



Metropolitan Cathedral & Basilica of St Chad

St Chad's Queensway, Birmingham, B4 6EU

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Archdiocese Website: www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk

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

Canon Raymond 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 (Mon-Sat 9am-4pm)

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.*

Fifth Sunday of Lent (Year B)

'Day of Prayer for the Candidates for the Sacraments'

'Dementia Prayer Week'

17th March 2024

Divine Office: Psalter Week 1;

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Entrance Antiphon: Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

Responsorial Psalm: A pure heart create for me, O God.

Gospel Acclamation: Glory to you, O Christ, you are the word of God! If a man serves me, says the Lord, he must follow me: wherever I am, my servant will be there too. Glory to you, O Christ, you are the word of God!

Communion Antiphon: Amen, Amen I say to you: Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains a single grain. But if it dies, it bears much fruit.



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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 – 4.00pm 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: 16th March – 24th March 2024

Sat 16 Vigil for Fifth Sunday of Lent (B)
4.30pm Mrs Heaney RIP

Sun 17 Fifth Sunday of Lent (B)
9.30am People of the Parish
11.30am Intentions of Jerry Kelleher

Mon 18 Lent Feria
12.15am Michael Gallagher RIP

Tues 19 SOLEMNITY OF ST JOSEPH, HUSBAND OF MARY
12.15pm Mary Ann Wallis

Wed 20 Lent Feria
12.15pm Thomas, Mary & Liam Flaherty RIP

Thurs 21 Lent Feria
12.15pm Mary Scott RIP (Anniv.)

Friday 22 Lent Feria
12.15pm Intentions of Purdue & Keveney families
Followed by Stations of the Cross

Sat 23 Vigil for Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (B)
4.30pm Barney Donnellan RIP (Anniv.)

Sun 24 Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (B)
9.30am Anthony McLoughlin
11.20am Please gather outside the Crypt for the Procession
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.



First Sunday of the Month Meet & Greet:

The next meet and greet will be on Sunday 7th April at 10.30am after the 9.30am Mass. 11.30am people – come before Mass!

The God Who Speaks: Next Sunday's Readings:

Isaiah 50:4-7; Psalm 21; Philippians 2:6-11;

Mark 14:1-15:47 www.godwhospeaks.uk

Stations of the Cross – will take place in the Cathedral after the Mass at 12.15pm on Fridays during the season of Lent.

St Patrick's Day 50th Anniversary Parade 17th March 2024

Mass will begin at 10am at St Anne's Church, Digbeth. The committee of the Birmingham Irish Heritage Group will be walking the parade, which start at the top of Bradford Street (Camp Hill) at 12 noon. All welcome to join the walk.

Holy Week & Easter – Please take a green sheet from the back of the Cathedral which has all the Mass times during Holy Week & Easter.

Pentecost Vigil of Prayer followed by Social Gathering here for students and young adults. Saturday 18th May at 6pm.

Holy Father's Prayer Intention for March: For the new martyrs – We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.

Prayers for Recently Deceased:, Frs. Sandy Brown, Paul Lomas, Chris Greaney and John Lungley. Also Eileen Dalton, Hugh Gunn, Anthony Robinson, Debbie Perks, Brendan Fleming & Marie Chatten.

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, Chris Saint, Joan Soggi, and our parishioners, family and friends who are sick at home or in hospital.

Prayers for those whose anniversaries occur about this time: Archishops; Bernard Ullathorne OSB & Francis Joseph Grimshaw. Frs.: William Madden, Andrew Brennan and Laurence Crowe. Deacons: Thomas Ashcroft & John Higgins. Also: Nancy Kennedy, Kenneth Peiris, Mario Wong, Thomas Boyce, Charmaine Peiris, Thomas Scanlan, Janet Weston, Thomas Flaherty & Ray Collier.

Easter Offering – Envelopes are available in the Cathedral. Your Easter Offerings are for the Cathedral clergy.

Cathedral Collections last week:

Main collection: £342.68

St Paul's School for Girls - RE Teacher to cover a maternity leave, starting as soon as possible.

For further details please telephone or download an application form from our website www.stpaulgl.bham.sch.uk 01214540895

Born For This – a presentation of the Stations of the Cross, in Music and Drama – is being presented by the Kenelm Youth Trust of our Archdiocese, and welcomes the involvement of young people, and for people to attend. Saturday 23rd March at St Thomas Aquinas School, Kings Norton. For more details:

www.kenelmyouthtrust.org.uk/born-for-this.html

Annual Diocesan Mass for Marriage –

Saturday 4th May 12noon - If you are celebrating a significant anniversary of marriage this year, please let us know and come along to celebrate God's blessings in your life. This annual celebration is a witness to the power of God's love in married life. The Mass is open to all and is a moment of thanksgiving for the story of each couple and God's goodness to you.

<https://www.vocations.org.uk/marriage-mass>

Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday 24th March. Please consider marking that Great Week in your diary now and come to the ceremonies of Holy Thursday (7.30pm), Good Friday (3pm) and Holy Saturday (8pm). Easter Sunday (30th March) morning Masses as Normal (9.30am and 11.30am) The clocks spring forward an hour on Easter Sunday!

Feeding your Faith (RCIA)

Please pray for those who have been on a journey of faith over the past year, which will culminate in their Baptism or Reception into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil, this Holy Week.

If you, or somebody you know would like to know more about the Catholic Faith, please introduce yourself after Sunday Mass.

If you want to feed your faith in a time of your choosing, look at the website www.sycamore.fm or search online for the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

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

Remember St Chad's Cathedral in your Will: As a parishioner or as a visitor to our beautiful Cathedral Church, a building of prayer and history, we ask you consider leaving a legacy to St Chad's Cathedral when you are making your will. We are grateful for all generous donations at any time. This is a particular way of investing in the future. Thank you.

Sacred Heart Church, Aston – Birmingham Irish Heritage Group – Meets every month at Sacred Heart, Club, Aston.
Next meeting: **8th April** 7pm to 9pm. All welcome. Friends from all over the city come to the group, to celebrate and share Irish history and culture.

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.

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 – Prison Advice and Care Trust

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

Pact is deeply grateful to all of the supporters and parishes who donated to last year's campaign. Currently, the amount raised from parish collections up and down the country stands at an incredible £50,267 pounds. This will make a huge difference to the lives of those whom Pact support.

This season of Lent, a commentary on the Stations of the Cross prepared by the PACT charity will be used sometimes after the 12.15 Mass on Fridays.

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. **We were delighted by the number of parishioners who came forward following the recent appeal, to become members of associates of the 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

Monthly Organ Recitals: Please note that the next monthly recital is on **Thursday 4th April 2024** at 1:15pm. Please see the website www.thursdaylive.org. 2024 promises to be a special year for the recitals!

Theology on Tap – an opportunity for young adults to discuss matters of faith, in a social setting in Birmingham City Centre. Friday 15th March. See Kenelm Youth Trust on Instagram or ask Fr Tim for more details!

Please switch off mobile phones when in Church.

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



The Catholic Church and Social Action in the Midlands www.fatherhudsons.org.uk
Websites on the Priesthood and Vocations www.ukpriest.org; www.vocations.org.uk
The Synod Process Website: <https://www.synod.va/en/resources/official-documents.html>

The Annual Birmingham Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes in the south of France takes place during the Spring Bank Holiday school half term week. This year: Monday 27th May to Saturday 1st June. If you would like to know more about travelling to Lourdes, please contact Fr Tim

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 has provided 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.

Diocesan Events at St Chad's Cathedral

Wednesday 27th March - Chrism Mass at 11.30am. Priests of the Archdiocese renew their priestly promises and the oils for the Sacraments for the coming year are blessed by the Archbishop.

Monday 1st April - Easter Monday Mass at 10am. This has its origins in the men of the city witnessing to the Blessed Sacrament when it was questioned. A tradition for grandfathers, fathers and sons to come to Mass together. Everybody is welcome. Many communities from across the city and beyond will be involved.

Sunday 19th May- Blessing of Hands Mass at 2pm for pilgrims preparing to travel on the Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage the following week

Weekend of Faith and Culture 2024

Please make a note in your diary of **Saturday 22nd and Sunday 23rd June for our next Weekend of Faith and Culture**. We are celebrating the richness of different Catholic cultures represented in our Cathedral weekend congregations: language, music and food. Our Parish Primary School will lead the music at the Saturday 4.30pm Mass, and we look forward to another celebration of all that makes you proud of the faith in your country. Fr Tim welcomes all offers of involvement: to read a prayer in your language, to prepare food to share, to decorate the Cathedral. Most of all, for now, please don't be away that weekend, if possible!

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 4.00pm

(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.