



# Metropolitan Cathedral & Basilica of St Chad

## St Chad's Queensway, Birmingham, B4 6EU



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Fr. Christopher Marshall & Fr. Gerry Lennon (Chaplain to the Children's Hospital)  
Fr Ray Corbett (Universities): [r.corbett@aston.ac.uk](mailto:r.corbett@aston.ac.uk)

Fr Jeremy Howard (Chaplain to the French Speaking Community). Contact at Cathedral House as above

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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; L'organiste d'honneur: John Pryor  
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

### 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2018

First Sunday of Advent

Year B. Psalter Week 1. Weekday cycle 2

#### 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

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

#### 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.



**Sat 1**                    **Feast of St Edmund Campion**  
10.00am                Sean Keeley

**THE SEASON OF ADVENT**

**Vigil for the First Sunday of Advent**

4.30pm (Vigil) People of the Parish

**Sun 2**                    **First Sunday of Advent**  
9.00am                Eileen & Eddie Doulton Sp. Int  
11.00am                Christian Jude Le Blanc RIP  
*Followed by Meet & Greet*  
1.30pm                Messe en Français

**Mon 3**                  **St Francis Xavier**  
*'Migrants Day'*  
12.15pm                Tom & Mary Perry RIP

**Tue 4**                  **Advent Feria**  
12.00noon            Mid-day Prayer  
12.15pm                Mass with the Cathedral Chapter  
12.30pm                Mass in the Children's Hospital

**Wed 5**                 **St Birinus**  
12.15pm                Brian May RIP

**Thu 6**                  **Advent Feria**  
9.15am                Mass in St Chad's School  
12.15pm                Pat Daalton RIP  
1.15pm                Monthly Organ Recital

**Friday 7**              **St Ambrose**  
*First Friday*  
12.15pm                Margaret Butcher - 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday  
1.15pm                Choral Outreach Concert

**Sat 8**                    **Solemnity of the Immaculate**  
**Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**  
***Patroness of the Archdiocese of Birmingham***  
10.00am                Mick Flemming RIP

**Vigil for the Second Sunday of Advent**

4.30pm (Vigil) Hession/O'Connor Families Int

**Sun 9**                    **Second Sunday of Advent**  
**'Bible Sunday'**  
9.00am                People of the Parish  
11.00am                Purdue/Nolan/Whitty Families Int.

**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.

**Messe en Français** for the West Midlands French speaking community. Every first Sunday of the month at 1.30pm. **The next Mass is on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2019.**

**Meet & Greet** every first Sunday of the month following the 11.00am Mass in the Grimshaw Room. **The next Meet & Greet will take place on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2019.**

**The Recitation of the Angelus:** the cathedral Angelus Bell sounds every 6 hours (6am, 12pm, 6pm & 12am). This is a call to personal prayer for those within and without the cathedral. We do not schedule any collective recitation of the Angelus. However, if Mass is not being celebrated or no other event is taking place, including guided tours when the Angelus Bell sounds, then, and only then, those who may be in the cathedral at that time may recite the Angelus together rather than interrupt an event.

**Cathedral Collections Last Week**  
**Main £30.60 Restoration Fund £1465.82**  
**Gift Aid £275.00**

**Thank you for your prayers and generosity.**

Next Sunday there will be a second collection for the **Poor Parishes of the Diocese.**

**Please note that Gift Aid envelopes** are available for the use of those who pay taxes. Thank you to those who make use of them already.

**Christmas Offerings for the Cathedral Clergy :**  
Envelopes are available at the back of the Cathedral for your use.

**Cathedral Site Statistics:**  
**18<sup>th</sup> November – 24<sup>th</sup> November 2018**

Hours we were open        **113.5**  
Liturgies & Meetings      **110**  
Number of Visitors        **3055**

**URGENT: Missio Red Boxes** We are now collecting Red Boxes from parishioners so that we can empty them and send the proceeds to the charity. If you have a red box at home, please return it to Sr. Therese as soon as possible. A new box will be issued. Thank you.

**Cathedral Flowers:** We are now taking floral tribute requests. 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.

**Our Restoration Fund:** with personal sponsorship, including our 'In Memoria' scheme, your generosity has enabled us to keep up a rolling program of restoration for many of our cathedral artefacts. The St Chad's Association is funding the re-gilding of the Lady Chapel and Sanctuary Rood Screens. A full list of what has been restored will be produce shortly, along with a 'wish list' of things yet to do. How indebted we are! Thank you for the care and affection you show for our cathedral.

**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. This will help towards renovating particular items. Holy Mass will be offered for the intention of all of our Benefactors.

**Christmas & New Year Masses** – Please collect separate sheet which will be available next week.

**CCTV IS IN OPERATION FOR YOUR SAFETY & SECURITY. PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE ANY PERSONAL PROPERTY UNATTENDED.**

**THANK YOU**

**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.

**Faith Instruction for your Children** Please leave names and contact details at the Parish Office (Details above)

**Welcome:** In addition to our regular meetings, we welcome this week members of the Knights of St Columba, and those involved with the Choral Outreach Programme.

If you are new to the parish, please introduce yourself to one of the priests. Students new to our universities, please see contact details for Fr Ray Corbett. Be assured of a friendly welcome and support from him and fellow students. 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.

#### **THE ARCHBISHOP'S PASTORAL LETTER**

Thank you for the responses we received to the Archbishop's Pastoral Letter read last weekend on the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA).

The letter is still available on the Archdiocese website: <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/>. Copies are also available on request from the sacristy after Sunday Masses or during the week from the Parish Office.

The Archdiocese believes that the work being done by IICSA is of great significance and supports the aim of strengthening and improving safeguarding practises and cultures within the Church.

The welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults is a fundamental priority for the Archdiocese. Fostering a culture which has safeguarding at its very heart remains a key part of our work.

If you would like to speak to someone about safeguarding and the Church's work, please call **0121 230 6240**.

If you would like to speak to someone independent of the Church you can contact the NSPCC on **0800 800 5000**

Please pray with us for all the victims of abuse, and for all those involved in the work of this important enquiry.

#### **Prayer Intentions**

##### **Holy Father's Prayer Intention for December:**

**Evangelization:** In the service of the Transmission of Faith. That people, who are involved in the service and transmission of faith, may find, in their dialogue with culture, a language suited to the conditions of the present time.

#### **Our Prayer Lists**

**Those who are ill:** Annie Byrne, Francis Moylyn, Ken Halford, Liz Wainhouse, Gerry Somers, Joseph Barrett, Christopher Dunn, Philomena Laird, and John Dunn. **Latently Dead:** David Dring, Brian May, Pat Dalton, Brigid Geoghan, Marcella Fitzgerald, Ted O'Connell, Mary Joyce and Liz Jones.

**For those whose anniversaries occur about this time:** Frs.: Liam Macfarlane, Horace Relph, Michael George Knight, William Warner, Anthony Kane, and George Rafferty. **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.

**David Dring RIP** – David was recently called to eternal rest. David and his family have been longstanding supporters of our Cathedral. Please keep his family in your prayers.

**St. Paul's Bookshop** 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.

**St Chad's Junior Choir** has grown out of our Choral Outreach Programme. Rehearsals are on Thursday evenings during term time from 5.00pm-6.30pm. For more information please contact David and Alexander Wynne at [choraloutreach@rc-birmingham.org](mailto:choraloutreach@rc-birmingham.org)

**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)

**Help with cleaning the cathedral:** We are seeking people who would be happy to join a team of volunteers to help with the cathedral on an occasional basis at a time to be agreed? Should you be interested or require further information please contact Canon Gerry or Margaret Regan. Many thanks. Thank you to those who have responded so far.

**St. Chad's Cathedral Carol Service – Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2018** – 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.**

**All 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)) University students are invited to register their emails with Fr Ray Corbett, who is the chaplain to Aston University. It is the hope that activities can be arranged in the near future.

Please email Fr Ray at: [catholic-chaplaincy@aston.ac.uk](mailto:catholic-chaplaincy@aston.ac.uk) Fr Ray is also available after the weekend Masses.

**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

**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)

**And finally:** just to express a brief, but heartfelt, word of thanks for so many kind messages and cards. To paraphrase Dag Hammarskjöld, a late Swedish diplomat, and the second person to serve as Secretary General to the United Nations, and a recipient of the Noble Peace Prize:

**‘For all that has been – thank you!**

**And for all that is to come – simply Yes!’**

Canon Gerry

My contact details remain for post: please address anything to Canon Gerry Breen c/o Cathedral House, St. Chad's Queensway, Birmingham B4 6EU. Should it be personal or confidential please mark the envelope as such.

My emails remain as [canonbreen@rc-birmingham.org](mailto:canonbreen@rc-birmingham.org) and my personal email is [gerrybreen@btinternet.com](mailto:gerrybreen@btinternet.com)

**Shadwell Street Development** you will have noticed that Berkeley Homes have begun work on the former FGF factory site at the rear of the cathedral. Towards the end of the year, Shadwell Street will become a One-Way system, with traffic flow from the Princip Street running up to Old Snowhill. Berkeley's will create a 'pit stop' lane for the delivery of materials during the construction period of three years, which will result in the loss of the public parking bays on Shadwell Street. We will keep you updated on progress.

**St. Joseph's Home, Coleshill,** offers residential care to older people and those living with dementia in a Catholic setting. Respite bedrooms are also available for those who could benefit from a short stay. If you or someone you know might benefit from the care offered at St. Joseph's, please call 01675 434500 for an informal chat or to arrange a visit.

**Pastoral Administrator - Required for January 2019**  
**Hours: 36.5 plus banked hours**

**Salary: £19,446 - £20,074 depending on experience**

The Headteacher and Governors are seeking to appoint an outstanding full time Pastoral Administrator who will have excellent interpersonal, numeracy and literacy skills, be confident and skilled in using a range of ICT programs and be able to liaise with tact and diplomacy under pressure with parents, carers, students, outside agencies and visitors. Please complete an application form and one side of A4 on how your skills, abilities and experience match the Pastoral Administrator Post. For further details you can download an application pack from our website [www.stpaulgl.bham.sch.uk](http://www.stpaulgl.bham.sch.uk)  
Closing date: Friday 14 December 2018 at 12noon.  
Interview date: Tuesday 18 December 2018.

**CAPS - Catholics for AIDS Prevention & Support**

Saturday December 1st marks the 31st annual World AIDS Day. Let us remember all those living with HIV and AIDS. We pray for all those infected or affected by HIV all over the world. We pray for the doctors, nurses, scientists and carers who work for healing in this devastating pandemic. We ask God to bless the work of CAFOD and Caritas International, who serve the poor in the name of the Church. We pray for all those involved in the 'Positive Catholics' HIV ministry here in the UK. May God fill all of us with compassion and solidarity.

For faith sensitive HIV support

Email: [info@caps-uk.org](mailto:info@caps-uk.org), Phone: 07505 608 655

Websites: [www.caps-uk.org](http://www.caps-uk.org)

[www.positivecatholics.com](http://www.positivecatholics.com)

For general HIV advice & support

THT Direct: 0808 802 1221

[www.POSITIVEFAITH.net](http://www.POSITIVEFAITH.net)

**The 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.**