



# Metropolitan Cathedral & Basilica of St Chad

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

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## Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord

### 8<sup>th</sup> January 2023

From Monday: Divine Office: Psalter Week 1; Weekday Readings Cycle 1

**Entrance Antiphon** After the Lord was baptized, the heavens were opened, and the Spirit descended upon him like a dove, and the voice of the Father thundered: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.

**Responsorial Psalm** The Lord will bless his people with peace.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! The heavens opened and the Father's voice resounded: 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.'  
Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:** Behold the One of whom John said: I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.



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

**Mass Times: 7<sup>th</sup> January - 15<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

**Sat 7**

**Vigil for the Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord (Year A)**

4.30pm In thanksgiving for Teachers, School staff and Catechists

**Sun 8 Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord (Year A)**

9.30am In Thanks for the Sacrament of Baptism

11.30am People of the Parish

**Mon 9 Feria in Ordinary Time**

12.15pm Roy Kendrick RIP

**Tue 10 Feria in Ordinary Time**

12.15pm Patrick Hanlon RIP (Anniv.)

**Wed 11 Feria in Ordinary Time**

12.15pm Intentions of Cathedral & Curial Staff

**6.00pm** Requiem Mass

for Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

**Thurs 12 Feria in Ordinary Time**

**11.00am** Funeral Mass of Michael Hodgetts RIP

N.B. *This takes the place of the 12.15 Mass today*

**Friday 13 Feria in Ordinary Time (Optional)**

12.15pm Fr. Pat Joyce RIP (Anniv.)

**Sat 14 Vigil Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)**

4.30pm Giuseppe Scafetta & family

**Sun 15 Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)**

*'Peace Day'*

9.30am People of the Parish

11.30am Mass for World Peace

**Christmas Offerings for the Cathedral Clergy:** We the priests who support the Cathedral are most grateful for your kindness; your generosity, prayers and gifts.

**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.



**The God Who Speaks** – Next Sunday's Readings: **Isaiah 49:3, 5-6; Psalm 39; 1 Corinthians 1:1-3; John 1:29-34** [www.godwhospeaks.uk](http://www.godwhospeaks.uk)

**First Sunday of the Month Meet & Greet:** The next Meet & Greet is this weekend, Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> January 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.

**Please don't leave your belongings unattended at any time.**

**Holy Father's Prayer Intention for January:**

**For Educators** – We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.

**Cathedral Prayers Lists**

**Recently Deceased:** Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, Fr Anthony DeVere, Michael Hodgetts, Mary Gibbons, Jane Nethercott, Jay Chitnis, Roy Kendrick and victims of COVID, natural disaster and world conflicts.

**Those who are ill:** 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:** Frs.: Philip Smith, John Davis, Brian Harding, John Bentley, Charles Becker, Philip Wyles, Patrick Farrelly, Patrick McSwiney, Patrick Joyce, Benedict O'Gorman; Deacons; William Murphy, Brian Dockerty and Thomas Carter. Also: Breid Dillon, Michael Grealish, Lily Turley, John Dadd, Michael Kiely, Helen Kiely, Francis Gilligan, Francis Moyna, Herman Dhoot, Maria Purificacao, Elaine McGlynn, Patrick Hanlon, Patrick Burke, Sean Concoran, Michael Heffernan, Michael King, and Thomas Madden.

**Second Collection** – next week is for Pax Christi.

**A Word of Thanks:** Thank you to all who assisted the mission of the cathedral, especially with our liturgy and hospitality for the Season of Advent & Christmas: staff and volunteers. A particular word of thanks to Professor David Saint, our Director of Music, our wonderful choir and Nigel Morris, our Assistant Director of Music for raising our hearts and minds to God.

**Requiem Mass for Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI** – will be celebrated here at St Chad's this coming Wednesday at 6pm. All welcome.

**Michael Hodgetts RIP** - This Thursday at 11am, we shall host the Funeral Mass for Michael Hodgetts who attended Mass at St Chad's Sunday by Sunday for many years. Michael spent his life in the service of God the Church with a particular gift for teaching and for his passion for Church History. Michael had an immense devotion to the English Martyrs and especially to the Hiding Holes where priests were sheltered so as to celebrate Mass in Penal Times. Later in the year, we have the Annual Pilgrimage to Harvington Hall.

**Mary Gibbons RIP** – was a member of our staff for a number of years and passed away on 13<sup>th</sup> December. Her funeral takes place at the Oratory on 17<sup>th</sup> January at 1.45pm followed by a reception at the Plough and Harrow Hotel on Hagley Road.

### 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 very soon.

**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.**

If you use Amazon regularly, you can make St Chad's Sanctuary a beneficiary of Smile Amazon and our local charity will receive a donation every time you buy something through Smile Amazon. They say that charity begins at home! Thank you for all the coats recently!

### 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.

**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 and 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.

**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)

**Fundraising Ideas for St Chad's Cathedral.** It is well known that Cathedrals take a lot of maintenance and tender loving care. We have inherited something precious by way of history and architecture, but also a building of prayer and a beacon of faith.

As the Cathedral draws on people beyond the geography of the parish, we depend on our parishioners to consider different ways of supporting the Cathedral's Mission. If your workplace or you as individuals have ideas for fundraising, being custodians of our Cathedral for future generations, we would be delighted to hear about them.

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.**

## **#PRAY24BRUM – marking the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, in Birmingham City Centre.**

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity runs from 18<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> January each year.

**This event takes place across Friday 20<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> January this year.**

There is more information about this on our Cathedral website – both on the Time to Reflect feature and the timings of the event will be there too.

The idea behind this event which is now in its 9<sup>th</sup> year, is that the different Christian denominations come together to lead an hour of prayer each – across 24 hours – but not now during the night.

While Christian Unity Week seeks to bring Christians together, Pray24Brum tends to find individual denominations leading their own hour but not necessarily crossing over to experience the prayers of other traditions.

As this event is being held at St Chad's Cathedral this year, we would love people from all Christian traditions to find some time to come to at least one of the hours; our own parishioners, to come to whatever you can so that we can be good hosts for our Christian brothers and sisters across the City Centre.

Attendance and participation is by no means restricted to those who attend City Centre churches, so please tell your friends and family, your work colleagues and neighbours.

**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 \(birminghamdiocese.org.uk\)](http://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 \(cbcew.org.uk\)](http://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 \(cbcew.org.uk\)](http://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 \(synod.va\)](http://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