



# 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

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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

## Second Sunday of Advent

### 5<sup>th</sup> December 2021

Divine Office: Psalter Week 2 Second Sunday in Advent (C)

**Entrance Antiphon** O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.

**Responsorial Psalm** What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight. And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.  
Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:** Jerusalem, arise the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.



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: 4<sup>th</sup> December – 12<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

**Sat 4 Advent Feria**

10.00am For the Success of the Pope's Synod

**Vigil for Second Sunday in Advent (C)**

4.30pm People of the Parish

**Sun 5 Second Sunday of Advent (C)**

9.30am Shay, Kathleen, Bre & Johnny Carolan RIP

11.30am Intentions of John & Wendy Fitzpatrick-Ellis

**Mon 6 Advent Feria**

12.15pm Ann Sheahan

**Tue 7 Memorial of St Ambrose**

12.15pm Thomas, Mary & Liam Flaherty RIP

**Wed 8 Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

12.15pm Chapter Mass

Intentions of Diocesan Synodal Pathway

**Thurs 9 Advent Feria**

12.15pm O'Connor & Hession Families

**Friday 10 Advent Feria**

12.15pm Jim Maguire RIP

**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

**Archbishop Bernard's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of**

**Ordination to the Priesthood – Next Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup>**

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 14<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.brumbreathes.co.uk)

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

**Third Sunday of Advent (Year C): Zephaniah 3:14-18; Is 12: Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:10-18**  
[www.godwhospeaks.uk](http://www.godwhospeaks.uk)

**Second Collection:** This weekend for the Poor Parishes of the Diocese.

**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:** 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. Canon Francis Drinkwater. Canon Joseph Walsh. Frs.: Liam McFarlane, Horace Relph, Michael Knight, William Warner, Anthony Kane, George Rafferty, Thomas McMarrow, Jerome O'Flynn, Hugh Malloy and Vincent Lucas. Also: Bridie Ryan, Barbara Brown, Maria Hong Chan, Socrate Bisconti, Marian Bird, Michael Breen & Tommy Hughes.

**School Visits:** On Monday 6<sup>th</sup> Dec, we welcome Corpus Christi, Coventry. On Tues 7<sup>th</sup> Dec, St John's, Banbury This forms part of their Confirmation preparation. **The livestream will be off until 12 noon on these days.**

**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 new edition of 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](http://www.cafod.org.uk/worldgifts)

**The Synod Process –** One of the best parts of belonging to a worldwide Church is to see how people around the world are exploring the Synod Pathway introduced for ordinary Catholics by Pope Francis. Find out more...  
From Australia: [XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops - Catholic Church in Australia](#)  
From the United States: [Synod 2021-2023 | USCCB](#)  
From South Africa: [SACBC – Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference](#)  
From India: [Catholic Bishops' Conference of India \(cbci.in\)](#)

**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.  
When you have read the weekly newsletter for St Chad's Sanctuary, you are most welcome to bring tins or packets of non-perishable food items with you to Mass and we shall pass them on. 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](http://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](http://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](mailto:dean.stchadscathedral@rcaob.org.uk)

0121 230 6209

May God bless you.