



# 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.*

## Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

### 5<sup>th</sup> November 2023

**Divine Office: Psalter Week 3; Weekday Reading Cycle 1; Week 31 of the Year**

**Entrance Antiphon** Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice; turn to the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face.

**Responsorial Psalm** I love you, Lord, my strength.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Open our hearts, O Lord, to accept the words of your Son. Alleluia!

**Communion Antiphon:** We will ring out our joy at your saving help and exult in the name of our God.



  
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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 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: 4<sup>th</sup> November – 12<sup>th</sup> November 2023

#### **Sat 4 Vigil for Thirty First Sunday in Ordinary Time**

12noon Catenian Mass for Deceased Brothers

4.30pm People of the Parish

#### **Sun 5 Thirty First Sunday in Ordinary Time**

9.30am Michael Drugan

*Followed by Meet & Greet in Grimshaw Room*

11.30am Christian Jude Le Blanc RIP (Anniversary)

#### **Mon 6 Feria in Ordinary Time**

12.15am Intentions of Sr. Eileen O'Connor

#### **Tues 7 Feria in Ordinary Time**

12.15pm John Fitzpatrick-Ellis RIP (Anniv.)

#### **Wed 8 Feria in Ordinary Time**

12.15pm John Scully RIP (Anniv.)

#### **Thurs 9 Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica**

12.15pm Special Intention – Mary Houston

#### **Friday 10 Memorial of St Leo the Great**

12.15pm Doreen Renfrey RIP

7.30pm Silver Jubilee Mass – Fr. Jan Nowotnik

#### **Sat 11 Vigil for Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

4.30pm Knights of St Columba Mass for Deceased Brothers

#### **Sun 12 Thirty First Sunday in Ordinary Time 'Remembrance Sunday'**

9.30am Theresa Doolan (Birthday)

11.30am People of the Parish

#### **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.

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

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

**Prayers for those whose anniversaries occur about this time:** Mgr. Bertram Gould. Canons: Patrick Smith, Eugene O'Sullivan, John Redford. Frs.: James Curtin, Aengus Donlon, John Brisland, Francis Dawson, Derek Edwards, Cyril Duck. Also: Brendan Wall, Pat Campbell, PJ Shanahan, Winnie Walshe, John Fitzpatrick-Ellis, John Scully, Pat Dalton and Christopher Brett.

**Second Collection: this weekend** will be for the Johnson Association. This is a Fund that supports Sick and Retired Priests of the Archdiocese of Birmingham. Your support for this cause is a sign of your appreciation for the work of priests during their years of active ministry and a duty of care to them in retirement. Thank you.

**The Synod of Bishops** – Fr Jan Nowotnik, a priest of the Archdiocese of Birmingham, who has participated in the recent Synod in Rome will celebrate the Sunday morning Masses here next weekend (12<sup>th</sup> November). He will share some insights of his experience of being involved in the Synod, and what we might expect between now and next October when there will be another stage of the Synodal Journey and further meetings in Rome.

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

On 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:

**Wisdom 6:12-16; Psalm 62;**

**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; (1 Thess 4:13-14);**

**Matthew 25:1-13**

[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.



**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 5<sup>th</sup> November, 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.

### Feeding your Faith (RCIA)

A number of people have expressed an interest in pursuing the Catholic faith. **We have begun a new series of 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 \(cbcew.org.uk\)](#). Also on Cathedral

**Sacred Heart Church, Aston – on the last Friday of each month there is Mass at 7pm The next gathering is Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> November.**

85 Prestbury Road, Aston, B6 6EG.

**Birmingham Irish Heritage Group –** Meets on the first Monday of every month at Sacred Heart, Club, Aston. Next meeting: **Mon 6<sup>th</sup> November.** 7pm to 9pm. All welcome. Sacred Heart Church is on the No.7 Bus Route from Birmingham.

**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**

**Parish Visitation Weekend –** was a very special moment in the life of St Chad's Cathedral Parish because it was a very clear expression of the desire of so many people to be part of a community of faith here. It was also an expression of the generosity of spirit of so many people associated with the Cathedral Parish.

Bishop David Evans, our Auxiliary Bishop, was delighted to meet so many people after our 3 Masses.

A really special word of thanks to our primary school community who animated our 4.30pm Mass on Saturday with their amazing singing!

A lot of baking took place too! Thank you so much to those who baked and brought cakes. They were delicious cakes!

Most of all, thank you for your prayerful participation in the weekend. Fr Tim looks forward to hearing your feedback on the pink sheet questions for future ideas for our parish.

**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.

**Weekly Diocesan E-newsletter** – Please sign up to receive this at [www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk](http://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk)

**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)

**Remembrance Sunday** – 12<sup>th</sup> November is the Sunday nearest to 11<sup>th</sup> November which commemorates the end of the First World War: the 11<sup>th</sup> hour of the 11<sup>th</sup> day of the 11<sup>th</sup> month. On that day, we shall remember at Masses those who have died in war and conflict in the many conflicts of the 20<sup>th</sup> and now 21<sup>st</sup> centuries. Our focus on this day is both sacrifice and a longing for peace throughout the world.

**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)

**National SVP 1833 Young Adults Retreat** - Hebron Hall Christian Centre Cross Common Road Dinas Powys CF64 4YB. **24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> November 2023** Come and join us for a weekend of meeting others who are passionate about making a difference in their local communities. It will be a weekend of prayer and reflection with times of volunteering and action, including a visit to St Vincent's, Ely Bridge. (25 minute train/car journey from Cardiff) Cost: £50. To find out more and to book, email: [youngvincentians@svp.org.uk](mailto:youngvincentians@svp.org.uk)

**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.

**Silver Jubilee of Priestly Ordination of Fr Jan Nowotnik** – on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm. Fr Jan, a Priest of the Archdiocese of Birmingham, served as an Assistant Priest at St Chad’s Cathedral. He is now Officer for Mission at the Catholic Bishops’ Conference of England and Wales, with special responsibility for Dialogue with our fellow Christians, dialogue with other faiths and Evangelisation. He is currently participating at the Synod in Rome having recently completed a doctorate in Synodality. All are welcome to celebrate this milestone of priesthood with Fr Jan.

**Mass of Thanksgiving for Bishop Stephen Wright** – on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November at 12 noon there will be a special Mass here at St Chad’s to welcome Bishop Stephen back to the Archdiocese since his installation as Bishop of Hexham and Newcastle. There is an open invitation to this Mass. You are most welcome.

**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.**