



# Metropolitan Cathedral & Basilica of St Chad

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

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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

## Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

29<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Divine Office: Psalter Week 4;

Weekday Readings Cycle 1

- Entrance Antiphon** Save us, O Lord our God! And gather us from the nations, to give thanks to your holy name, and make it our glory to praise you.
- Responsorial Psalm** How happy are the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to mere children. Alleluia!
- Communion Antiphon:** Let your face shine on your servant. Save me in your merciful love. O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on you.



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**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 most up to date notices. SOME COVID CONDITIONS REMAIN.**

**Mass Times: 28<sup>th</sup> January – 5<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

**Sat 28 Vigil Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)**  
4.30pm Intentions of Lankesh Ratnajothy

**Sun 29 Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)**  
**‘World Leprosy Day’**

9.30am John Costello RIP

11.30am Belarmino Antao (Sick)

**Mon 30 Feria in Ordinary Time**

12.15pm Patrick O’Donnell (80<sup>th</sup> Birthday)

**Tue 31 Memorial of St John Bosco**

12.15pm Thomas, Mary & Liam Flaherty

**Wed 1 Feria in Ordinary Time**

12.15pm Eileen Lawton RIP (Anniv.)

**Thurs 2 Feast of the Presentation of the Lord**

12.15pm Madeline & Ian Clifford (Silver Jubilee)

1.15pm Organ Recital

**Friday 3 Feria in Ordinary Time**

12.15pm Fred Longley RIP (Anniv.)

**Sat 4 Vigil Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)**

4.30pm Giuseppe Scafetta & Family

**Sun 5 Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)**

9.30am Margaret Garvey RIP

*Followed by Meet & Greet*

11.30am People of the Parish

***The God Who Speaks*** – Next Sunday’s Readings:  
**Isaiah 58:7-10; Psalm 111; 1 Corinthians 2:1-5;**  
**Matthew 5:13-16**  
[www.godwhospeaks.uk](http://www.godwhospeaks.uk)

**Supporting your Cathedral:** It couldn’t be simpler. Just point your smartphone camera at the code below, wherever you are, and it will take you to a giving page. Please remember us in your will.



**Rethink Abortion Training Day:** Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2023 10am-5pm. Venue: Oscott College, B73 5AA. £25 per person. Lunch & refreshments provided. For more information: [marchforlife.co.uk](http://marchforlife.co.uk) or email: [info@marchforlife.co.uk](mailto:info@marchforlife.co.uk)

**First Sunday of the Month Meet & Greet:** The next Meet & Greet will be on, Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2023 in the Grimshaw Room, where there will be tea and coffee after the 9.30 Mass. Please ask our stewards the way to the Grimshaw Room. The bookshop will be open on that day.

**Second Collection – Today for Leprosy.** [www.lepra.org.uk](http://www.lepra.org.uk)  
Next weekend is for Racial Justice.

**Please don’t leave your belongings unattended.**

**Holy Father’s Prayer Intention for February:**

**For Parishes** – We pray that parishes, placing communion at the centre, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.

**Cathedral Prayers Lists**

**Recently Deceased:** William Chew, Canon Garry Byrne, Fr Anthony DeVere, Deacon Joe Patterson, Michael Hodgetts, Mary Gibbons, Jane Nethercott, Jay Chitnis, Roy Kendrick and victims of COVID, natural disaster and world conflicts.

**Those who are ill:** Lankesh Ratnajothy, Belarmino Antao, Denis O’Mahoney, Peter Waldron, Jane Goodyear, Frances Crockett, Ray Norris, Harpal, Baby George, Finn, Baby Alice, Chris Saint, Joan Socci, Marie Chatten, and our parishioners, family and friends who are sick at home or in hospital.

**For those whose anniversaries occur about this time:** Mgr Michael Williams. Canon Kevin Good. Frs.: Charles Smith, David Condron, Denis Clancy, Joseph Connelly, and Thomas O’Carroll. Also: Catherine Driscoll, Gerard Casey, Raga Fahmi, Maggie Hannigan, Mary Williams, Nora Godfrey, Chris O’Connor, Kathleen Sheran, Eileen Lawton, Jim Finn, Martina Donaghy, Veronica Sanman, Antoon Verschoot, Paddy Kavanagh, Christina Ellams, Josephine Faulkner, Matty McCabe, Fred Longley, Vera Cronin, Patrick Roche, Veronica Cooney

**A Weekend Celebration of Faith and Culture at St Chad’s Cathedral – SAVE THE DATE –**  
Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

Our Cathedral Parish is a gathering, week by week, of many nationalities and Catholic cultures. As well as parishioners who have been part of the Cathedral for many years, we now welcome so many students and young adults seeking a spiritual home. Now seems a good time to celebrate that. This will be a weekend to develop a new culture of welcome; in music and food, tours of the Cathedral and developing a community. We look forward to welcoming the participation of as many parishioners as possible. More details to follow.

**The Sign of Peace** – this gesture before Holy Communion changed during the pandemic, but now it is clear that we must re-consider it. It seems unreasonable for members of the same household who have travelled to Mass together to bow to each other rather than shake hands.

But please be mindful that some people are still nervous about handshaking, so be sensitive to that. The priest or deacon will announce ‘Let us offer each other the sign of peace’ and you can interpret that as a bow or a handshake as is appropriate.

The sign of peace is not essential to the Mass, but it a gesture that recognises our being at peace with one another before we approach the altar of God.

### Feeding your Faith (RCIA)

We continue a series of talks on the Catholic Faith again with our friends in the neighbouring parish of St Catherine's, Bristol Street.

Now is the time to consider the steps of faith that might be for you. Please see Fr Tim.

Children who are not at Catholic schools and who would like Sacramental Preparation.

Please speak to Fr Tim or email your request.

We shall be starting Sacramental Preparation for First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation next Saturday (4<sup>th</sup> Feb) at 3pm.

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

### 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

**Eternal Wall of Answered Prayer –** This promises to be an important year for this project and you are asked to support it together with Christians around our country and beyond.

How can you support it?

- 1) Financially – see website below
- 2) By Prayer
- 3) By sending in real answers to prayer that you have experienced in your life.

[www.thewall.org.uk](http://www.thewall.org.uk).

**Are you new to our Cathedral Parish?** If so, please stop and say hello to the priest at the end of Mass. Fr Tim, the parish priest, is assisted by visiting priests. We look forward to welcoming you and involving you in the life of our parish. We welcome your offers of support for parish activities and fundraising ideas.

**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 6211**



**St Chad's Sanctuary** – our parish charity.

[www.stchadssanctuary.com](http://www.stchadssanctuary.com). The work of St Chad's Sanctuary continues and the demands on its services is greater than ever. **Could you volunteer to do a weekly turn at the Sanctuary? If you have time, let us know.**

There is a current DESPERATE PLEA for men's clothing: comfy, warm items in small and medium sizes.

Maybe a time to look for clothes that take up wardrobe space for you and which you do not plan to wear.

Let us also pray amid an increasingly hostile rhetoric at national level that we may give dignity to all people.

### SVP – Society of St Vincent de Paul.

The work of the SVP in the life of the Church is good, ordinary people, being the face of Christ to those most in need. We have a wonderful group of volunteers who meet monthly to address these needs.

If you would like to make a financial contribution to the work, we would welcome any donations.

If you know of anybody who is in need of help, please let Fr Tim know and the SVP will do what it can to help.

**Tabor House / Tabor Living** – For the past 5 years, there has been an all-year-round homelessness project in Birmingham City Centre which has been supported by Fr Hudson's Care and by some generous local businesses and willing volunteers.

From its origins as a night shelter, Covid times made it home day and night. That requires a lot of volunteers doing a weekly shift (usually 6pm to 9pm on a weekday or a few hours on a Saturday or Sunday). The project is soon to relocate to St Catherine's Church, Bristol Street, Birmingham and there is currently a recruitment drive for new volunteers. If you would like to become a volunteer, please speak to Fr Tim.

Visit the website at [www.taborliving.co.uk](http://www.taborliving.co.uk)

**Sacred Heart Church, Aston** – on the **last Friday of each month** there is Mass at 7pm followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Scripture Sharing. This is a joint initiative between the parish, Sehion Ministries (Keralan Catholic community) and the Kenelm Youth Trust, inviting young adults especially.  
85 Prestbury Road, Aston, B6 6EG.

**Birmingham Irish Heritage Group** – meets on the first Monday of each month at the Sacred Heart Club, Grange Road, Aston from 7pm to 9pm. All welcome.

There is parking at the Sacred Heart Club. Sacred Heart Church is on the No.7 Bus Route from Birmingham.

**Weekend Masses** at Sacred Heart are 12.30pm on Saturday and 10.15am on Sunday. All welcome

Please switch off mobile phones when in Church.

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

### **Cathedral Flowers -**

**We are now taking floral tribute requests for 2023. Please see the list at the back of the Cathedral.** 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 and hand over your donations to a member of staff or at Cathedral House Reception. Thank you to all who have supported this initiative.

**Monthly Organ Recitals:** For details of the 2023 series which continues on **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2023** at 1:15pm please see the website [www.thursdaylive.org](http://www.thursdaylive.org). Or visit the YouTube Channel for Thursday Live.

### **The normal programme for Masses is:**

**Monday to Friday 12.15pm**

**Saturday 4.30pm (Vigil Mass of Sunday) – Confessions after Mass**

**Sunday 9.30am & 11.30am**

**The Cathedral will be open on weekdays from 9.30am and close at 3.30pm** (Sacrament of Reconciliation will also be available from 11.30am – 12noon.)

**Confessions are now being heard once again in the Confessionals.**

**The Cathedral will be open at 11.00am and close after Mass at 4.30pm on Saturdays and open at 9.00am and close after the 11.30am Mass on Sundays.**

**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 as the end of the congregational procession has received communion, as the Minister of Holy Communion will need to sanitise his/her hands after every person receiving on the tongue.**

### **Retrouvaille: A Programme for Couples Struggling in their Marriages**

Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage. It helps them through difficult times whether they are disillusioned or in deep misery. There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next programme commencing with a Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 24 - 26 February 2023, or a Virtual weekend on 6 - 9 July 2023, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email [retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com](mailto:retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com) - or visit [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)

**The next stage of the Synod Process:** You will know that the Synod Process began with every parish called upon to consider its place in the life of the Church. From the parish responses, each diocese compiled its own document / digest ([Download.ashx \(birminghamdiocese.org.uk\)](#)). From the compilation of themes at diocesan level, our Bishops' Conference (and every Bishops' Conference around the world) provided a National Synthesis ([synod-national-synthesis-england-wales.pdf \(cbcew.org.uk\)](#)). Please see the Reflection document given by the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales to our national synthesis stage:

[Bishops-Reflection-Synodal-National-Synthesis.pdf \(cbcew.org.uk\)](#)

As the Synod moves onto the next stage, the countries of each continent collaborate to create a continental document, and this is the latest stage for us to consider: ([WORKING DOCUMENT FOR THE CONTINENTAL STAGE \(synod.va\)](#)).

It is a given that when something moves from the level of parish to diocese, and from diocesan to national, and now beyond national to continental, the nature of the document changes.

**Our New Digital 'Tap and go' devices** are now available to use. Your donations are very important to us and the upkeep of our Cathedral. If you are considering other forms of giving, you could use alternatives: **QR code** – available on this newsletter, or at the back of the Cathedral and on the Cathedral website; **Standing order** – For regular giving. Forms available at the back of the Cathedral or you can set up via your online banking service. **Gift Aid Envelopes** – available on request. Contact the parish Treasurer on [pt.stchadscathedral@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:pt.stchadscathedral@rcaob.org.uk) or one of the Cathedral stewards. **Cash** – Collection bags are now back in use during and after Masses

**Second Collections at St Chad's Cathedral** – please note that as every charity depends on the donations and the publicity it has, we shall have many Second Collections. Please take an interest in the work of each.

**Marriage Care – Volunteers Needed.** Catholic Marriage Care are looking for Marriage Preparation Facilitators in the Birmingham Team to present and facilitate courses for engaged couples. If you are interested, please contact Christina - [Birmingham.admin@marriagecare.org](mailto:Birmingham.admin@marriagecare.org). Find out more about how you could help support couples and families at: [www.marriagecare.org.uk](http://www.marriagecare.org.uk) or email [volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk).