



Metropolitan Cathedral & Basilica of St Chad

St Chad's Queensway, Birmingham, B4 6EU



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Fr. Gerry Lennon (Chaplain to the Children's Hospital) & Fr. Christopher Marshall; Fr Ray Corbett (Universities)
Fr Jeremy Howard (Chaplain to the French Speaking Community). Contact at Cathedral House as above
Sister Thérèse O'Brien (Pastoral Assistant) 07985 149141 & Sister Florence Njoku - 0121 679 5376

Sister Gillian Murphy: Catechesis and Education.

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Mrs. Margaret Harrold (Parish Safeguarding Representative) Tel: 07798 837684

Lourdes Pilgrimage Office: 0121 230 6288

Sister Margaret Walsh (St. Chad's Sanctuary Mon.-Fri. 10.30am-3.00pm) Tel: 0121 233 3127

Cathedral Bookshop (Society of St Paul) Lorenzo Torri (Manager) 0121 236 6336

St. Chad's Catholic Primary School: Matthew Tehan (Head teacher) 0121 464 6554

Second Sunday of Advent

10th December 2017

'Bible Sunday'

Divine Office: Psalter Week 2

Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday Cycle of readings: Year B. Weekday Cycle of Readings: Year 1

Entrance Antiphon O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations,
and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.

Responsorial Psalm Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths
straight. All mankind shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy
which comes to you from God.



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Newsletter available online – <http://www.stchadscathedral.org.uk/newsletters.asp>

Mass Times: 9th December – 17th December

Sat 9 10.00am	Advent Feria Mikey Flaherty Int
	Vigil for the Second Sunday of Advent
4.30pm	Bridie Ryan RIP
Sun 10	Second Sunday of Advent ‘Bible Sunday’
9.00am	People of the Parish
11.00am	Deceased members of Purdue, Nolan and Whitty family
1.30pm	Messe en Français
Mon 11	Advent Feria
12.15pm	William O’Holloran RIP
7pm-9pm	<i>Youth Pillars Event (See Note Below)</i>
Tue 12	Advent Feria
12.15pm	Bernadette Redman
12.30pm	Mass in the Children’s Hospital
Wed 13	St Lucy
12.15pm	Thomas, Mary & Liam Flaherty RIP
Thu 14	St John of the Cross
12.15pm	Bridget O’Donnell Int.
Fri 15	Advent Feria
9.15am	Mass in St Chad’s School
12.15pm	Julia Collins
1.30pm	<i>Handsworth Catholic Heads' Forum</i> <i>Advent Carol Service</i>
Sat 16	Advent Feria
10.00am	James Foley RIP
	‘Gaudéte Sunday’
	Vigil for the Third Sunday of Advent
4.30pm	John Walsh RIP
Sun 17	Third Sunday of Advent
9.00am	Patricia Higgins RIP
11.00am	Mary Cotterill
5.00pm	Cathedral Carol Service <i>Followed by mulled wine and mince</i> <i>pies in the Grimshaw Room</i>

Cathedral Bookshop. The Cathedral Book Shop will open on Sunday mornings after the 9.00am Mass till around 1.00pm during this Advent Season. This will allow parishioners who attend on Sunday mornings the opportunity to buy Catholic newspapers, books, piety and religious gifts. Please support this initiative.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions) are available after the 12.15pm Mass during the week, Monday to Friday, and following the 4.30pm Vigil Mass on Saturday afternoon. There is also an opportunity for Confession after the 10.00am Mass on Saturday during Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Please check newsletter for changes.

Cathedral Collections Last Week

Main £747.61

Gift Aid £175.00

Restoration Fund £108.34

This weekend there will be a second collection for **Poor Parishes of the Diocese.**

Poor Box we are particularly grateful for the donations we receive through the Poor Box, which also supports our monthly Food Program for those on the streets. Be assured that we keep a strict record of how we disperse any funds. No doubt, Christmas will bring many requests for help, and so it should!

Cathedral Site Statistics: 26th November – 2nd December

Hours we were open 118.5

Liturgies & Meetings 122

Number of Visitors 4460

Christmas Offerings for the Cathedral Clergy :

Envelopes are available at the back of the Cathedral for your use.

Wills & Bequests Our Cathedral has benefitted greatly in the past from the thoughtfulness of parishioners who have remembered the Cathedral in their Wills. Some have funded particular projects in Memoriam of loved ones. God bless you for your kindness.

Gift Aid can be taken out at any time of the year. Thank you to everyone registered as it is a valuable source of additional income to the Cathedral at no extra cost to the parishioners. Anyone currently registered who changes their address please would you ensure that you amend your address with us so we can continue to claim Gift Aid on your behalf. Please contact Margaret Regan at Cathedral House 0121 230 6208 or margaret.regan@rc-birmingham.org for details on Gift Aid and other finance matters.

Thank you for the financial support given to the cathedral and other charities in these difficult times.

Faith Instruction for your Children Please leave names and contact details for Sr. Therese or Canon Gerry.

Marriage Preparation Courses: are available this year. For details visit www.marriagecare.org.uk

Meet & Greet every first Sunday of the month following the 11.00am Mass in the Grimshaw Room. The next Meet & Greet will be on Sunday 7th January 2018.

Messe en Français for the West Midlands French speaking community. Every first Sunday of the month at 1.30pm. The next Mass is on Sunday 7th January 2018.

PLEASE DO NOT leave any personal property unattended, even when going to receive Holy Communion. Also, please switch off your mobile phone unless you are on-call. Thank you.

CCTV IN OPERATION FOR YOUR SAFETY & SECURITY

Cathedral Flowers: We are now taking floral tribute requests for 2018. Please see the list at the back of the Cathedral. Thank you.

If you wish to have a floral tribute in remembrance of a loved one or for a special intention, please complete the booking form at the back of the Cathedral. Thank you to all who have supported this initiative, which enables us to afford flowers for the Cathedral.

Journey in Faith a series of informal talks on Catholic Faith and practice. These take place on Thursday evenings at 7pm. They are arranged for non-Catholic adults wishing to explore the Catholic faith. You may be an adult who was baptised Catholic but never received the Eucharist or Confirmation? Perhaps you have a non-Catholic partner or friend who would like to learn more about your faith? Why not support them and bring them along? For further information please speak with Canon Gerry or Sr. Gillian.

A Word of Welcome:

Welcome to all of those who represent the various groups and societies who meet here on a regular basis. This week we also welcome pupils from Cardinal Wiseman School. Also welcome to the members of St Chad's Sanctuary.

If you are new to the parish, please introduce yourself to one of the priests. If you have wandered into our cathedral for the first time to simply look around or spend time in quiet prayer you are most welcome. If we can be of any assistance, please speak to one of our cathedral staff or call at Reception.

House Group from St Mary's College, Oscott. a cross-section of students drawn from the 6 years of formation led by Fr Andrew Robertson. They return in the New Year.

University Students: New & Old - If you are a Catholic student at university and would like to meet with other students for prayer, socials and support. Please email Fr. Ray Corbett, Chaplain to Aston University (r.corbett@aston.ac.uk) Fr Ray is also available after one of the weekend Masses.

St. Chad's Cathedral Carol Service – Sunday 17th December 2017 at 5.00pm – followed by mulled wine and mince pies in the Grimshaw Room. Please come along and listen to our magnificent Cathedral Singers under the direction of Professor David Saint sing a variety of Christmas songs and carols interspersed with readings from the scriptures. **All are welcome. NO CHARGE**

Christmas Music from St Chad's Cathedral: a C.D. of traditional Christmas music featuring our own choir recorded at St Chad's in collaboration with Aid to the Church in Need, with ALL profits going to support their missionary work. The C.D. costs £10.00 (you may give more if you wish?) and is available from the Cathedral Reception and Sacristy, as well as from St Paul's Bookshop. An ideal Christmas present.

Holy Father's Prayer Intention for December:

Universal: for the elderly That the elderly, sustained by families and Christian communities, may apply their wisdom and experience to spreading the faith and forming the new generations.

Those who are sick: Mgr. Paul Watson; Canons Peter Gilsean and Michael Leadbeater. Frs.: Tim Burke, Paul Devaney, Andrew McCann, Tony Haycock, Pat Farrelly, Paul Chavasse C.O., Ivor Morris, David Condron, Peter Blundell & Deacon Tony Janew. Pray also for Sheila Dudley, Peter Harte, Sinead Sullivan, Marion Cooper, Bridie D'Arcy, Robin Weeks, Jane Goodyear, Martin Garvey, Barbara Donnellan, Phillip Donnellan, Alwen Griffiths, Elizabeth Wang, Manus Ferry, Eileen Boodhum, Helen Ahern, Michael King, Pat Goggins, Teresa Gillern, Peter Minister, John Casey, Celia Lyons, Raymond Pearson, Roddy Devlin, Peter Hayward, Deidre Fenton, Mary Gillian, Michal Cervenak, Alice Reynolds, Hyacinth De Valliere Enas, Mark Wright, Julie Chapman, David Stokes, Charlie Bancroft, Billy Aldridge, Frank Neary, Madge Dornan, Martin Keating, Eddie and Eileen. Also, the children in the Children's Hospital.

For those who have died recently: Mrs Ruane, Joan Bashford and Frank Kane.

For those whose anniversaries occur about this time: Msr. Bernard Navin. Canon: Joseph Walsh, and Mgr Canon Francis. Frs.: Vincent Lucas, George Gallacher, William Browne, Cyril Barlow, John Griffith, Joseph Rowland, Denis Ryan, Fergus O'Connell, Michael McKiernan and Peter Kavanagh. Deacon: Bryan Salter and Henry Atkinson. Also Bridie Ryan, Barbara Brown, Marian Bird, Mary Cotterill, Martin Foody, Michael Breen and Tommy Hughes.

Eternal Rest grant unto them O, Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. Amen.

The Season of Advent: once more we are in this beautiful time in the Church's calendar. You will notice in the Cathedral the colour purple, a royal colour as we await the coming of the King. We do not use flowers in Advent, but our focus is the Advent Wreath next to the lectern to illuminate the word of God proclaimed from Holy Scripture which leads us through this season to the Light of the Christ Child. The circular wreath symbolises eternity and eternal life; its evergreen foliage signifies enduring life reminding us of the persistence of life in the midst of winter and the darkness that would seek to overcome us. Each week of Advent we light an additional candle on the wreath as Christmas draws ever near. The Jesse Tree, an ancient Christian symbol, represents the Family Tree of Jesus 'springing from the root of Jesse' decorated with symbols of Old Testament people who looked forward in hope to the coming of the Messiah. Throughout Advent the children of the parish will decorate our tree (which is somewhat bigger than usual!). These rich symbols along with our Scripture, the Walk with Me Booklets and Calendars will guide and help us to encounter and deepen our relationship with the person of Christ that we may truly celebrate his birth at Christmas. Don't forget our Carol Service next Sunday!

Anniversary Prayers & Congratulations to: His Grace, Archbishop Bernard who celebrates 36 years of priestly ordination and 8 years since his installation as the 9th Archbishop of Birmingham. To Bishop David McGough on the 12th anniversary of his episcopal ordination as auxiliary bishop. To Canon Gerry on the 31st anniversary of his priestly ordination; and Fr Dominic who celebrates the 9th anniversary of his priestly ordination next week. **Ad multos annos!**

Walk With Me For Advent: Books and Calendars are now available. These are great companions for Advent, especially for the housebound. We have limited copies. Please place your donations in the wall box marked Books.

Second Saturday Catholic Convention & Mass: Held every 2nd Saturday of the month from 8am – 4pm at Bethel Convention Centre. For details visit www.sehion.net

Are you a Gardener? Could you help for just 2 hours on Saturday mornings? Our parish needs someone to lead an exciting **Cafod project to make an Urban Garden at St Chad's Primary School** in Hospital Street, only half a mile from the Cathedral. We hope to give refugees and asylum seekers a chance to work alongside parishioners, making a community vegetable garden, using sustainable, environmentally -friendly principles. Please contact Eileen at eileenmaguire@lycos.com

University & College Students: we know how important it is for students who come to study in Birmingham to feel at home, especially if you have come from abroad. Please help yourself to the Student Information at the back of the cathedral. There are great Catholic Chaplaincy Teams in our universities to introduce you to other Catholic students, and to encourage you in the practise of your faith.

ChaplaincyPlus – “A Place for Everyone” on Wednesday 13th December from 9.30am – 11.00am, venue to be confirmed. A seminar with Krish Kandiah, Director of Home for Good.

Pillars Night @ St Chad's Cathedral – a Soli youth night of music and fun! If you are in Secondary school and love music then this event is for you. Join the Soli team for a night of fun, uplifting music, inspiring talks, prayer and food **HERE IN YOUR PARISH!** We start with a time of games and then move into some praise and worship. From 7-9pm on **Monday 11th December**. Parishioners are more than welcome to attend this event from 7.30pm and join in from praise and worship onwards.

The Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham is seeking to recruit a Chief Operating Officer to work closely with the Archbishop, area Bishops and the Vicar General and will be responsible for all lay personnel, and the financial and property resource management of the Archdiocese. Please see noticeboard for further details.

Pugin Society - Would you be interested in learning more about AWN Pugin, the eminent Victorian architect who designed this Cathedral and the interiors of the Houses of Parliament. The Pugin Society founded in 1995 offers a lively range of events, study tours, talks and publications. Details: www.thepuginociety.co.uk

Israel/Palestine Pilgrimage: March 2018. An Ecumenical, reflective pilgrimage “The Land of the Holy One” Bringing together Lichfield Cathedral, St Chad's Cathedral and Friends of the Holy Land. For further details available from Kate.durrant@lichfield-cathedral.org Telephone: 01543306250

Holy Land Pilgrimage Sat 9th – Sat 16th June 2018. £1,300.00 per person (Sharing). Single Room £250.00. Supplement. Deposit £250.00. **Instalment plans available.** Contact: Andrew Oldnall. Home: 0121 440 8623. Mobile: 07733 226063. Email: andrewsoldnall@gmail.com

CAFOD at St Chad's we are grateful for those parishioners who wish to be part of our CAFOD Group. If you are struggling for ideas about presents for friends and relatives this Christmas, CAFOD offer a range of **World Gifts** which you can donate on behalf of relatives and friends. It is very simple: buy a fruit tree, a chicken or even a goat, to help improve the life and work of those who live without clean water and basic food. These gifts sustain families and children throughout the year. Please pick up a leaflet before you leave. For more information please contact Canon Gerry or Elodie Wagala on 07763454863. Thank you!

CATHEDRAL SECURITY

For your interest and safety, we ask you to be understanding of the occasions when we have to increase security in and around the cathedral. We ask your cooperation when we have to conduct security checks on regular parishioners as well as on our visitors.

We do ask that you never leave any bags unattended while you are in the cathedral. If anyone asks you for money, please do not give them anything but direct them to the Reception. Genuine people are never turned away.

Also, we do not have toilets that are open to the public. The toilets will be opened just before Mass when the sanctuary is being prepared, and they will be closed after Mass once the sanctuary is cleared unless there is a concert or event in the cathedral.

Cathedral Car Park Please note: for reasons of security, all access to the Cathedral Site and Car Park will be secured once the Cathedral is closed and Meetings have finished. Any un-authorised vehicles will be locked in until the car park opens again. Cars are parked at owner's risk. The Cathedral accepts no responsibility for loss or damage to any vehicle or persons. Please visit our website for additional information.