmund's church building. I will stress again that no decisions whatever have been taken, but in an ever-changing Church and demographic, it's important that we come up with our own ideas, rather than have a solution imposed from the Diocese. We hope that as many as possible attend this meeting.

Choir Practice: The first choir practice session of the new year will be on 5th January at 7pm. If you have a voice and would like to join the choir, you are more than welcome to come along. Enter by the door next to the organ.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Many people have told me they miss the Holy Half Hours we had before Covid, which included Benediction, so we will re-instate them in the New Year. With the new Mass schedule, I'm not sure what the best times would be. They used to be after 1200 Mass Wednesdays and 0900 Mass Saturdays, but both Masses are now at 0930. I suggest we start back with just Wednesdays from 1000-1030 for the time being, as we have Alpha at 1000 on Saturdays, and see how it goes. Having those twenty minutes or so, in silence before the Blessed Sacrament, is a beautiful time for prayer, and does the heart (and the soul) good.

Bishop Paul's Pastoral Letter: Several people have asked for a copy of Bishop Paul's excellent letter, read out on the feast of the Holy Family last Sunday. It was such a pity that very few families were there to hear it, as it had much content to help and encourage, but it can be read on the parish website, and I have printed a few copies which are at the back of church.

The Perfect Church: Quite a few people were amused by the poem I read out at the end of Mass a couple of weeks ago, in the context of my homily on the far-from-perfect ancestors in Our Lord's family history. There are a few copies at the back.

Diocesan Safeguarding Coordinator: - The diocese is looking to recruit a suitably qualified individual with significant safeguarding experience to the post of diocesan safeguarding coordinator. This vacancy has arisen due to the forthcoming retirement of the current post holder. The post will be advertised w/c 3rd January 2022 on www.indeed.co.uk and through other internal channels. Application packs will also be available via the Diocesan Safeguarding Office please e mail safeguarding@lancasterrcdiocese.org.uk

Help with Energy Bills: As the new year approaches and the weather may quite possibly get colder, there is some extra help available for residents on a low income, who are struggling to pay their gas and electricity bills. Applications to Wyre Council's Household Support Fund, are now open, and will be processed in order of the date they are received. If you, or anyone you know, may need this help, go to www.wyre.gov.uk/householdsupport

St Bernadette - Visitation of Relics: The Bishops' Conference of England and Wales has arranged for the relics of Saint Bernadette to be brought to England, autumn 2022. A programme of visits to diocesan cathedrals has yet to be drawn up, and we expect this to be done early in the New Year. We look forward very much to welcoming the relics of St Bernadette to Lancaster, mindful that the Diocesan Chief Patroness is Our Lady of Lourdes. This event provides an invitation for all of us to know the story of Saint Bernadette and to give her a place in our devotion in advance of our receiving her relics

Next Online Retreat from Donna Worthington: THE EPIPHANY | We journey with the Magi, seeking the light and following their compelling journey, with a little gazing at the new year ahead... Jan 6th 6.30-9pm

All retreats, created and led by Donna, are an invitation to gently and creatively reflect, be affirmed in and deepen faith, to know Christ better and open up sacred space in order to listen to the Holy Spirit and experience a living spirituality that consoles, challenges and inspires. Varied methods enable Christians to deepen their own discipleship and travel on in their faith journeys (presentation, theological discussion, stillness, prayer, creative sessions, images, music etc). All retreats cost £20, unless otherwise stated. For bookings, please see the website or contact Donna Worthington: drworthington@live.co.uk <https://christianretreats.live>

Parish Preparation for the Worldwide Synod: Next weekend I will print off the first discussion papers from the Diocese for the Synod, for people to have a look at prior to the discussion itself on Thursday 13th January, from 1900-2000 in the Green Hut. Two more discussions will follow on Thursdays 20th and 27th of January, and papers will be available on the preceding Sundays.