



# 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.

Deacon in part-time residence: Rev. Mr. Jason Mahoney

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Catholic Student Societies: [www.cathchaps.co.uk](http://www.cathchaps.co.uk)

Director of Music: Professor David Saint Assistant Director of Music: Nigel Morris

Tel 0121 230 6247 e-mail: [david.saint@rc-birmingham.org](mailto:david.saint@rc-birmingham.org)

Junior Choir Outreach: [stchadschoraloutreach@rc-birmingham.org](mailto:stchadschoraloutreach@rc-birmingham.org)

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

## First Sunday of Advent

### 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2017

### 'Migrants' Day'

**Divine Office: Psalter Week 1**

**First Sunday of Advent**

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

**Entrance Antiphon** To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

**Responsorial Psalm** God of hosts, bring us back: let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help. Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:** The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.



  
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## Mass Times: 2<sup>nd</sup> December – 10<sup>th</sup> December

**Sat 2**            **Feria in Ordinary Time**  
10.00am        Jack Renfrey RIP  
1.00pm         *Baptism of Ethan Chi-Kin Chan*

### THE SEASON OF ADVENT

#### **Vigil for the First Sunday of Advent** **‘Migrants’ Day’**

4.30pm        Brian Kerrins RIP

#### **Sun 3**            **First Sunday of Advent** **Migrants’ Day’**

9.00am        People of the Parish  
11.00am        Seamus Leo Flynn RIP  
*Followed by Meet & Greet*

#### **Mon 4**           **Advent Feria**

12.15pm       Sharon Brown

#### **Tue 5**            **St Birinus**

12.15pm       Moira and Bill Ramsay  
12.30pm       Mass in the Children’s Hospital

#### **Wed 6**           **Advent Feria or St Nicholas**

12.15pm       John Kealy RIP

#### **Thu 7**            **St Ambrose**

12.15pm       Sean Connelly RIP

#### **Fri 8**            **Solemnity of the Immaculate** **Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

*Patroness of the Archdiocese of Birmingham*

10.00am       Mass in St Chad’s School  
12.15pm       Mass with the Cathedral Chapter  
and the installation of new Canons.  
*(O’Connor & Hession Int.)*

#### **Sat 9**            **Advent Feria**

10.00am       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

**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

**Andrew’s Sleep Out:** £3000 + (see note below)

Next 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: 19<sup>th</sup> November – 25<sup>th</sup> November**

Hours we were open    119.5

Liturgies & Meetings    119

Number of Visitors    3459

**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](mailto: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](http://www.marriagecare.org.uk)

**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 will take place on Thursday evenings at 7pm.(or later if it suits) 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 Guardian Angels School, Birmingham, St Elizabeth's, Coventry and St Chad's, Dudley who join us for a tour of the Cathedral which forms part of their preparation for Confirmation. In addition, we welcome those joining us for the monthly Organ Recital performed by Paul Carr. Also welcome to the members of the Catholic Women's League and members of the Lay Dominicans.

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 are currently on Retreat.

**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](mailto:r.corbett@aston.ac.uk)) Fr Ray is also available after one of the weekend Masses.

#### **Prayer Intentions**

##### **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:** Frs.: Liam McFarlane, Horace Relph, Michael Knight, William Warner, Anthony Kane, George Rafferty Thomas McMarrow, Jerome O'Flynn & Hugh Malloy. Also Bridie Ryan.

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

**The Season of Advent:** once more we enter 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.

**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.

**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 3<sup>rd</sup> December.

**Messe en Français** for the West Midlands French speaking community. Every first Sunday of the month at 1.30pm. *The next Mass has been moved from Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December to the following Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December.*

**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](http://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](mailto:eileenmaguire@lycos.com)

**St. Chad's Cathedral Carol Service – Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> 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**

**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 13<sup>th</sup> 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 11<sup>th</sup> 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.

**Birmingham Newman Circle** The next meeting will be on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December, 7:30 - 8:30 pm, at Catholic Chaplaincy, Newman House, 29 Harrisons Rd, Edgbaston B15 3QR.

**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.thepuginsociety.co.uk](http://www.thepuginsociety.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](mailto:Kate.durrant@lichfield-cathedral.org) Telephone: 01543306250

**Holy Land Pilgrimage** Sat 9<sup>th</sup> – Sat 16<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:andrewsoldnall@gmail.com)

**St Paul's School for Girls, Vernon Road, Edgbaston, B16 9SL** are looking to appoint a Finance Assistant (Grade 2) and an Examinations Administrator (Grade 3). Please see school website ([www.stpaulgl.bham.sch.uk](http://www.stpaulgl.bham.sch.uk)) for further details and to download an application form. Closing date is Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> December 2017 and interviews are scheduled to be held on Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> December 2017.

**Big Birmingham Sleepout 2017** – Cathedral staff, Andrew De Valliere wishes to thank everyone for all the support and encouragement afforded to him while taking part in the Big Birmingham Sleepout. Thanks to your immense generosity, Andrew has collected a sum of above £3000 so far towards St. Basil's Charity which supports over 5000 young people each year who are homeless. People can still sponsor him <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/AndrewDeValliere-StChadsCathedral> or use the list placed on the table at the back of the Cathedral.

### 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.**