



# Metropolitan Cathedral & Basilica of St Chad

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

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Priests who assist regularly at Cathedral Masses: Fr. Christopher Marshall, Canon Michael Leadbeater, Fr Leonard Cox, Fr Craig Szmidt, Fr Andrew Robinson.

Sister Thérèse O'Brien (Pastoral Assistant)

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

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

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Director of Music: Professor David Saint. [music.stchadscathedral@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:music.stchadscathedral@rcaob.org.uk) 0121 230 6247

Assistant Director of Music: Nigel Morris; Organiste Honoraire: John Pryer;

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

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

**Safeguarding:** *The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese's policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Margaret Harrold. She can be contacted at: [sg.stchadscathedral@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.stchadscathedral@rcaob.org.uk) or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) if you have any concern.*

## Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe 'World Youth Sunday' 26<sup>th</sup> November 2023

**Divine Office: Psalter Week 2; Weekday Reading Cycle 1; Week 34 of the Year**

**Entrance Antiphon** How worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and divinity, and wisdom and strength and honour. To him belong glory and power for ever and ever.

**Responsorial Psalm** The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David! Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:** The Lord sits as King for ever, The Lord will bless his people with peace.



We are pleased to inform you all Masses at the Cathedral will be live streamed. Please check the Cathedral website homepage for changes and most up to date notices. The Cathedral is open from 9.30am – 3.30pm Monday to Friday, 11am until after the 4.30pm Mass and Confessions on Saturdays and from 9am until after the 11.30am Mass on Sunday.

**Mass Times: 25<sup>th</sup> November – 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2023**

- Sat 25 Vigil for Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (A)**  
4.30pm Barbara Donnellan RIP
- Sun 26 Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (A)**  
9.30am People of the Parish  
11.30am For our Civic Leaders (Annual Civic Mass)
- Mon 27 Feria in Ordinary Time**  
12.15am Frances Dempsey
- Tues 28 Feria in Ordinary Time**  
12.15pm James Murphy RIP
- Wed 29 Feria in Ordinary Time**  
12.15pm P.J Lennon
- Thurs 30 Feast of St Andrew**  
12.15pm John Hindmarsh RIP
- Friday 1 Feast of St Edmund Campion**  
12.15pm Sarah & Family
- Sat 2 Vigil for First Sunday of Advent (B)**  
4.30pm Purdue, Nolan, and Whitty Families
- Sun 3 First Sunday of Advent (B) ‘Migrants Day’**  
9.30am Edouard Cocognon RIP  
11.30am People of the Parish

**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.



**C'est la confiance:** The title of a recent letter of Pope Francis to mark the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of St Therese of Lisieux. It is beautiful and worth a read. Available online.

**Basilican Magazine** – the NEW edition of our Cathedral Magazine is now available from the bookshop. It contains articles about our Weekend of Faith and Culture, on the Installation as Bishop of Hexham and Newcastle of Bishop Stephen Wright, on the wonderful organ that offers us beautiful music in the Cathedral. Price £5

**First Sunday of the Month Meet & Greet:** The next Meet & Greet will be in the Grimshaw Room on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December, where there will be tea and coffee after the 9.30am Mass. The bookshop will be open this day. Let's build community! Come before the 11.30am Mass.

**Second Collection:** This weekend there will be a second collection for the **Kenelm Youth Trust**, the Diocesan Youth Service for the Archdiocese of Birmingham.

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

**For the Synod:** For the Pope: We pray for the **Holy Father**; as he fulfils his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

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

**For persons with disabilities:**

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programmes which value their active participation.

**Prayers for Recently Deceased:**, Frs. Sean Turley, Edwin Cownley, Keith Enston and Paul Chavasse. Also Anthony Robinson, Colum Conway, Elaine Harper, Debbie Perks, Rebecca Clary & Norman Brookes and Jenifer Cummings.

**Prayers for those who are ill:** Fr. Michael Ho, Lankesh Ratnajoathy, Belarmino Antao, Peter Waldron, Jane Goodyear, Frances Crockett, Ray Norris, Harpal, Baby George, Finn, Baby Alice, Chris Saint, Joan Socci, Oscar, Marie Chatten, Maria Tessaro and our parishioners, family and friends who are sick at home or in hospital.

**Prayers for those whose anniversaries occur about this time:** Archbishop Joseph Masterson & Archbishop Edward Ilesley. Canon Augustine Emery. Frs.: Edward Neary, Reginald Anwyl, Norman Millard, and Peter Rogers. Also: Pat Laughrey, Verda Gorton, Michael O'Connor, Tommy Hughes, Angela Pearson, James Madden, Nora Finn, Philip Dolphin, Frank Kane, Joan Bashford and Mrs Ruane.

**The Synod of Bishops** – As we have charted the progress of the Synod for the past two years, so now a Synthesis document has been produced following the month-long Synod Gathering in Rome.

This is available on our Cathedral website and you are encouraged to read some of the main themes that have come through. This will give rise to further reflection until the next stage, another month-long gathering in Rome next October.

**Annual Civic Mass at St Chad's Cathedral –**

This Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November at 11.30am (the Solemnity of Christ the King), we shall welcome to our normal Mass those engaged in public life in our city: the Lord Mayor, members of the Judiciary, The High Sherriff of the West Midlands and MPs and Councillors are invited. At this time, more than ever, with concerns for our city as well as for our country and the world, we pray for all those who take on roles in public life; for God's guidance on their work and for God's justice to prevail in society.

**The God Who Speaks:** Next Sunday's Readings: **Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1. 3-8; Psalm 72; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:33-37**  
[www.godwhospeaks.uk](http://www.godwhospeaks.uk)

### Feeding your Faith (RCIA)

A number of people have expressed an interest in pursuing the Catholic faith. **We continue our sessions on the Catholic Faith on Thursday evenings at St Catherine's Church, Bristol Street, 7pm-8.30pm.** Everybody is welcome but if you would like to know more, please introduce yourself after Sunday Mass. Also children for Sacramental Preparation. Please speak to Fr Tim or email your request. If you want to feed your faith in a time of your choosing, look at the website [www.sycamore.fm](http://www.sycamore.fm)

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

**Love the Stranger:** The Catholic Bishops' Conference of England & Wales presents a Catholic response to refugees and migrants. It is a 2023 document of the Department for International Affairs. Please take the time to read this document. [Love the Stranger - Catholic Bishops' Conference](#) ([cbcew.org.uk](http://cbcew.org.uk)). Also on Cathedral website.

**Sacred Heart Church, Aston – Birmingham Irish Heritage Group** – Meets on the first Monday of every month at Sacred Heart, Club, Aston. Next meeting: **Mon 4<sup>th</sup> December.** 7pm to 9pm. All welcome. Sacred Heart Church is on the No.7 Bus Route from Birmingham.

**Weekly Diocesan E-newsletter** – Please sign up to receive this at [www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk](http://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk). It gives you a good sense of what is happening around our Archdiocese and beyond. Make it part of your Catholic life to know what is happening.

**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**

### PACT – Operation Elf!

We recently marked Prisoners Sunday where there was a special emphasis on praying for those in prison. PACT (Prison Care and Advice Trust) has launched an initiative to support children of prisoners this Christmas. The response to this appeal has already been overwhelming. **Thank you so much** for your generosity towards the children of those in prison at HMP Birmingham this Christmas. There is still another week after today to bring your gifts (colouring books, selection boxes, colouring pencils, reading books (marked with reading age and whether for a boy or a girl)). We are grateful to Yvonne Bridger who is our PACT parish representative.

**PACT** will be holding a Carol Concert at St Brigid's Church in Northfield on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December and there is an open invitation. [Pact's Birmingham Advent Carol Service 2023 | Birmingham Diocesan Trust](#) ([birminghamdiocese.org.uk](http://birminghamdiocese.org.uk))

**SVP – Society of St Vincent de Paul** - You may have heard of the work of the SVP (Society of St Vincent de Paul) in the parish and in the wider Church. The SVP provides material support and companionship to local people in various kinds of need. If you need the practical support of the SVP or if you know somebody who might, please text the dedicated mobile phone: **07598 139200**. For more information please visit: [www.svp.org.uk](http://www.svp.org.uk). **We currently have need for a handy person. Also somebody who is competent in electrical testing (not necessarily PAT testing).**

**St Chad's Sanctuary** – our parish charity. [www.stchadssanctuary.com](http://www.stchadssanctuary.com). The work of St Chad's Sanctuary continues and the demand on its services is greater than ever. We are so grateful for the food and clothes that Cathedral parishioners bring so generously week by week. One of the challenges that the Sanctuary faces is finances. Even where grant funding can be obtained it cannot be used to fund salaries. **Please continue to pray for the work of projects like St Chad's Sanctuary and pray for the dignity of those who come for its help and support.**

**The Month of Holy Souls (November):** is traditionally the month when we pray with added devotion for all the Faithful Departed. Praying for our dead is an act of charity, returning love for love, as we ask God to 'grant them eternal rest and for perpetual light to shine upon them'. In humility, this is what they would ask of us, that by God's grace they may be purged of sin and imperfection and come to share in the fullness of Christ's Resurrection. In every Mass we are particularly close to our loved ones who have died as their dying is united to the death of Christ in the one sacrifice to God the Father.

**Our Holy Souls Boxes** will remain at the bottom of the steps of the sanctuary throughout November containing the names of our beloved dead. Envelopes are provided if you would like to include the names of your own relatives and friends. Some people like to include a Mass offering as well; and Masses are offered throughout the year for the Holy Souls.

Please switch off mobile phones when in Church.

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



### **CAFOD Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal**

Donate to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal at [cafod.org.uk/ipc](http://cafod.org.uk/ipc) or call 0303 303 3030 to support those affected and get funds to local trusted experts in Gaza and southern Israel who have been working alongside communities helping those most in need. Your donation will help support aid workers providing urgent humanitarian aid including food, water and emergency shelter to those in need. Thank you for your prayers.

**Monthly Organ Recitals:** Please note that the next monthly recital is on **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December** at 1:15pm. Please see the website [www.thursdaylive.org](http://www.thursdaylive.org). 2024 promises to be a special year for the recitals!

**World Youth Sunday – 26<sup>th</sup> November.** This is always the Solemnity of Christ the King. World Youth Day has become a phenomenon of a world gathering of young Catholic adults, as happened in Lisbon, Portugal with Pope Francis earlier this year. On this day, we pray especially for all of the young people of the Church.

**Year of Prayer in preparation for the Jubilee Holy Year 2025 (Advent 2023 – Advent 2024)** 2024 has been designated the Year of Prayer by Pope Francis. There is a particular focus on the Our Father, which presents us with a great opportunity to go back to the basics of prayer. The Office for Mission will be providing suggestions and resources to help you to do that, so that our Archdiocese can have as its focus, missionary prayer and accompaniment during 2024. Consider:

- What is my experience of prayer?
  - How can I deepen my prayer life?
  - Can I help or encourage someone else to pray?
  - How can my parish grow in its love and devotion in prayer?
- Visit the Year of Prayer web page for more information and ideas:  
[www.vocations.org.uk/year-of-prayer-2024](http://www.vocations.org.uk/year-of-prayer-2024)

### **St Paul's School for Girls have a vacancy for a Science Laboratory Technician.**

Gr2 £22,366. (salary negotiable dependant on experience)

For further details please download an application form from our website [www.stpaulgl.bham.sch.uk](http://www.stpaulgl.bham.sch.uk)

Closing date: 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023 12 noon

Interview date: 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023

### **Next Sunday begins the holy Season of Advent (Year B, the Year of St Mark's Gospel) –**

Advent is a time for being awake and alert. It is the beginning of a new Church year.

To help us during Advent, we have the *Walk With Me* booklets and calendars which are available at all Masses this weekend. They are free of charge to you, but if you wish to make a donation towards the booklet, we welcome that.

The season of Advent is divided into two parts: the first Sunday of Advent through to 16<sup>th</sup> December takes as its focus the Second Coming of Christ in Glory at the end of time. The second part begins on 17<sup>th</sup> December and then the focus becomes the Nativity at Bethlehem. Advent is a time for active watching and waiting.

**Laudate Deum** Pope Francis has published a second 'part' of his groundbreaking 2015 letter 'Laudato Si' on Care of the Earth, Our Common Home. The new document published this past week is called **Laudate Deum** (Praise God) and continues to call for urgent action to protect and care for the earth. This document can be found here: [https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost\\_exhortations/documents/20231004-laudate-deum.html](https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_exhortations/documents/20231004-laudate-deum.html). A one-page summary of the main points is available on the Cathedral website.

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

**Monday to Friday 12.15pm**

**Saturday 4.30pm (Vigil Mass for 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 available from 11.30am – 12noon Monday to Friday.)

**The Cathedral will be open on Saturday at 11.00am and close after the Mass at 4.30pm.**

(Sacrament of Reconciliation available after the 4.30pm Mass on Saturday)

**On Sunday, we open at 9.00am and close after the Mass at 11.30am.**

**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.**

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