



Metropolitan Cathedral & Basilica of St Chad

St Chad's Queensway, Birmingham, B4 6EU

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Cathedral Dean – Mgr. Timothy Menezes - 0121 230 6209 Email: dean.stchadscathedral@rcaob.org.uk

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 Catholic Student Societies: www.cathchaps.co.uk

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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 or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concern.*

Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord (Year B)



7th January 2024

Divine Office: Psalter Week 1;

Week 1 of Ordinary Time

Entrance Antiphon: Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come; and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.

Responsorial Psalm: All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! We saw his star as it rose and have come to do the Lord homage. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: We have seen his star in the East, and have come with gifts to adore the Lord.



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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: 6th January – 14th January 2024

Sat 6 Vigil for the Epiphany of the Lord (B)
1.00pm Requiem Mass – Maria Tessaro RIP
4.30pm Michael McMahan RIP

Sun 7 Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord (B)
9.30am For Pope Francis & the Synodal Pathway
in the Universal Church
11.30am People of the Parish

Mon 8 Feast of the Baptism of the Lord
12.15am In Thanksgiving for the
Sacrament of Baptism

Tues 9 Feria in Ordinary Time
12.15pm Ellen Fleming - Intentions

Wed 10 Feria in Ordinary Time
12.15pm Mr Joseph Chacko RIP (Anniversary)

Thurs 11 Feria in Ordinary Time
12.15pm Patrick Hanlon RIP (Anniv.)

Friday 12 Feria in Ordinary Time
12.15pm Mary Gibbons RIP

**Sat 13 Vigil for Second Sunday in Ordinary
Time (B)**
4.30pm People of the Parish

Sun 14 Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)
9.30am Intentions of Nana Mura & Ica Angius
11.30am Ints. of Valentim (Birthday)

Second Collection: Next Sunday there will be a second collection for Pax Christi. www.paxchristi.org.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.



Catholic Church in England & Wales www.cbcew.org.uk
Independent Catholic News: www.indcatholicnews.com
Thinking Faith: www.thinkingfaith.org

First Sunday of the Month Meet & Greet: The next Meet & Greet will be in the Grimshaw Room this Sunday (7th January), where there will be tea and coffee after the 9.30am Mass. The bookshop will be open on this day. And a public health consultation will be held. See below.

We are very pleased to acknowledge the inclusion of our Cathedral in a book called *Another Fifty Churches to see before you Die* by Elena Curti, published by Gracewing and available in our bookshop now.

The God Who Speaks: Next Sunday's Readings:
1 Samuel 3:3-10.19. Psalm 39; 11 St Paul to Corinthians 6:13-15. 17-20 John 1:35-42 www.godwhospeaks.uk

**Holy Father's Prayer Intention for January:
For the gift of diversity in the Church**

We pray that Holy Spirit may help us to recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the Catholic Church.

Prayers for Recently Deceased: Frs. Paul Lomas, Chris Greaney and John Lungley. Also Maria Tessaro, Hugh Gunn, Anthony Robinson, Elaine Harper, Debbie Perks, Rebecca Clary, Jackie Carron, Jenifer Cummings, Becca Emery and Mary Hughes (nee Taylor).

Prayers for those who are ill: Fr. Michael Ho, Patricia Halpin, 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: Frs.: Francis Dwyer, Philip Smith, John Davis, Brian Harding, John Bentley, Charles Becker, Philip Wyles, Patrick Farrelly, Patrick McSwiney and Patrick Joyce. Deacon William Murphy. Also: Mary McGill, Breid Dillon, Michael Grealish, John Dadd, Michael Kiely, Helen Kiely, Francis Gillian, Francis Moyna, Herman Dhoot, Maria Do Ce'u Da Purificacaó, Elaine McGlynn, Patrick Hanlon, Patrick Burke, Sean Corcoran, Michael Heffernan, Michael King and Thomas Madden.

The Synod of Bishops – 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 this October.

Christmas Offerings for the Cathedral Clergy: We the priests who support the Cathedral are most grateful for your kindness; your generosity, prayers and gifts. May God bless you in the year ahead.

A Word of Thanks: Thank you to all who assisted the mission of the cathedral, especially with our liturgy and hospitality for the Christmas ceremonies: staff and volunteers, altar servers and readers. 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 through music.

Maria Tessaro RIP – We have been deeply saddened by the death following a short illness of a longstanding Cathedral parishioner and friend. Maria's children served Mass here for many years. She was well known in Birmingham as an Italian teacher. Her Funeral will take place in Italy soon. May she rest in the peace of Christ.

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

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

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 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 8th January**. 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. 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.

PACT – Prison Advice and Care Trust

January Rosary for Prisoners and their families:

Following your generous response for Christmas, you are asked to consider keeping this intention in your prayers by praying the Rosary once a week for prisoners & families.

This charity supports those in prison and especially has a role of pastoral care towards the families of prisoners – sometimes victims of circumstance themselves.

PACT also asks the question: is building more prisons and locking more people up really the best approach? Or education and family support and rehabilitation. Find our more at: <https://www.prisonadvice.org.uk/>

SVP – Society of St Vincent de Paul - 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. **We currently have need for a handy person. Also somebody who is competent in electrical testing (not necessarily PAT testing).** We also need parishioners who are free during the daytime to be able to visit people in need or provide other practical support.

St Chad's Sanctuary – our parish charity. 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. **Often, businesses and companies choose an annual charity to focus efforts on. Could your workplace consider making St Chad's Sanctuary your annual charity? If so, the Sanctuary would welcome people for a tour and to speak more about its important work.**

Aid to the Church in Need Pilgrimage In the Footsteps of the English Northern Saints - 22-27 July 2024.

Travel the pilgrim paths of the early church in Durham, Lindisfarne, Escomb, Ruthwell and Jarrow with Saints Cuthbert and Bede. This Aid to the Church in Need pilgrimage will include reflections on the persecuted Church of today and look into the history of the early church led by our pilgrim historian Suze Mathews who specialises in Anglo-Saxon history. Led by Fr Jeremy Howard, our pilgrimage chaplain, experience communal prayer of the Divine Office in beautiful surroundings, daily Mass and devotions. Fr Tim plans to go on this pilgrimage and invites St Chad's parishioners to come and see places that St Chad himself would have known. Information available on noticeboards. For more information and to book a place, please contact Teresa Kehoe: teresa.kehoe@acnuk.org.uk

Monthly Organ Recitals: Please note that the next monthly recital is on **Thursday 1st February 2024** at 1:15pm. Please see the website www.thursdaylive.org. 2024 promises to be a special year for the recitals!

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



Please switch off mobile phones when in Church.

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

Birmingham City Council Public Health Consultation on an Active Strategy for our City -

https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/50263/supporting_healthier_lives/2442/getting_active_every_day/6.

As part of the City Council's Strategy for an Active City, they have approached us and requested the opportunity to speak with parishioners. They will be present at Meet and Greet this weekend in the Grimshaw Room. The link above enables you to participate in the consultation online, in your own time.

CAFOD Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal - Donate to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal at 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.

2024 – A Year of Prayer in preparation for the Jubilee Holy Year 2025

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

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. A one-page summary of the main points is available on the Cathedral website.

Pray24Brum – The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity takes place each year from 18th to 25 January. The significance of the date 25th January is that is the Feast of the Conversion of St Paul. Christian Unity is often expressed through families made up of Christians of different denominations. Why not use this Week in late January to learn more about another Christian tradition that you've never explored. Pray24Brum is now in its 10th year – the city centre Christian churches of Birmingham gathering to pray and to express prayer in different ways. This year it will be held at St Philip's Cathedral, Colmore Row on Friday 19th and Saturday 20th January. Archbishop Bernard will lead prayers there at 1pm on the Saturday. But please try to visit St Philip's Cathedral at any point over the two days. Full programme will follow soon.

Father Hudson's Care presents its 116th Annual Fundraising Ball – at St John's Hotel, Solihull on 9th March 2024. Tickets available: for individuals or special rates for tables of 8, 10 or 12. Fr Hudson's Care is the Social Care Agency of the Archdiocese of Birmingham and so you can have a most enjoyable evening with friends and know that you are supporting the mission of the Church by serving its most vulnerable members.

For further details, please contact: fundraising@fatherhudsons.org.uk or call 01675 434000.

To find out more about the amazing spectrum of work carried out across the Archdiocese of Birmingham in the name of Fr Hudson's Care, and to see how you can become involved in this work of the Church, please see the website: www.fatherhudsons.org.uk

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.