



Metropolitan Cathedral & Basilica of St Chad

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St. Chad's Catholic Primary School: Martina Parker (Acting Head Teacher) 0121 464 6554



First Sunday of Advent

29th November 2020

Divine Office: Psalter Week 1 First Sunday of Advent (Year B)

- 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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You can read our privacy policy at <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/privacy-policy>

We are pleased to inform you all Masses at the Cathedral will be live streamed. Please visit our website for details. Public Masses will begin from Wednesday 2nd December. All Public Masses will have a (*) alongside the time. And please note changes to next weekend Mass times. Please check the Cathedral website homepage for changes and if in doubt refresh the page to see most up to date notices.

Mass Times: 28th November – 6th December 2020

Sat 28 Feria in Ordinary Time
10.00am Queenie Mulvey
Followed by the recitation of the Rosary

There will be no Saturday Vigil Mass during this time

Sun 29 First Sunday of Advent (Year B)
11.00am People of the Parish

Mon 30 Feast of St Andrew
12.15pm Leslie and Skane

MONTH OF DECEMBER

Tue 1 Feast of St Edmund Campion
12.15pm Paddy Butler RIP

Wed 2 Advent Feria
*12.15pm Fr. Patrick Joyce

**Thurs 3 Memorial St Francis Xavier
'Migrants' Day'**
9.30am Live Stream School Mass
*12.15pm Bridget Kennedy RIP

Friday 4 Advent Feria
*12.15pm Private Intention

Sat 5 Feast of St Birinus
*10.00am Maura Williams
Followed by the recitation of the Rosary

Vigil for the Second Sunday of Advent (Year B)
* 2.00pm Sharon and Michael

**Sun 6 Second Sunday of Advent (Year B)
'Bible Sunday'**
*10.00am Noel Sweeney RIP
*12.00noon People of the Parish

To Live is to Change! – On Saturday 28th and then Tuesday 1st (during lockdown), we continue with Private Prayer only 1.30pm – 4.00pm

From Wednesday 2nd December, we shall aim to open for Mass every day. We welcome those who are returning but please always check the times.

Some changes will be that as the Saturday 12 noon Mass has not been so popular, we shall keep one Vigil Mass at 2pm on Saturday.

Sunday Mass times for the time being will be at 10am and 12.00noon. **There are no toilets available because of the virus, and you are asked to bring a face covering with you for Mass. Our capacity for individual visitors is 50. Please help with Test & Trace. We are using a QR code.**

Holy Father's Prayer Intention for November: Artificial Intelligence – We pray that the progress of robotics and artificial intelligence may always serve humankind.

Holy Father's Prayer Intention for December: For a life of prayer – We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.
Look out for the Pope's new letter: **Fratelli Tutti.**

Cathedral Prayers Lists

Recently Deceased:

Angela McDaid; May the souls of the Faithful Departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen. As we reach the conclusion of November and begin the holy season of Advent, let all of our thoughts for those who have died be set in the context of the 'blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ'

Those who are ill: Mary Withers. We pray for our parishioners, family and friends who are sick. We pray at this time for all healthcare workers. We pray for all those whose skills are being used to develop vaccines to combat Covid 19.

For those whose anniversaries occur about this time: Archbishops: Joseph Masterson, Edward Ilsley; Frs.: Edward Neary, Joseph du Moulin Browne CO, Reginald Anwyl, Norman Millard, Peter John Rogers and Liam Macfarlane. Also, James Madden, Nora Finn, Philip Dolphin, Frank Kane, Joan Bashford and M Ruane.

Sacrament of Reconciliation – On Saturday (28th) and Tuesday (1st) the Sacrament of Reconciliation will also be available from 1.30pm – 2.30pm or by request.

Commencing Wednesday 2nd December, on weekdays, the Sacrament of Reconciliation will also be available from 11.30am – 12 noon. (before the 12.15 Mass) and after both 10am and 2pm Masses on Saturdays. Come and experience the Lord's Mercy in this rich sacrament.

The God Who Speaks

Please try to look at next weekend's readings in the coming week:

Second Sunday of Advent (Year B)

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9:11; Psalm 84;

2 Peter 3:8-14; Mark 1:1-8

The Year of the Word has now officially concluded. As the year was so affected and events postponed, the *God who Speaks* initiative will continue. Let us continue to welcome the Word.

**THIS CATHEDRAL LIVE STREAMS
MASS AND OTHER EVENTS**



Time To Reflect

Do you realise that Advent is what might in other situations be referred to as a 'Game of Two Halves'? Yes, it is a time when we look towards Christmas, but there is more to it and you are invited to enter into the two halves of this Holy Season.

Booklet on Liturgy and Scripture

We aim to provide catechesis for the months and seasons of the Church's Year. How do you try to deepen your knowledge of your faith: Reading / Catholic podcasts / prayer?

The Sower Magazine

The latest edition of the Diocesan Magazine is now available. Paper copies are available from the Cathedral and online, please visit: <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/diocesan-magazine> The Editors welcome your feedback.

New Ways of Giving: We are grateful for the donations that you have made during the time of lockdown. We also acknowledge that these have been times of uncertainty and hardship for some. We have introduced a **card payment machine** at the back of the Cathedral and in Cathedral House reception. If you wish, you may also set up a standing order. If you would like more details about how to set up a **Standing Order** in place of the weekly collection, please email Margaret.regan@rc-birmingham.org We will regularly publish some of the key statistics to keep you all informed, but please do contact Margaret in the finance office if you have any questions or speak to Fr Tim.

In this vale of Tiers!

As the end of the period of national lockdown the coming weeks will still be characterised for many of us by restrictions on 'normality'. Let us try to balance any frustrations that we might feel with the knowledge that there is a reason for them. What is more important is that Places of Worship can remain open. Let us make good use of this opportunity.

The Basilican - the magazine of the St Chad's Cathedral Association - The Autumn bumper edition is now available to buy. Our magazine is packed full of interesting articles, including an opening introduction by Archbishop Bernard Longley and others by Mgr. Timothy Menezes, Cathedral Dean, and Professor David Saint, Organist and Director of Music. In this edition we have a number of super articles by some of our young people and adults who are particularly interested in St Chad's Cathedral and its history. As we are no longer able to display the magazine at the back of the Cathedral, due to the Covid 19 restrictions, please contact the Editor, Anne Symonds, on 0121 249 1487 or email Anne on annets103@hotmail.co.uk or david.dsace@outlook.com. It costs £5 plus £2 postage and packing.

Thursday Live Organ Recital - Livestream only for now on the 1st Thursday of the month. See the Cathedral website for the YouTube link. Available any time as are the recitals from previous months – now we have the time!

The Season of Advent and the new Church year begins on Sunday 29th November.

Last Sunday we celebrated the Solemnity of Christ the King and the culmination of the Church's Year. Now, with the holy season of Advent, we begin Year B, which corresponds to the Gospel of St Mark.

Walk With Me Booklets and Calendars are available at the Cathedral in the coming week. Please use them to accompany you this Advent

St. Paul's Book Shop will open again in the coming week with a good selection of Christmas Cards / books / cribs / gifts. Email Birmingham@stpauls.org.uk

Official NHS QR Poster for Test & Trace -

We have now displayed our official NHS QR Code poster at the entrance doors into our Cathedral. Maintaining records of staff, parishioners and visitors, and displaying an official NHS QR poster, helps NHS Test and Trace to identify and notify people who may have been exposed to the virus. The NHS COVID-19 app has a feature that allows users to quickly and easily 'check in' to any venue by scanning the code and you then do not have to write down your details. If there is an outbreak associated with our Cathedral, a message will be sent to the relevant app users with the necessary public health advice. This will help to avoid the reintroduction of lockdown measures and support the country to return to, and maintain, a more normal way of life. For those who do not have the NHS COVID-19 app, please continue to bring a piece of paper with their name and phone number written on it and place it in the container provided for this purpose when you come to Mass. If someone wishes to attend Mass and has not written down their details but is happy to provide them, a steward may (while observing social distancing) write those details down and put them in the container.

The CCTV System operates 24 hours a day. This is in place for the safety of people, protection of property and crime prevention.

Inquiries: 0121 230 6216 / 0121 230 6201



Please switch off mobile phones when in Church.



An Induction Loop System is provided. Please switch your hearing aid to the 'T' position.



The programme for public Masses commencing Wednesday 2nd December will be:

Monday to Friday 12.15pm

Saturday 10am & 2.00pm (Vigil Mass of Sunday)

Sunday 10am & 12noon

The Cathedral will be open on weekdays from 11.00am – 2.00pm (Sacrament of Reconciliation will also be available from 11.30am – 12 noon).

These times have been chosen to enable people to reach the Cathedral on public transport, and so that people can come safely always in the hours of daylight.

The Cathedral will be open half an hour before each weekend Mass and will close soon after the conclusion of Mass.

Holy Communion is currently on the hand only.

The Bishops of England and Wales wish to make it clear that there remains no obligation for your attendance at Mass on Sunday. Therefore, you are most welcome at Mass on any day of the week.

This being the case, you are asked to attend no more than one public Mass at the weekend, to allow for anybody who wishes to attend Mass to do so, with our reduced capacity.

We shall not operate any booking system. Please come to Mass if you wish to and feel safe to. We apologise in advance if you come to the Cathedral and we have already reached capacity. However, we hope that the number of Masses across the week will enable anybody who wishes to come, to be present at least once a week as everybody who wishes can hope to make a safe return to the celebration of Mass.

WE HAVE BEEN ADVISED IT IS COMPULSORY FOR ALL THOSE COMING IN TO THE CATHEDRAL TO WEAR SOME FORM OF FACE COVERING WHICH YOU BRING YOURSELF.

At present, we must inform you that the following conditions remain in place at the Cathedral:

No toilet facilities

No lighting of votive candles

No distribution of Holy Water at doors or for home

No gathering for conversation before or after Mass

You are asked to cooperate fully with the staff and stewards who will show you to a designated seat in the Cathedral.

The capacity for seating in this new arrangement in the Cathedral is **50 individual seats**.

The safety of those who come as well as the safety of our staff is our highest priority at this time.

Please do not come to the Cathedral if you present any symptoms of the coronavirus or are living in a house with anybody who presents symptoms.

Every person entering the Cathedral is asked to take personal responsibility for respecting social distancing and the wellbeing of others as well as themselves. Please cooperate with the test & trace procedures when coming to the Cathedral. **NHS Test and Trace** is a key part of the country's ongoing COVID-19 response. If we can rapidly detect people who have recently come into close contact with a new COVID-19 case, we can take swift action to minimise transmission of the virus. **The NHS COVID-19 app** has a feature that allows users to quickly and easily 'check in' to your venue by scanning the code. The information stays on the user's phone. In England, you do not have to ask people who choose to 'check in' using the official NHS QR code to provide their contact details. If there is an outbreak associated with a venue, a message will be sent to the relevant app users with the necessary public health advice. By maintaining records of staff, customers and visitors, and displaying an official NHS QR poster, you will help NHS Test and Trace to identify and notify people who may have been exposed to the virus. This will help to avoid the reintroduction of lockdown measures and support the country to return to, and maintain, a more normal way of life. You can read further information on [how NHS Test and Trace works](#).

We continue to pray for the health of our Cathedral congregation and the health of the people of our Archdiocese. Let us continue to pray for each other.

For any enquiries about any of the above information, please contact:

dean.stchadscathedral@rcaob.org.uk

0121 230 6209

May God bless you.

Please keep in touch with developments over the weeks ahead on the following websites:

Bishops' Conference of England and Wales -

cbcew.org.uk/

Archdiocese of Birmingham -

<https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/>

St Chad's Cathedral -

<https://www.stchadscathedral.org.uk/>

Pray with: Universalis: <https://www.universalis.com>

Sacred Space - <https://sacredspace.ie/>

God who speaks UK- <https://thegodwhospeaks.uk>

CAFOD launched its coronavirus emergency appeal

on 30 April. The effects of coronavirus on developing countries where CAFOD works are likely to be devastating. Families without enough to eat and without access to clean water and healthcare are particularly vulnerable to coronavirus. The poorest and most marginalised communities will be pushed further into poverty. Your prayers and gifts are needed now more than ever to help protect the lives of those in poor communities. You can donate as individuals at cafod.org.uk/coronavirusappeal or as a parish community via your own parish coronavirus appeal.

Diocesan e-newsletter – Please subscribe via the website

<https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/>

Remember to share with anyone you think will benefit, and encourage them to subscribe too. If you have any news, events or information you'd like to share this way please email it to communications@rc-birmingham.org marked 'For Newsletter'.

Diocesan Ministry for Young People – For details of all

that is happening for young people in our Archdiocese, please visit: www.kenelmyouthtrust.org.uk

The Cathedral Site is committed to remaining a place of safety for people coming to visit. We understand the difficulties that people face in returning to life's routines. We are not yet in a position to offer the use of the Grimshaw Room or any other meeting rooms or facilities on site.

The Christian Life Community invites you to our Virtual Information Evening by ZOOM on Thursday 14th January 2021 at 7.30 p.m. We are a world-wide organisation for lay people, who meet in small groups, currently virtually, for helping them with prayer, sharing their faith with others and exploring how to live their lives on a daily basis in the spirit of the gospel and for mutual support. We would like to offer the opportunity to Christians to experience this way of life by setting up new virtual groups by Zoom for the Midlands area. For more information, or for the Zoom link, contact:- Peter Dimambro, mdimambro@hotmail.co.uk 01926 428399.

St Chad's Cathedral Primary School – We welcome applications for our parish primary school which is in Hospital Street in Newtown. Our school is a faith-filled community of love, care and excellence in a Gospel-based and broad curriculum. If you would like to know more about St Chad's Primary School and what is can offer to your family, please phone 0121 464 6554.

Email: enquiry@st-chads.bham.sch.uk

St Chad's Primary School has recently begun the process of converting to Academy Status and will join the St Teresa of Calcutta Academy together with Archbishop Ilsley, Holy Trinity and Holy Souls schools in Birmingham.

Faith Justice – A Winter Pause

<https://faithjustice.org.uk/a-winter-pause>

Rooted in the Christian Mystical Tradition

Sunday 13th - Friday 18th December

At the darkest point of the year we invite you to take a pause. To breath more deeply. To make some space for God.

We are partnering with JesuitsUK to offer a retreat which combines personal prayer and reflection, one to one meetings with a trained guide, and workshops with others.

TO OUR CATHOLIC UNIVERSE AND CATHOLIC TIMES READERS IN THE PARISH:-

At the moment you are unable to collect your paper at Mass, but you can get it delivered direct to your home every week, POST FREE. Please go to www.thecatholicuniverse.com or call them on 0161 820 5722 and they will arrange for you. SPECIAL OFFER 3 MONTHS :-£22.00 or 12 Months:- £80.00

Also we have available Church Plan offers for Parishes direct, should you be interested in taking a small supply:- 5 Copies to be sent each week @ £111.15 a quarter