



Metropolitan Cathedral & Basilica of St Chad

St Chad's Queensway, Birmingham, B4 6EU



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Chaplains to Birmingham Children's Hospital Fr. Gerry Lennon and Sister Florence Njoku

Fr Ray Corbett (Universities): r.corbett@aston.ac.uk Catholic Student Societies: www.cathchaps.co.uk

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Organiste Honoraire: John Pryer;

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

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

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

Kath White - Lourdes Pilgrimage Office: 0121 230 6288

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

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

Third Sunday of Advent

12th December 2021

Divine Office: Psalter Week 3 Third Sunday in Advent (C)

- Entrance Antiphon** Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.
- Responsorial Psalm** Sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.
- Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! The spirit of the Lord has been given to me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor. Alleluia!
- Communion Antiphon:** Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.



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.

ALL CURRENT COVID CONDITIONS REMAIN.

Mass Times: 11th December – 19th December 2021

Sat 11 Advent Feria
10.00am Stephen Holcroft RIP
Vigil for Third Sunday in Advent (C)
4.30pm People of the Parish

Sun 12 Third Sunday of Advent (C)
9.30am Purdue, Nolan & Whitty Families
11.30am Nora Mahoney

Mon 13 Memorial of St Lucy
12.15pm Fr Cyril Barlow RIP (Anniversary)

Tue 14 Memorial of St John of the Cross
12.15pm Michael O'Brien RIP

Wed 15 Advent Feria
12.15pm Breda Costello RIP

Thurs 16 Advent Feria
12.15pm Fr John Dewis RIP (Anniversary)

Friday 17 Advent Feria
12.15pm Intentions of Catholic Teachers

Sat 18 Advent Feria
10.00am Fr Dan O'Connor RIP (Anniversary)
Vigil for Fourth Sunday in Advent (C)
4.30pm People of the Parish

Sun 19 Fourth Sunday of Advent (C)
9.30am Martin & Margaret Garvey RIP
11.30am Mary Costello RIP
5.00pm *Cathedral Choir Carol Service (Open)*

Archbishop Bernard's 40th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood – This Sunday, 12th December, Archbishop Bernard marks this milestone in his life as a priest. We pray that God who has begun the good work in him bring it to fulfilment.

The Birmingham Clean Air Zone came into force on **Monday 14th June 2021** which will affect parishioners, staff and volunteers who travel to the Cathedral by car. Please check whether you need to pay this charge: www.brumbreathes.co.uk

The God Who Speaks - Please try to look at next weekend's readings in the coming week:
Fourth Sunday of Advent (Year C): Micah 5:1-4; Ps 79; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45
www.godwhospeaks.uk

THIS CATHEDRAL LIVE STREAMS MASS

AND OTHER EVENTS 

Holy Father's Prayer Intention for December:

Catechists - Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Cathedral Prayers Lists

Recently Deceased: Bridie Keelan, Kevin Bissell, Janet Scott, Jadwiga Petryk, & Mary Withers, Arthur Labinjo-Hughes as well as all victims of COVID.

Those who are ill: We pray for Kevin and Jane Goodyear, Frances Crockett, Bobby (Bhupinder) Bansal, Ray Norris, Harpal and our parishioners, family and friends who are sick.

For those whose anniversaries occur about this time: Mgr. Bernard Navin. Frs.: George Gallacher, William Browne, John Ellis, Cyril Barlow, John Griffith, Joseph Rowland, Denis Ryan, Michael McKiernan, Peter Kavanagh, Fergus O'Connell, John Dewis, Daniel O'Connor and Michael O'Meara. Deacons.: Bryan Salter & Henry Atkinson. Also: Barbara Brown, Maria Hong Chan, Socrate Bisconti, Marian Bird, John KIELTY, Mary Cotterill, Martin Foody, Michael Breen, Tommy Hughes, Jackie Price, Joyce Hughes & baby Isaac Mendonca.

St Chad's Catholic Primary School – Our parish primary school has become a new member school of the St Teresa of Calcutta Multi Academy of Schools. We are also very proud of our school community in the light of its recent Section 48 RE inspection which found it to be good in RE and outstanding in Catholic Life and Collective Worship. We are blessed by the active life of faith in our school community.

The Cathedral's **Basilican Magazine** is now on sale The cost of the Magazine is £5, which all goes towards supporting the Cathedral, and there is a box on the back wall for your money. It is on sale in St Paul's Bookshop or please contact Anne Symonds at annets103@hotmail.co.uk who can arrange for a copy to be sent to you by post.

Christmas 2021 at St Chad's Cathedral – there will be some important changes to the normal Christmas programme at St Chad's this year and we thank you in advance for your cooperation. Please see the guidelines on our website. Headlines: Midnight Mass will be on BBC1 TV (but sadly not open to the public). Also, no Masses on Christmas Eve. On Christmas Day: 8am, 9.30am and 11.30am.

Responding to Archbishop Bernard's vision for the Archdiocese - [Diocesan Vision, Unfolding God's Plan | Birmingham Diocesan Trust \(birminghamdiocese.org.uk\)](#).

The overall themes of the Diocesan Plan are: Co-responsibility in the life of the Church and the place of families and young people.

Then there are themes: Evangelisation (proclaiming the Good News), Formation (growing in our life of faith), Worship and Sacramental Life (public prayer and its place in our life of faith) and Charity and Social Outreach (being heralds of the Good News to the Poor).

How are you being called to serve the Lord?

Diocesan Vision Prayer –

Spirit of God,
descend on me this day.
Grant me the Spirit of joy, to lift me,
the Spirit of hope to inspire me,
the Spirit of love to surround me and
the Spirit of truth to enlighten my path.

Holy Spirit,
I pray for a new outpouring of your grace,
so that I may grow in worship of your name
in love of you in my prayer
and in my actions towards others.

Come Holy Spirit into my life to guide me.
Strengthen and defend me,
so that I may be drawn ever closer to you.
Help me this day and always
to be a channel of grace
in all I say and do
and invite others into relationship with you.
Amen

Restoration of the Stations of the Cross: All are invited to support an intricate restoration project to return the Stations of the Cross to their former glory. It is hoped that donations will be secured to restore all 14 Stations. Each Station will cost approximately £4000 to be treated. If you are able to support this project, please contact Fr Tim at: dean.stchadscathedral@rcaob.org.uk.

Eternal Wall of Answered Prayer – Have you managed to have a look at the website and have you even been able to send in an account of an Answer to Prayer that you or somebody close to you has known at any time? There has been a major fundraising campaign but it is just the idea of recalling God's goodness in our lives and sharing that Good News that is a motivation for us to be involved. www.thewall.org.uk

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



CAFOD World Gifts Looking for gift idea? Why not give a CAFOD World Gift? Gifts range start from £9. In the current climate, a nice gift might be PPE for a health worker. Orders can be made through the catalogue (Please ask us) or at: www.cafod.org.uk/worldgifts

The Synod Process & the Diocesan Vision – There is information emerging about the Synod Process which can be found on the Cathedral website. The latest document is called *Walking Together* and forms the basis for our parishes to engage with the process. Why not take the time over Christmas to look at some of the questions.

Advent – a video to increase your knowledge of this Season -[Diocesan Vision - the Season of Advent | Birmingham Diocesan Trust \(birminghamdiocese.org.uk\)](#)
Please watch it (10 mins) and share it widely.

Time To Reflect – The **Advent Cathedral Corner** on our website helps us to understand some of the richness of the Season of Advent, especially the first half of Advent.

Scripture and Liturgy Booklet – The booklet for December is now available on our website. The Word of God is at the heart of the life of faith.

St Chad's Sanctuary – our parish charity.

Thank you for the generosity you have shown recently by bringing items for the Sanctuary and by donating financially to its work. Your thoughtfulness is very much appreciated, especially most by those you might never meet, but whose lives are changed for the better by our love of neighbour: www.stchadssanctuary.com. Donations for the Sanctuary can be given in here at the Cathedral at any time and will be passed on. **Please consider a gift for somebody in this need whom you might never meet, but as we prepare to show love to those nearest to us, remember those who are far from those they love this Christmas.**

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

I was a stranger and you made me welcome!

Diocesan Ministry for Young People – For details of all that is happening for young people in our Archdiocese, please visit: www.kenelmyouthtrust.org.uk

Society of St Vincent de Paul – We have begun a new SVP Conference here at St Chad's. It is still very early days and anybody who wishes to join is most welcome. Please let one of the priests know and we can give you more information.

One of our first projects is to prepare and give out hampers of food for Christmas.

As a simple way of supporting the SVP at this early stage, why not collect any spare coins that you might have around your house. If everybody brought in a bag of coins that they are not really using anymore... Thank you

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 & 4.30pm (Vigil Mass of Sunday)

Sunday 9.30am & 11.30am

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

Masses will be as follows:

Saturday 10.00am & 4.30pm; Sunday 9.30am and 11.30am. Please note these changes.

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

Holy Communion – Due to the prevailing risk, the norm for receiving Communion remains on the hand. For those who wish to receive Communion on the tongue, please come to the altar when the rest of the congregation has received communion, as the Minister of Holy Communion will need to sanitise his/her hands after every person receiving on the tongue.

We shall now say ‘The Body of Christ’ to you at your place and you may respond ‘Amen’

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.

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.

FOR THE PURPOSES OF SAFETY FOR ALL CONCERNED WE CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN THAT ALL THOSE COMING IN TO THE CATHEDRAL MUST WEAR SOME FORM OF FACE COVERING WHICH YOU BRING YOURSELF AND MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING DESPITE THE CHANGES ANNOUNCED BY THE GOVERNMENT.

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

Toilet facilities – please speak to a Steward who will direct you to the toilets in the Reception area and return with you to the Cathedral.

No distribution of Holy Water at doors or for home

No gathering for conversation before or after Mass

Mass Cards – During our opening hours the Stewards will assist with the signing of Mass cards in the Cathedral.

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](#).

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

dean.stchadscathedral@rcaob.org.uk

0121 230 6209

May God bless you.