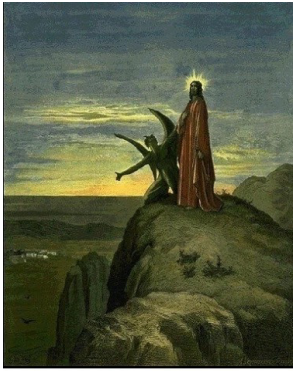


<p><u>PARISH CLERGY:</u> PARISH PRIEST Fr. Ramesh Echu PARISH DEACON Rev. Peter Crosby</p>	<p>ST. MARY OF THE ANGELS 39 Whetstone Lane Aldridge Walsall WS9 0JD Tel:01922 452316</p>	<p>This Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham. Registered Charity Nº:234216</p>
<p><u>PARISH REPS:</u> SAFEGUARDING: Mr Gerry Wintrip sg.smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk HEALTH & SAFETY: Mr Phil Probert hs.smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk PARISH CATECHIST: Mrs Philomena Mullins cat.smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk</p>	<p><u>Parish Website:</u> www.catholicaldridge.co.uk <u>Parish Email:</u> smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk <u>Fr. Ramesh's Email:</u> fr.ramesh.echu@rcaob.org.uk <u>Rev. Peter Crosby</u> dcn.peter.crosby@rcaob.org.uk</p>	

DATE
Sunday 22nd February 2026
SUNDAY
1st Sunday of Lent 2026
Year A
DIVINE OFFICE
Week 1

Live-stream: All of our services are now Live-streamed.

Saturday 21 st February 2026 Saturday after Ash Wednesday (Vigil Mass for Sunday)	9:30am 10:00-10:30am 6:00pm	Michael Joyce RIP ^(FH) <i>Confessions & Benediction</i> John Hayes Snr RIP ^(MG)
Sunday 22 nd February 2026 1st Sunday of Lent The Rite of Election	8:55am 9:30am 3:00pm	Day of Prayer for Candidates for the Sacraments <i>Sunday Rosary Devotion Group</i> People of the Parish St Chad's Cathedral.
Monday 23 rd February 2026 Lent Feria		
Tuesday 24 th February 2026 Lent Feria	9:15am	Martin Hoskisson RIP ^(J&SW)
Wednesday 25 ^h February 2026 Lent Feria	9:15am 4:00pm 6:00pm	Roy Allsopp RIP ^(O&RL) Stations of the Cross <i>Rosary Devotion Group in Meeting Room (UFN)</i>
Thursday 26 ^h February 2026 Lent Feria	6:30pm 7:00pm	Lenten Talk Private Intention
Friday 27 ^h February 2026 Lent Feria	12 Noon 4:00pm	<i>Lent Fast Day</i> Jim Smith RIP ^(SVP) <i>Soup will be served in the Meeting Room after Mass</i> Stations of the Cross
Saturday 28 February 2026 Lent Feria (Vigil Mass for Sunday)	9:30am 10:00-10:30am 6:00pm	Mary O'Connell RIP ^(FH) <i>Confessions & Benediction</i> Lily & Allen Payne RIP ^(SW)
Sunday 1 st March 2026 2nd Sunday of Lent	8:55am 9:30am	Day of Prayer for Candidates for the Sacraments <i>Sunday Rosary Devotion Group</i> People of the Parish

The Holy Communion and Confirmation Classes for Children not at Catholic Schools:
 Our Holy Communion Classes and Confirmation **continue** straight after Sunday Mass. For details, please contact our Parish Catechist **Mrs Philomena Mullins:** cat.smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk

Pope Leo

As we begin our journey through Lent, let us ask the Lord to grant us the gift of true conversion of heart, so that we may better respond to His love for us and share that love with those around us.

Lent 'Walk with Me' Booklet

The Lenten copies of **Walk with Me** are available in the church porch. Our suggested donation of £1.50 would be most welcome.

Recently Deceased

Of your charity, please pray for the repose of the souls of **Jean Watson** who died recently in Aston Court, and **Mary Gowans** upon whose souls, Sweet Jesus have mercy. **Mary's** Requiem will be at **11:00am** on **Thursday 5th March** followed by interment at **Streetly** at **12:30pm**.

The CaFOD Prayer 1st Sunday in Lent Time

CAFOD

In fasting, prayer and almsgiving you have shown us, Lord, a remedy for our sins, the way we should prepare ourselves for Easter and your resurrection. Confirm us in these actions and lift us up.

Family Fun Afternoon



Family Fun Afternoon, Sunday 29th March at 2-5pm. **Games, Craft Table etc.** - Bring your own food/snacks. Limited spaces.

Please use the signup sheet in the porch.

Piety Stall

We have restocked the Piety Stall. We have gifts and cards to celebrate St Patrick's Day, Confirmation, Mothering Sunday, Easter and those being received into the Church this Easter. Also, lots for new babies and children being baptised. If we don't have what you want on the stall, just ask to see the catalogue, we are happy to accommodate special orders.

Pope's Prayer Intention

The Pope's prayer intention for February is:- **For Children with incurable diseases.** Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

Parish Pastoral Meeting

The proposed 26th February **AGM** and **Meeting** of the **Parish Pastoral Council** has had to be postponed. Details of the new date will be published shortly.

Sick in the Parish

Please pray for the sick in the parish, remembering especially:

Sheila Brayford, Geraldine Frith, Andrew Mather, Ann Watson, Anne Mitchell, Maureen Patton, Maureen Carr, Shaun Smith, Kathleen 'Frankie' Smith, Sheila Plimmer, Ann Hornblower, Dennis Poyner, Freddie Evans, Nuala & George Partridge, Hilary Fernandes, Eoghain Devine, Marian Mathews, Marie Wilson, Ian Phipps, Oscar Wordsworth, Nichola Woodhall, Paul Corbett, Carmel Fekete, Lynn Stanley, Janet Chambers, Jo Hawker, Alison Welton, Louise Morgan, Margaret Davis, Joe Bannister, Margaret Healy, Juliet Woodhall, Luke Smith, Catherine Shepherd, David Goodwin, Antonio Bigongiari, Olivia (Dotty) Cutler, Keith Allford, Anna Morgan née Meehan, Holly Brady, Jo Cooke, Anne Humphreys, Theresa Chandler, Fr. Paul Chamberlain, Cath Breen, Max Lewis, David & Sheila Piggott, Clare Cooksey & Áine McDonagh.

Nursery places at St Mary of the Angels Primary

Places for the **September 2026** intake at our primary school are now available, see the notice board in the porch. Please contact school on **01922 743411** or email:

postbox@st-maryangel.walsall.sch.uk

For more information, or see the notice board in the porch. ⁵

Safeguarding Notice

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Mr. Gerry Wintrip. Gerry can be contacted at: sg.smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk or the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted at safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk or on 0121 230 6240 if you have any concerns.

RCIA Growing the Faith

The R.C.I.A course meeting continues from **7:00 to 8:30pm** this **Tuesday 24th February**. **All are welcome**, those already Catholics wanting to know more about the faith and those who want to become Catholics. That session will be entitled '**Praying the Mass**'. The Rite of Election will be at **3:00pm** this **Sunday 22nd February** at **St. Chad's Cathedral**.

Lenten Friday Mass

During Lent, starting last **Friday 20th February 2026**, the **Mass on Friday** will be at **12 Noon**. This will be followed by soup with a bread roll in the Meeting Room. All donations will be gratefully received for **Mary's Meals**; it's a great opportunity to help with your Lenten Friday fast.¹ Our Lenten Alms will be for the aid of **Fr. Hudson's Caritas**.

Lenten Talks on Thursday Evenings

Our Lenten talks, which began last Thursday, continue at **6:30pm** before the evening Mass. These will help us to grow **spiritually** to prepare ourselves for the celebration of the Paschal Mysteries. These talks are led by various guest members of the clergy throughout the period of Lent. This week's speaker is **Fr. Justin** from St. Mary's College Oscott.³

Craft & Natter



Craft and Natter will be back to normal this Tuesday **24th February**, as usual when everyone is welcome. Sessions cost **£1 each** and run from **11am until 3pm**. For more information call me, **Christine on 07900 604902**.

Craft and Natter will be having a stall at the back of church next weekend, **28th February/1st March**, after the Masses. We will have St Patrick's, Mothering Sunday, and Easter gifts for sale so save your pennies and come look at what we have to offer. All monies raised go towards church funds, thanking you all in advance for your generosity. Christine

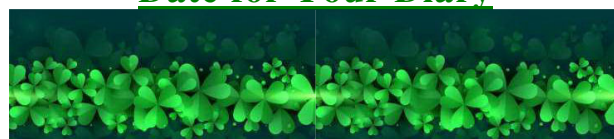
Thank You from Canon Michael

Canon Michael wishes to thank everyone for their kind and warm welcome at **St. Mary of the Angels** during **Fr. Ramesh's absence**. A special thank you for the gift which is most appreciated. With prayers and good wishes for Lent and Easter. Fr. Ramesh also wishes to thank Canon Michael for celebrating our Masses during his absence.

Domestic Assistance Needed

An elderly lady, located close to the 'Old Irish Harp', is in need of overnight sleep and companionship care on a temporary basis. DBS and references will be required. Please contact Lucy on 07979 151425 to discuss further.

Date for Your Diary



The room at the Conservative Club is booked for our **St. Patrick's Day** celebration evening at **7:00pm** on **Friday 13th March**. Tickets will be available next weekend 28/01 after the Saturday & Sunday Masses³.

Sacrament of the Sick

Please remember to inform **Fr. Ramesh directly** in case of sickness, especially if it requires hospital treatment or a prolonged absence from Mass. If you cannot inform the clergy yourself it is then your family who should take on this responsibility.



Baptism Enquiries

If you would like to have your child Baptised here at St. Mary of the Angels, please visit the 'Baptismal Enquiry' page of the parish website using the following link:

<https://www.catholicaldridge.co.uk/baptismal-enquiries.html>

Here you can complete a '**Baptism Enquiry Form**'.

The next available date for Baptism Preparation is:

7:00pm Tuesday 10th March 2026

7:00pm Tuesday 9th June 2026

7:00pm Tuesday 8th September 2026

PARISH DUTIES THIS WEEKEND: 21ST – 22ND FEBRUARY 2026

<u>6:00PM VIGIL MASS</u>	WELCOMERS:	Shelagh G & Anne H
	READERS:	John H & Brian L
	EO Euch. Ministers	Anne C & Bernadette
<u>9:30AM SUNG MASS</u>	WELCOMERS:	Rossella B & Helen C
	MUSIC:	Choir
	READERS:	Sianna & Louis
	EO Euch. Ministers	Katie & Katharine <small>Musicians</small> Phil

Duties During the Week: 23RD – 28TH FEBRUARY 2026

CLEANERS:	Team B
FLOWERS:	No flowers for the remainder of Lent

PARISH DUTIES NEXT WEEKEND: 29TH FEBRUARY – 1ST MARCH 2026

<u>6:00PM VIGIL MASS</u>	WELCOMERS:	Mavie & Krystal B
	READERS:	Hugh D & Cathy S
	EO Euch. Ministers	Jonathan G & Ann T
<u>9:30AM SUNG MASS.</u>	WARDENS:	Peter H
	WELCOMERS:	Katharine & Dave
	MUSIC:	School
	READERS:	Florence N & Christine L
	EO Euch. Ministers	Janet & Will <small>Musicians</small>
	WARDENS:	Pat & Sally S
COFFEE:	The M Family	

Reflection: Today's Gospel teaches us how the "*desert experience*" of fasting, praying, and soul-strengthening enabled Jesus to confront His temptations successfully and then to preach the Good News of salvation. The tempter urges Jesus to turn stones into loaves of bread but Jesus rejects that temptation - to mistrust His Father by satisfying His own immediate, temporal needs - thus reducing His Divine mission to self-satisfaction! The tempter then suggests that Jesus prove that He is really the Son of God by jumping off the parapet of the Temple. Jesus rejects this as a temptation to act as God's superior and demand He prove His Trustworthiness! Finally, Jesus rejects the temptation to idolatry, even if worshipping Satan would enrich and empower Jesus with all the kingdoms of the world.

God bless you all.