

**PARISH CLERGY:**

**Fr. Craig Davies**  
(Parish Priest)

**Rev. John Higgins**  
(Parish Deacon)

**PARISH REPS:**

**SAFEGUARDING:**

**Mr Gerry Wintrip**  
(01922 457471)

**HEALTH & SAFETY:**  
**Mr Phil Probert**  
(01922 458406)

**ST. MARY OF THE ANGELS**



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Tel:01922 452316



This Parish is  
part of the  
Archdiocese of  
Birmingham  
Registered  
Charity  
Nº:234216

**Parish Website:**

[www.catholicaldridge.co.uk](http://www.catholicaldridge.co.uk)

**Parish Email:**

[smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk)

**Fr. Craig's Email:**

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**THE YEAR OF THE WORD**

**DATE**

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup>  
November 2020**

**SUNDAY**

**Solemnity of our Lord Jesus Christ, King  
of the Universe  
Last Sunday in Year A**

**DIVINE OFFICE  
Week 2**

**In response to COVID-19 all public Masses and other liturgies have been suspended until further notice. We will, however, continue to live-stream all of our Masses at the advertised times.**

**Please Note That All Masses Will Be Said In Private**

<b>Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> Nov</b>	6.00pm	<i>Vigil of Christ the King</i>
<b>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November</b> Solemnity of Christ the King	9.30am 4.30pm	People of the Parish <i>Church open for Private Prayer</i>
<b>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov</b> St. Clement I Pope, Martyr Memorial	9.15am	Bernard Maguire RIP <sup>(ES)</sup>
<b>Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> Nov</b> St. Andrew Dung-Lac Priest & Companions Martyrs Memorial	9.15am	George Carter & Bill Bennett RIP <sup>(J&amp;PC)</sup>
<b>Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> Nov</b> St. Catherine of Alexandria Martyr Memorial		No Services Today
<b>Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> Nov</b> Feria	7.30pm	Int. of Agnes Muldoon <sup>(ES)</sup>
<b>Friday 27<sup>th</sup> Nov</b> Feria	9.15am	Eliz McCabe RIP (Birthday Anniversary) <sup>(SM<sup>C</sup>)</sup>
<b>Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> Nov</b> Our Lady Saturday Memorial	9.30am	Margaret McDonagh <sup>(née Halton)</sup> RIP <sup>(MM<sup>C</sup>D)</sup>
<b>Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November</b> First Sunday of Advent Year B	9.30am 4.30pm	People of the Parish <i>Church open for Private Prayer</i>

## Pope Francis:

Every form of fundamentalist intolerance damages relationships between individuals, groups and peoples. Let us be committed to living and teaching the value of respect, a love capable of welcoming difference, and the priority of the dignity of every human being.

### Church open for Private Prayer

With the latest law passed by the UK Government imposing a second period of lockdown we are, once again, unable to gather together in the church for Mass. It is, however, permissible for us to open the church for times of individual private prayer. It is therefore my intention, beginning this Sunday, to open the church from 4.30pm to 5.30pm for people to be able to come and pray. During this time the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed on the Altar. If you intend to come to the church to pray you must: continue to wear a facemask at all times whilst in the church, maintain social distancing, sanitise your hands upon entering and exiting the church, and follow the instructions of the stewards at all times.

### Christmas Services

Over the past few weeks I have received many inquiries about how to 'book in' to one of the Christmas Masses. At the moment it is unclear/uncertain about what allowances the Government are going to make with regards to the celebration of Christmas. Please could I ask that you continue to be patient, and as soon as I know what is going to be allowed I will make an announcement here on the weekly newsletter. For the Christmas Masses, as with the present Sunday Masses, I will create a 'Booking in Form' on the Parish Website which can be used to book a place at one of the Masses.

## Pope's Prayer Intention

The Pope's prayer intention for the month of November: **Artificial Intelligence**. We pray that the progress of robotics and artificial intelligence may always serve humankind.



Catholic Agency for  
Overseas Development

### Live Simply Prayer – Week 52

Lord Jesus Christ, we acknowledge your kingship. You rule by humility and self-sacrifice. We, your followers, worship you.

### Prisoners of Conscience

Once again during ADVENT, Cafod is asking us to make a gesture of solidarity towards men and women in different parts of the world that are fighting for justice and human freedom. **“They are taking on powerful interests in an attempt to protect local communities. Sometimes this means receiving death threats for opposing illegal logging in the Amazon or facing harassment and violence for advocating women’s rights.”** The idea is to send a card to one of these ‘Defenders’ in good time for Christmas. Will you take part in this effort of Christian support? Perhaps get a friend to do the same? **Either** buy a Christmas card and write a message of encouragement and post it off to: Campaigns Team, CAFOD, Romero House, 55 Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7JB. You could address it to ‘Dear Friend’. **Or** simply send your message online to:

[cafod.org.uk/messagetobrave](http://cafod.org.uk/messagetobrave). Either way Cafod will direct your message to one of 8 they are backing. This needs to be done by Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December. If you want more details go to:

[www.cafod.org/messagetobrave](http://www.cafod.org/messagetobrave).

### Sick in the Parish

Please pray for all the sick in the parish, that God will bless and comfort them.

Please remember especially:

**Leo Jones, Luke Smith, Patricia McMahon, Catherine Shepherd, Keiron Sanders, Jim Smith, David Goodwin, Nancy Levell, Antonio Bigongiari, Olivia <sup>(Dotty)</sup> Cutler, Ann & Keith Allford, Deacon John, Joan Hart, Emma Jones, Anna Morgan <sup>nee Meehan</sup>, Margaret Cooper, Holly Brady, Mike Mander, Jo Cooke, Anne Humphreys, Pat Gray, Paul Mott, Theresa Chandler, Evelyn Hawkley, Fr. Paul Chamberlain, Cath & Paddy Breen, Max Lewis, Marguerite Baxendale, David Piggott, Clare Cooksey & Áine McDonagh.**

Pray also for all suffering as a result of Covid-19, and those still isolating at home.

### Job Vacancy at the Archdiocese

The Archdiocese is looking to appoint a new Chief Operating Officer (“COO”). This is a Permanent, Full Time post with a salary of £80,000 to £90,000 p.a. The role of COO is to work closely with the Archbishop, Area Bishops and the Vicar General with responsibility for the lay workforce in the Archdiocese, the financial and properties resources involved in providing the administrative services in fulfilment of the Mission of the Catholic Church in the Diocese. For a full and complete job description, and for the application process, please follow this link to the advert on the diocesan website: [New COO for the Archdiocese.](#)

The closing date for applications is 9.00am on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020. Applicants must provide a CV or Professional Profile.

### Christmas Card Orders

We have now taken delivery of the Christmas Cards that we ordered on your behalf. Margaret and Gerard L. are pricing them, and sorting them into individual orders. Could I ask that all who placed orders contact me at the Presbytery, from Monday onwards, to arrange collection. When you come to collect your order you will also be given an invoice for the total amount; it will also explain the different means of payment available to you.

### St. Joseph's Nechells

Each year as a parish we collect presents for the children of St. Joseph's School in Nechells. Sadly, this year due to COVID-19 this will not be possible, as the school cannot distribute the gifts to the families. This is a real shame as the gifts are greatly appreciated by the children. This year, instead of donating presents, I wonder if we could collect the money normally spent on the presents, in order to provide the children with a Christmas Meal in school before the end of term. If you would like to contribute towards this please put your money in an envelope marked 'St. Joseph's' and pop it through the Presbytery door.

### New Sound System

During lockdown, a new sound system has been installed in the church costing **£8,713**. I hope you will agree that it is a vast improvement, giving a much better sound quality. If you would like to make a donation towards the cost of the new system it would be greatly appreciated. Please put your donation in an envelope marked 'Sound System' through the Presbytery door. If you are a taxpayer, and already have a GAD set up with the parish, you can Gift Aid your donation – simply ask Fr. Craig for a 'One Off Donation envelope'. Many thanks



## Statement from the Bishops’ Conference

Today, Parliament passed into law the Regulations governing many aspects of activity in the whole of England until 2nd December. These Regulations prohibit the gathering of people for communal worship in churches and other religious buildings.

Churches remain open and in use for activities other than communal worship, including personal prayer and support for those in need. Funeral Masses and funeral services may be held. Please refer to the Regulations (for places of worship see paragraph 18) and associated Guidance.

Despite profound misgivings it is important that we, as responsible citizens, observe these Regulations, which have the force of law: *‘Remind them to be obedient to the officials in authority; to be ready to do good at every opportunity’* (Titus 3:1). We do this in solidarity with so many others on whom are being imposed restrictions, which impact severely on their lives and livelihoods.

It is also important to recognise that these Regulations are not an attack on religious belief. However, they do demonstrate a fundamental lack of understanding of the essential contribution made by faith communities to the well-being, resilience and health of our society.

At this difficult moment, we ask that, as a Catholic community, we make full use of our churches as places of individual prayer and sources of solace and help. We must sustain each other in our patterns of prayer, joining a national shared moment of prayer each day at 6pm, and observing the Vigil of Christ the King (21st November) as a day of prayer for the ending of this pandemic. And we encourage you all in your practical service and support of each other and those around you in need.

This pathway of prayer and service is the royal road we are to take as a gracious witness in our society today.

Cardinal Vincent Nichols - President  
Archbishop Malcolm McMahon OP  
Vice-President

**And finally:** Today we celebrate the Solemnity of our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe; a feast established in 1925 by Pope Pius XI in response to the growing secularism and nationalism of his time. In his encyclical *Quas primas*, the document in which the Pope instituted today’s solemnity, Pope Pius XI wrote: “If to Christ our Lord is given all power in heaven and on earth; if all men, purchased by his precious blood, are by a new right subjected to his dominion; if this power embraces all men, it must be clear that not one of our faculties is exempt from his empire. He must reign in our minds... He must reign in our wills... He must reign in our hearts... He must reign in our bodies and in our members...” Today, nearly 100 years since the establishment of this feast, the secularist agenda continues to make headway, seeking at every opportunity to relegate faith, and religious observance, to the sidelines of our society. As we move toward the beginning of a new Liturgical Year, may the words of the Lord’s Prayer “thy kingdom come, thy will be done” resound more clearly in our hearts and lives day by day. Pray that the Pope, the Bishops, the clergy, and indeed each and every one of us, may have the strength and courage needed to stand up for the faith we profess, both in season and out, so that the Kingship of Christ may truly be established here on earth.

*May God bless and protect you all. Fr. Craig*