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| <p><u>PARISH CLERGY:</u> PARISH PRIEST Fr. Craig Davies PARISH DEACONS Rev. John Higgins Rev. Peter Crosby</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">ST. MARY OF THE ANGELS</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">  <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>39 Whetstone Lane Aldridge Walsall WS9 0JD Tel:01922 452316</p> </div>  </div> | <p>This Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham. Registered Charity N^o:234216</p> |
| <p><u>PARISH REPS:</u> SAFEGUARDING: Mr Gerry Wintrip (01922 457471) HEALTH & SAFETY: Mr Phil Probert (01922 458406)</p> | <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Parish Website:</u> www.catholicaldridge.co.uk <u>Parish Email:</u> smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk <u>Fr. Craig's Email:</u> fr.craig.davies@rcaob.org.uk</p> |  |

DATE
Sunday 4th December 2022

SUNDAY
Second Sunday of Advent Year A

DIVINE OFFICE
Week 2

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

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| <p><u>Saturday 3rd Dec</u> 1st Mass of Sunday</p> | <p>6:00pm</p> | <p>Lance Dryden RIP (JH)</p> |
| <p><u>Sunday 4th December</u> Second Sunday of Advent Year A</p> | <p>9:30am</p> | <p>People of the Parish</p> |
| <p><u>Monday 5th Dec</u> St. Birinus Bishop <small>Feast</small></p> | <p>9:15am</p> | <p>Int. of Paul & Jan Somerfield (A&JT)</p> |
| <p><u>Tuesday 6th Dec</u> St. Nicholas Bishop <small>Memorial</small></p> | <p>9:15am</p> | <p>Bert Mercer RIP (JC)</p> |
| <p><u>Wednesday 7th Dec</u> St. Ambrose Bishop, Doctor of the Church <small>Memorial</small></p> | | <p>No Services Today</p> |
| <p><u>Thursday 8th Dec</u> Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary <small>Solemnity</small></p> | <p>9:15am 7:00pm</p> | <p>A Private Intention Carol Service: St. Francis of Assisi School</p> |
| <p><u>Friday 9th Dec</u> Advent Feria</p> | <p>9:15am</p> | <p>Paddy Breen RIP (SH)</p> |
| <p><u>Saturday 10th Dec</u> Advent Feria (1st Mass of Sunday)</p> | <p>9:30am 10-11am 6:00pm</p> | <p>Int. of Jim Dabbs (SVP) Exposition, Confession & Benediction People of the Parish</p> |
| <p><u>Sunday 11th December</u> Third Sunday of Advent Year A</p> | <p>9:30am</p> | <p>Bert Margetts RIP (EM)</p> |

Pope Francis:

God conceals Himself in the most ordinary situations of our lives. He does not come in extraordinary events, but in everyday things: our daily work, a chance encounter, someone in need... That's where the Lord is, who calls to us and inspires our actions.

This Week's CaFOD Prayer

CAFOD

(2nd Sunday of Advent)

Your son comes, Lord our God, to establish justice on earth, to comfort the distressed, to strengthen the weak, to pity the oppressed and to save the poor. Come, Lord Jesus, come.

50/50 Club Winners

The winners of the draw for October entrants drawn on 27th November:

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|-----------------------|----|-----|--------|
| 1 st Prize | PS | 84 | £150 |
| 2 nd Prize | EW | 47 | £60 |
| 3 rd Prize | PH | 105 | £27.50 |
| 4 th Prize | TM | 96 | £20 |

Total prize money this month: £257.50.

Recently Deceased

Pray for the repose of the souls of **John O'Neill** and **Amelia Gay Ivo Whelan**, on whose souls Sweet Jesus have mercy. May they Rest in Peace.

Gay's Requiem Mass will be celebrated at **12noon** on **Friday 16th December** prior to cremation at Sutton Coldfield Crematorium.

Retiring Collection

This weekend, **3rd/4th December**, there will be a retiring collection for the: '**Poor Parishes Fund**'.

Next weekend, **10th/11th December**, there will be a retiring collection for the: **Our Parish SVP Group**.

Pope's Prayer Intention

The Pope's prayer intention for **December** is:- **For volunteer not-for-profit organisations**. We pray that volunteer non-profit organisations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international co-operation.

Sick in the Parish

Please pray for all the sick in the parish, remember especially:

Tony Stanley, John Green, Roy Allsopp, Christine, Frances Hutchcocks, Janet Chambers, Jo Hawker, Paul Atkinson, Alison Welton, Louise Morgan, Stephen Brook, Margaret Davis, Mary Brough, Joe Bannister, Morris Moseley, Margaret Healy, Juliet Woodhall, Pat Hopley, Luke Smith, Catherine Shepherd, Keiron Sanders, Jim Smith, David Goodwin, Antonio Bigongiari, Olivia (Dotty) Cutler, Ann & Keith Allford, Dcn. John Higgins, Joan Hart, Anna Morgan née Meehan, Margaret Cooper, Holly Brady, Mike Mander, Jo Cooke, Anne Humphreys, Paul Mott, Theresa Chandler, Fr. Paul Chamberlain, Cath Breen, Max Lewis, David & Sheila Piggott, Clare Cooksey & Áine McDonagh.

Please pray also for all those who carry the burden of their illnesses privately, and for all those who care for the sick.

Carol Services

This Thursday, **8th December**, St. Francis of Assisi Catholic College will be holding their annual Christmas Carol Service here at St. Mary of the Angels at **7:00pm**. Next Thursday, **15th December**, Aldridge School will be holding their Christmas Carol Service in our church at **7:30pm**. Please do come along to support them. **Mass on these two Thursdays will therefore be celebrated at 9:15am.**

Children's Liturgy

This takes place every Sunday at the 9:30am Mass. At the start of the Mass the children will be invited to go out to the Meeting Room for their Liturgy. All children are welcome to come along.

St. Joseph's Nechells Collection

Each year as a parish we have collected presents for the children of St. Joseph's School. During the COVID-19 pandemic, with all of the restrictions that were in place, it became necessary to change the way in which we supported these children. Over the past two years we have sent the money we have raised, instead of buying presents, directly to the school to benefit the children. The school has asked if we could continue this practice each year. If you would like to make a contribution toward this collection please place your donation in an envelope marked 'St. Joseph's Nechells' and pop it through the Presbytery Letter Box. As in previous years the monies raised will provide each child with a Christmas Meal, and also purchase for them items necessary for their schoolwork.

Advent & Christmas Resources

Activities, resources, reflections, readings and prayers for the Advent & Christmas Seasons can be found by visiting:

www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/advent

Craft & Natter

Our last session before Christmas will be **Tuesday 6th December**. We then have our Christmas break returning on **Tuesday 10th January 2023** from **11am to 3pm**. Thank you to all members, old and new, for the work done this term, and for the good 'natters' we have had. Happy Christmas to all. For more information call Christine W on 07900 604902.

Praying for the Unborn



In this Season of Advent, as we expectantly wait for the Christ-child to enter our hearts once more, let us pray for all expectant mothers, that they would have all that they need to joyfully welcome their child into the world. Amen.

Whetstone Over 50's Group

Our Christmas Party takes place at **1pm** on **Monday 12th December** in the Parish Meeting Room. Remember to bring your Secret Santa Gift and a plate of food.

Adult Catechesis – RCIA Course

Our course of Adult Catechesis is now running on a **Friday evening at 6:30pm** in the Parish Meeting Room. If you would like to learn more about the faith, have a refresher course, or simply want to support those preparing to become Catholics, you are warmly invited to come along.

Life – For Our Mother & Baby House

Thank you for the sterilizers. Please support our fundraiser on the 11th December after Sunday Mass. We need cakes to sell on the day, which is **NEXT** weekend, and help to 'man' the stalls.

Again, our grateful thanks to you all.

Fairtrade Stall



This Sunday, after the 9.30am Mass, our Fairtrade Stall will again be in the Parish Meeting Room. Please do come in after Mass and support this important initiative.

Sunday Coffee Mornings

Every Sunday after the 9:30am Mass in the Meeting Room. Pop in for a tea/coffee and a biscuit. We would love to see you there!

Sacrament of the Sick

Please remember to inform Fr. Craig **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 dates for Baptism Preparation are:

7pm Tuesday 10th January

7pm Tuesday 14th March

7pm Tuesday 9th May

PARISH DUTIES THIS WEEKEND: 3RD/4TH DECEMBER 2022

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|--------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 6:00PM VIGIL MASS | READERS: | Hugh D & Gerry W |
| 9:30AM SUNG MASS | MUSIC: | Choir |
| | READERS: | Will B & David W |

Duties During the Week: 5th Dec – 10th Dec

CLEANERS: Team A

FLOWERS: No Flowers during Advent

PARISH DUTIES NEXT WEEKEND: 10TH/11TH DECEMBER 2022

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|--------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 6:00PM VIGIL MASS | WELCOMERS: | Dawn M |
| | WARDENS: | Peter H |
| | READERS: | John H & Cathy S |
| 9:30AM SUNG MASS | MUSIC: | Folk Group |
| | WELCOMERS: | Elena S & Margaret L |
| | WARDENS: | Pat & Sally S |
| | READERS: | Helen C & Catherine A |
| COFFEE: | Elena S, Joan L & Angela S | |

And finally:- The Gospel of this Second Sunday of Advent presents to us the figure of St. John the Baptist, who, a famous prophecy of Isaiah says, withdrew to the desert of Judaea and, with his preaching, called the people to convert so as to be ready for the coming of the Messiah, now at hand. The precursor of Jesus, situated between the Old Covenant and the New, is like a star that heralds the rising of the Sun, of Christ. In the Season of Advent we too are called to listen to God's voice, that cries out in the desert of the world through the Sacred Scriptures, especially when they are preached with the power of the Holy Spirit. Indeed, faith grows all the stronger the more it allows itself to be illumined by the divine word. (Benedict XVI)

May God bless you all. Fr. Craig