



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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Director of Music: Professor David Saint. 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 or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concern.*

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

'Racial Justice Sunday'

28th January 2024

Divine Office: Psalter Week 4;

Week 4 of Ordinary Time

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: O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts.

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 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: 27th January – 4th February 2024

Sat 27 Vigil for Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

4.30pm James Durnien RIP

Sun 28 Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

9.30am Denis O'Mahony (Sick)

11.30am People of the Parish

1.15pm Baptism - Chimezie Okoro

Mon 29 Feria in Ordinary Time

12.15am Elizabeth Somerfield - RIP

Tues 30 Feria in Ordinary Time

12.15pm Eileen Lawton - RIP

Wed 31 Memorial of St John Bosco

12.15pm Ints of Mary Finnegan - Sick

Thurs 1 Feria in Ordinary Time

12.15pm Ints of Nick Smith – Sick

1.15pm Organ Recital (30th Anniversary)

Friday 2 Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

12.15pm Benjamin Abordo - RIP

Sat 3 Vigil for Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

12.00noon Mass for Day for Religious

4.30pm Fred Longley – RIP (Anniversary)

Sun 4 Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

9.30am People of the Parish

Followed by Meet & Greet

11.30am Intentions of Fr John Peyton

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. **February: For Terminally Ill** -We pray that those with terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.

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

Prayers for those who are ill: Fr. Michael Ho, John Pender, Patricia Halpin, Belarmino Antao, 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.

Prayers for those whose anniversaries occur about this time: Mgr. Michael Williams. Canons.: Giles Goward and Kevin Good. Frs.: Charles Smith, Mortimer Loftus, John Berry, Denis Clancy and Joseph Connelly. Also: James Durnien, Malcolm Armitt, Catherine Driscoll, Gerard Casey, Raga Fahmi, Maggie Hannigan, Mary Williams, Nora Godfrey, Chris O'Connor, Kathleen Sheran, Eileen Lawton, Jim Finn, Martina Donaghy, Verowich Sanman, Antoon Verschoot, Paddy Kavanagh, Christina Ellams, Josephine Faulkner, Matty McCabe, Fred Longley and Vera Cronin.

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.

Season of Lent – begins on Ash Wednesday, 14th February this year.

Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday 24th March. Please consider marking these dates (and the rest of Holy Week) in your diary now.

Rite of Election – An important ceremony takes place here in the Cathedral on the first Sunday of Lent (18th February at 3pm) when people from across the Archdiocese will be presented to the Archbishop as part of their final weeks of preparation leading to adult baptism / Confirmation / Reception into the Catholic Church at Easter. Let us pray for all those on this journey of faith.

Second Collection: This weekend there will be a second collection for Racial Justice. www.carj.org.uk Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th February – the Parish SVP will speak at all Masses and there will be a Second Collection to support their work on our behalf.

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
Vatican (Current & Papal Archive) www.vatican.va
Word on Fire (Bishop Robert Barron): www.wordonfire.org

First Sunday of the Month Meet & Greet: The next Meet & Greet will be in the Grimshaw Room on Sunday 4th February where there will be tea and coffee after the 9.30am Mass. The bookshop will be open on this day.

The God Who Speaks: Next Sunday's Readings: **Job 7:1-4. 6-7. Psalm 146; 1 Corinthians 9:16-19. 22-23; Mark 1:29-29**
www.godwhospeaks.uk

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.

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 \(cbcew.org.uk\)](http://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 5th February**. 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

Find out more at: <https://www.prisonadvice.org.uk/>

January Rosary for Prisoners and their families:

Please continue to pray for prisoners & their families.

PACT – An Appeal for Children's Books

Before Christmas, you responded generously to an appeal for Christmas gifts for the children of those in prison at HMP Birmingham. Now, PACT is looking to support the families of prisoners at HMP Swinfen Hall (Lichfield) to provide books for children during their visits to the prison. If you have books in good condition that you no longer need for your children – of any age – please bring them along. We will collect them.

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 also need parishioners who are free during the daytime to be able to visit people in need or provide other practical support.

On the first weekend of February, there will be a special appeal given at all Cathedral Masses by our parish SVP.

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! **Thursday 1st February is a special one hour programme by David Saint, Paul Carr, Nigel Morris and John Pryer celebrating the 30th anniversary of the Cathedral's Walker Organ.**

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.

A Day for Parish Singers: On Saturday 10th February, downstairs in the Grimshaw Room here in St Chad's Cathedral, there will be a day to learn new music and to reflect on the coming liturgical seasons of the Church's Year: Lent and Eastertide. The day is free of charge and open to everybody. There will be an opportunity to learn music for Lent and Eastertide and to hear some background on a new translation of the Lectionary that we use for Mass, expected by the end of this calendar year. 10am to 3.30pm.

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

Letter on the Future of our Deanery – At all Masses across the Birmingham Cathedral and South Deanery (which stretches from Central Birmingham to Redditch and Bromsgrove), a letter from Bishop David Evans, our Auxiliary Bishop was read out recently. It pertains to the need to look with some urgency at the situation facing us as an Archdiocese, not in the distant future, but very soon. The reality of the number of priests, the health of priests and a sustainable model of parish life for the future is what is addressed. The letter is available to read among the News Items on our Cathedral website.

New Canons of St Chad's Cathedral – We pray for four priests of the Archdiocese who have recently been appointed as Canons of the Cathedral: Mgr Mark Crisp, Parish Priest of Blessed Carlo Acutis, Wolverhampton and Fr Raymond Corbett, Diocesan Chancellor and Catholic Chaplain to Aston University have been appointed Chapter Canons, the group of priests who form part of the College of Consultors to the Archbishop, as required by the Church's Canon Law. Two priests have been appointed Honorary Canons: Fr Gary Buckby, Parish Priest of Our Lady & St Rose of Lima, Weoley Castle and St Peter, Bartley Green and currently the Dean of the Cathedral and South Birmingham Deanery; and Fr Douglas Lamb, Parish Priest of St Ambrose, Kidderminster. The Chapter Mass takes place on the 1st Tuesday of the Month at 12 noon.

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 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.