



Metropolitan Cathedral & Basilica of St Chad

St Chad's Queensway, Birmingham, B4 6EU

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Archdiocese Website: www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk

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Organiste Honoraire: John Pryer;

0121 230 6247 e-mail: music.stchadscathedral@rcaob.org.uk

Junior Choir/Choral Outreach: choraloutreach@rcaob.org.uk

Kath White - Lourdes Pilgrimage Office: 0121 230 6288

Sister Margaret Walsh - Trustee (St. Chad's Sanctuary Mon / Wed / Fri. 10.30am-3.00pm)

Abi Martin – St. Chad's Sanctuary Project Manager Tel: 0121 233 3127

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

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

Fourth Sunday of Easter

'World Day of Prayer for Vocations'

25th April 2021

Divine Office: Psalter Week 4 Fourth Sunday of Easter (Year B)

- Entrance Antiphon** The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth; by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.
- Responsorial Psalm** The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner Stone.
- Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my own sheep and my own know me. Alleluia!
- Communion Antiphon:** The Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down his life for his sheep and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.



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

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.

All Ceremonies are open to the public, unless otherwise stated.

Please check the Cathedral website homepage for changes and if in doubt refresh the page to see most up to date notices.

Please feel free to come to Mass / Confessions if you can and know that we are praying for you and with you, if you can't.

Mass Times: 24th April – 2nd May 2021

Sat 24 Easter Feria
10.00am Teresa Maloney RIP

Vigil for Fourth Sunday of Easter (B)
'World Day of Prayer for Vocations'
2.00pm Betty & Liam Hynes

Sun 25 Fourth Sunday of Easter (B)
10.00am People of the Parish
12.00noon Ints of Archbishop Mark Miles
(Priest of the Diocese of Gibraltar who is ordained Bishop today for service as Papal Nuncio to Benin and Togo.)

Mon 26 Easter Feria
12.15pm Clemence Douglas RIP (100th Birthday)

Tue 27 Easter Feria
12.15pm Pat Murray RIP

Wed 28 Easter Feria
12.15pm Fr. Michael Fisher RIP

Thurs 29 Feast of St Catherine of Siena
9.30am Live stream Mass for Children & Families
12.15pm Tom McDermott RIP

Friday 30 Easter Feria
12.15pm Frank King RIP

Sat 1 May Memorial of St Joseph the Worker in the Year of St Joseph

10.00am Jim McEvelly Ints.

Vigil for Fifth Sunday of Easter (B)
2.00pm James Madden RIP
Celebrant: Bishop Stephen Wright

Sun 2 Fifth Sunday of Easter (B)
10.00am People of the Parish
12.00noon Dileepa, Mignonne & Family – in thanksgiving

We are now open for Mass every day.
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.

THIS CATHEDRAL LIVE STREAMS MASS AND

OTHER EVENTS 

Holy Father's Prayer Intention for April & May:

Fundamental Rights – We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.

The World of Finance

Let us pray that those in charge of finance will work with governments to regulate the financial sphere and protect citizens from its dangers.

Cathedral Prayers Lists

Recently Deceased: Canon Michael McCoy, Fr. Michael Fisher, Fr. John Kearns, Carole McCarthy, Peter Harte, Dave Hollyoak, Elaine Cooper and all victims of COVID.

Those who are ill: We pray for Bobby (Bhupinder) Bansal, and our parishioners, family and friends who are sick. Our Lady of Lourdes pray for them.

For those whose anniversaries occur about this time: Frs: Joseph Hickson, Peter Cooney, Peter Heath and Thomas O'Connor. Deacon James Fantham. Also: Joyce Durcan, Peter Grimley, Sheila Williams, M Donagh, Thomas Regan and Jerry Diggins and Andrew Robinson (Seminarist, 20 years ago this year).

Gift Aid Envelopes: please ask a member of staff for your new box of Gift Aid envelopes.

Second Collection: There will be a second collection for the Clergy Training Fund. Please remember all those in formation for ministry for Vocations. Please consider visiting: www.vocations.org.uk

Our heartfelt thanks to all of our staff and faithful volunteers for so much hard work – generously given with a great spirit of joy. During these times of the pandemic we are eternally grateful to our small but dedicated group of volunteers who, by their generosity of time, have kept our Cathedral Covid-safe with a stringent cleaning regime. We would not have been able to have our Cathedral open to the public if not for their presence for over a year now.

CAFOD: Thank you for your continued support during 2020/21. Your generosity enabled the parish to send a donation of £542.96 as well as the £1000 raised for the Lenten Walk for Water.

The God Who Speaks - Please try to look at next weekend's readings in the coming week:

Fifth Sunday of Easter (B)

Acts 9:26-31; Psalm 21;

1 John 3:18-24;

John 15:1-8

www.godwhospeaks.uk

A Virtual Tour of St Chad's Cathedral – At a time when so many people are exploring the new world of online information, we are delighted to say that St Chad's will now be open to the world well beyond the Cathedral. At the end, the week in which we celebrated our patron, St Chad, we have launched a 360 degree tour of the Cathedral which can be navigated on mobile devices and computer. It will be a resource for many of our schools and as well as for individuals who wish to know more about the beauty of our Cathedral Church. Hopefully, as lockdown eases, it will be an invitation for more and more people to visit the Cathedral and to find here something of the peace and glimpse of heaven that we know and love. You will all know friends and relatives in Birmingham who have never visited our beautiful Cathedral. Why not point them to the Virtual Tour on the homepage of the Cathedral website?

Time To Reflect – The **April Cathedral Corner** on our website asks some of the questions that we might take for granted, but which we might also struggle to answer when family / friends / children ask us: Which is more important – Christmas or Easter? And why?

Booklet on Liturgy and Scripture - The April booklet is now available to download from our website. Let's try to celebrate well the 50 days of Eastertide to Pentecost.

The Sower Magazine - The latest edition of the Diocesan Magazine is available. Paper copies available or online. Please visit:

<https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/diocesan-magazine> The Editors welcome your feedback.

Year of St Joseph – This year has been designated as a special year of prayer to St Joseph. Husband of Mary and Guardian of Jesus, St Joseph is not always heralded as a high profile character in Scripture or in the Church's Life. However, you can find out how rich a character St Joseph is by reading this short but beautiful letter of Pope Francis called 'With a Father's Heart'. [Apostolic Letter Patris Corde of the Holy Father Francis on the 150th Anniversary of the proclamation of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church \(8 December 2020\) | Francis \(vatican.va\)](#). Did you know, for example, that despite his important role, there is not a single word attributed to Joseph in the Scriptures? Do you realise that God speaks to him most of all in dreams? And do you know that apart from Mary, the Mother of Jesus, the next most written about person in Church Teaching through the centuries is St Joseph? So it is timely that as St Joseph is now part of the Eucharistic Prayer at every Mass, and as we contemplate the importance of fathers, we consider him.

St. Paul's Book Shop is now open on Monday – Saturday from 9.00am – 4.00pm. We are pleased to inform you they continue to handle web and mail order requests/business. Email: Birmingham@stpauls.org.uk

St Chad's Sanctuary – our parish charity. Week by week, on the St Chad's Sanctuary newsletter (which you can find on its website – the link is further down this notice), you will see a request for what is most needed to give dignity to refugees and asylum seekers who have arrived in Birmingham, and in need of the most basic things. If you feel able to support the work of St Chad's Sanctuary financially, please visit the website where all details can be found: www.stchadssanctuary.com.

Click on the Sanctuary button on our Cathedral website homepage for the weekly newsletter.

I was a stranger and you welcomed me!

Amoris Laetitia (The Joy of Love) Year of the Family – announced by Pope Francis. Pope Francis has asked that 2021 until the next World Meeting of Families to be held in Rome in June 2022, focus on the theme of Family Life, as outlined in his teaching document of 5 years ago, The Joy of Love. Have you ever read any of the document? Might you wish to attend the World Meeting of Families in Rome in 2022? A prayer has been written for the Meeting. You can see it at: vaticannews.va

A message to all of our Parishioners and Friends

Although we are still not in a position to welcome events and meetings at the Cathedral until the safety of participants can be better gauged, you are remembered daily in prayer at the Cathedral.

A New Lectionary (Readings for the Celebration of Mass) - The Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales has announced that there is to be a new Lectionary for the celebration of Mass. The process of revision of the Church's Liturgical books is one that acknowledges the changes of language that occur over a period of time and follows the Revision of the Missal and the texts of the Mass some 10 years ago.

Please find out more about this process at: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/new-lectionary-for-england-and-wales/>

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 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 (in normal times)** is:

Monday to Friday 12.15pm

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

Sunday 10am & 12noon

The Cathedral will be open on weekdays from 11.30am and close soon after Mass at 12.15pm (Sacrament of Reconciliation will also be available from 11.30am – 12noon.)

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 2020. 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 communications@rcaob.org.uk 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.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter - Online Marriage Enrichment Experience.

An opportunity for couples to enrich their relationship, regardless of the length of time they have been together. Couples can explore their relationship and gain a deeper understanding of the Sacrament of Marriage.

Dates for 2021 - 15th-16th May

To find out more visit <https://wwme.org.uk/> or call 0845 260 2016

Fr Hudson's Care – the Social Care agency of the Archdiocese of Birmingham. [Fundraising | Father Hudson's Care](#). Are you familiar with the breadth of social care projects fulfilling the Church's Mission for needs of all ages across the scope of our Archdiocese? See how you get more involved, read more about the projects and find ways of living out your faith as a witness to Christ the servant.

Tabor House – An all the year round place of welcome and accommodation for homeless people in the centre of Birmingham. Since its opening 3 years ago, much of the support given by volunteers has come from the Catholic parishes of Birmingham. If you feel able to give some of your time to this worthy cause, please contact: sharonfear@fatherhudsons.org.uk

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

What are the sources of informing your faith and knowledge of the Church in the Modern World?

The Basilican - the magazine of the St Chad's Cathedral Association

- The Spring edition is now available to buy. Our magazine is packed full of interesting articles by Abigail Martin from St Chad's Sanctuary, and Martina Parker our Head Teacher. In this edition we have a number of super articles by two of our seminarians. 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 annets103@hotmail.co.uk or david.dsace@outlook.com. It costs £5 plus £2 postage and packing.

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 pt.stchadscathedral@rcaob.org.uk 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.

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.