

<p><u>PARISH CLERGY:</u> PARISH PRIEST Fr. Craig Davies PARISH DEACONS Rev. John Higgins Rev. Peter Crosby</p>	<p>ST. MARY OF THE ANGELS</p>  <p>39 Whetstone Lane Aldridge Walsall WS9 0JD Tel:01922 452316</p> 	<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><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 18th December 2022

SUNDAY
Fourth Sunday of Advent Year A

DIVINE OFFICE
Week 4

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

<p><u>Saturday 17th Dec</u> 1st Mass of Sunday</p>	<p>6:00pm</p>	<p>People of the Parish</p>
<p><u>Sunday 18th December</u> Fourth Sunday of Advent Year A</p>	<p>9:30am</p>	<p>Józef RIP & the health of Agnieszka ^(IR)</p>
<p><u>Monday 19th Dec</u> <i>Advent Feria (O Radix Jesse)</i></p>	<p>9:15am</p>	<p>Vera & Reg Yates RIP ^(MD)</p>
<p><u>Tuesday 20th Dec</u> <i>Advent Feria (O Clavis David)</i></p>	<p>9:15am</p>	<p>David Evans RIP (Anniversary) ^(ES)</p>
<p><u>Wednesday 21st Dec</u> <i>Advent Feria (O Oriens)</i></p>		<p>No Services Today</p>
<p><u>Thursday 22nd Dec</u> <i>Advent Feria (O Rex Gentium)</i></p>	<p>7:00pm</p>	<p>A Private Intention</p>
<p><u>Friday 23rd Dec</u> <i>Advent Feria (O Emmanuel)</i></p>	<p>9:15am</p>	<p>Int. of Dawn Mercer (20yrs a Catholic) ^(DM)</p>
<p><u>Saturday 24th Dec</u> Christmas Eve (1st Mass of Christmas)</p>	<p>9:30am 10-11am 5:00pm 11:30pm 12:00</p>	<p>Nicolette Atanasio RIP ^(YD) Exposition, Confessions & Benediction Roger Howel RIP ^(SH) <i>Carol Service</i> Canon Peter Taylor RIP ^(MT)</p>
<p><u>Sunday 25th December</u> Solemnity of the Nativity</p>	<p>9:30am</p>	<p>People of the Parish</p>

Pope Francis:

At times we find ourselves incapable of recognising the newness of the Lord, with the presumption that we already know so much about Him. Advent, then, is the season to overturn our perspective, to allow ourselves to marvel at the greatness of God's mercy.

This Week's CaFOD Prayer

CAFOD

(4th Sunday of Advent)

You call on us, God, to make ourselves clean of hand and pure of heart. Help us by your loving grace in this endeavour, so we may receive your blessing and relish your reward.

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.

The Big Clean



The big Christmas clean up for the church will be this **Thursday at 10:15** (after the Morning Mass).

All teams are invited to this.

Christmas Mass Times



Saturday 24th December: Christmas Eve

Family Mass – 5:00pm

Carol Service – 11:30pm

Midnight Mass – 12:00

Sunday 25th December: Christmas Day

Solemn Mass – 9:30am

Monday 26th December: Boxing Day

St. Stephen's Day – 10:00am

Recently Deceased

Pray for the repose of the souls of **John O'Neill**, **Bridget Benton** and **Dorothy Gomes**, on whose souls Sweet Jesus have mercy. May they Rest in Peace.

New Reader & Wardens Lists

The latest Mass Readers and Warden's lists are now available to collect in the porch area. A copy can also be found under the 'Our Parish: Parish Duty Rotas' tab on the parish website.

Sick in the Parish

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

Geoff Hopkinson, 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 & Aine McDonagh.

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

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

We are now taking our Christmas break. We return to our normal weekly meetings 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



On Monday, we commemorated the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. We ask for the intercession of this patroness of the unborn, saying: 'Let us implore the gift of children for families without children, respect for conceived life and the openness of hearts to Gospel values'. Amen.

SVP Collection

The Parish SVP Group would like to say thank you to everyone who contributed to the retiring collection last weekend. We raise **£411.92**.

Adult Catechesis – RCIA Course

Our course of Adult Catechesis is now taking a break for Christmas. We return on **Friday 13th January at 6:30pm** in the Parish Meeting Room. If you would like to learn more about the faith you are warmly invited to come along.

Life – For Our Mother & Baby House

Thank you for your very generous response; we raised **£500**. We have an offer from the Mortgage Advice Bureau Foundation who work with Crowdfunder to match the money for the house if the Walsall area can raise £5,000. If anyone wishes to donate:-

<http://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/life-skills-for-homeless-and-pregnant-young-women>

Wednesday Friends

Our next gathering takes place on **Wednesday 21st December at 10am**. All are welcome to come along for an hour or so to enjoy some friendly chat and a warm slice of toast with a cup of tea or coffee.

Sunday Coffee Mornings

Every Sunday after the 9:30am Mass in the Meeting Room. If you have not yet joined us for this important parish social time why not 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: 17TH/18TH DECEMBER 2022

6:00PM VIGIL MASS	READERS:	Pat H & Brian L
9:30AM SUNG MASS	MUSIC:	Choir
	READERS:	Alice G & Martin B

Duties During the Week: 19th Dec – 23rd Dec

CLEANERS:	All Cleaners – Please see the item about 'The Big Clean'
FLOWERS:	All Flower Arrangers

PARISH DUTIES NEXT WEEKEND: 24TH/25TH DECEMBER 2022

5:00PM VIGIL AND MIDNIGHT MASS	WELCOMERS:	Any Welcomers attending
	WARDENS:	Any Warden attending
	READERS:	
9:30AM SUNG MASS	MUSIC:	Folk Group
	WELCOMERS:	Rossella B & Helen C
	WARDENS:	Pat & Sally S
	READERS:	Hugh D & Cathy S
COFFEE:	NO COFFEE ON CHRISTMAS DAY	

And finally:- On this Sunday the Gospel according to St. Matthew recounts the birth of Jesus from St. Joseph's viewpoint. He was betrothed to Mary who, "before they came together... was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit"... St. Joseph is presented as "a just man", faithful to God's law and ready to do his will... Having given up the idea of divorcing Mary secretly, Joseph took her to himself because he then saw God's work in her with his own eyes. Although he had felt distressed, Joseph "did as the Angel of the Lord commanded him", certain that he was doing the right thing... the new man is outlined in him, who looks with trust and courage to the future. He does not follow his own plans but entrusts himself without reserve to the infinite mercy of the One who will fulfil the prophecies and open the time of salvation. (Benedict XVI)

May God bless you all. Fr. Craig