

CATHOLIC CHURCHES IN BURNTWOOD & BROWNHILLS

(Both parishes are part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered as a Charity No 234216)

Website: www.burntwoodbrownhillsrccchurches.org.uk

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. Linh Nguyen Tel: (01543) 686266 Email: fr.linh.nguyen@rcaob.org.uk

Parish Deacon: Rev. Mr. Tony Deaville Email: dcn.thomas.deaville@rcaob.org.uk

PARISH OF ST. JOSEPH, BURNTWOOD

123 Cannock Road, WS7 0BB

Office: Fridays: 9.30am – 3.00pm

Tel. (01543) 686266

Email: stjoseph.burntwood@rcaob.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Rep: Pat Davies

sg.stjoseph.burntwood@rcaob.org.uk

School: St Joseph & St Theresa Catholic Primary School, High Street, Burntwood, WS7 3XL

Head: Ms. Isabel Walker Tel: 01543 227220

PARISH OF ST. BERNADETTE, BROWNHILLS

40 Warren Place, WS8 6BY

Office: please contact St. Joseph's Parish

Tel: (01543) 686266

Email: stbernadette.brownhills@rcaob.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Rep: Mrs. Sally Holmes

sg.stbernadette.brownhills@rcaob.org.uk

School: St. Bernadette's Catholic Primary School, Narrow Lane, Brownhills, WS8 6HX

Head: Mrs. Siobhan Moran Tel: 01543 452921

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR B)

DATE	TIME/PLACE	INTENTIONS	FEASTS
Sat 2 nd December	5.00pm	Trevor Short RIP <i>(Blessing of Trevor's Plaque)</i>	Sunday Vigil
	6.30pm(Brownhills)	Eddie & Nancy McCarthy RIP	
Sun 3 rd December	9.00am (Brownhills)	John & Jessie Reddington RIP <i>(T/C after Mass)</i>	FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
	11.00am	Patricia Harper RIP <i>(T/C after Mass)</i>	
Mon 4 th December	9.30am	Mary Buckley RIP	Advent Feria <i>(Devotion to St. Joseph after Mass)</i>
	7.00pm	Rosary	
Tue 5 th December	9.00am(Brownhills)	Anne-Marie Cooper RIP <i>(Mass in school)</i>	Feast of St Birinus, Bishop
	12.30pm	Parish Christmas Lunch <i>(St. Joseph's)</i>	
Wed 6 th December	7.00pm	JOURNEY IN FAITH - All welcome	
Thurs 7 th December	9.15am	Rita Parker RIP <i>(Mass in school)</i>	Memorial of St Ambrose, Bishop, Doctor of the Church <i>(Rosary after Mass)</i>
	12 noon (Brownhills)	John Cronin RIP	
	6.00pm	Holy Hour	
	7.30pm	Carol Service <i>(Churches together)</i>	
Fri 8 th December	9.30am	John & Mary Preece RIP <i>(Divine Mercy after Mass)</i>	Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Sat 9 th December	10.00am	First Holy Communion Class	Sunday Vigil
	5.00pm	Damian Kelly (Wellbeing)	
	6.30pm(Brownhills)	Eddie & Nancy McCarthy RIP	
Sun 10 th December	9.00am (Brownhills)	Marianna Scott RIP	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
	11.00am	Maisie McLean RIP <i>(Christmas Raffle Draw after Mass)</i>	

PLEASE PRAY FOR: The sick and housebound of both parishes. We include all those we know in hospitals, nursing homes and their own homes. May the Lord grant them healing, strength and peace! *If you or your relative(s) who are housebound and would like to have a visit by the clergy or to receive Holy Communion, please let us know.*

SPONSORING SANCTUARY LIGHTS AT ST. JOSEPH'S:

If you'd like a candle to be burnt for a week in memory of a loved one, or for a particular intention, we are asking for a donation of **£7/candle**. Please put the donation in an envelope marked 'Sanctuary Light', with your particular intention and hand it in to Fr. Linh or the office. The intentions will be published in the weekly newsletter. Candles are lit from Saturday to Saturday.

This week we pray for...



Sanctuary Light:
Denys John Flynn RIP

Sacred Heart's Light:
Joe & Rosemary Kane RIP

Our Lady's Light:
Margaret Ritchie RIP

ANNIVERSARIES WITHIN THE WEEK

ST. JOSEPH'S: Margaret Hurmson, Margaret Maginness, Keith Pooley, James Costello, Edwin Adcock, Derreck Stone, Florence Gill, Joseph Buckley, Marion Barton, Lucy Wilton, Harold Law, Kate Box, Jan Skrodski, Patrick Murphy, Daisy Kelly, Selwyn Simpkins, Dennis McKeon, Margaret Burke and Mark Wright

ST. BERNADETTE'S: Annie Ryan, Teresa Butler, Joan Caulton, Rowland Pearsall, Anthony Smith, John Cronin, Elsie Mellor, Joan Guest, Lillian Sadler and Ken Fitzmaurice

SICK IN THE PARISH

Please keep those who are sick and housebound in our prayers, especially:

St. Joseph's: Lisa Nock, Cath Twyman, Eddie McCann, Sheila O'Connor, Monica Roberts, Thelma Waters, Maureen Dewsbury, Nonie Gamble.

St. Bernadette's: Agnes Cronin, Irene Dunwell, Veronica Bubb, Joan Collins, Peter Ford, Cathy Carver, Shirley Smith.

Please remember also in your prayers those who carry the burden of their illnesses privately and those who care for them.

2024 - YEAR OF PRAYER

In preparation for the **2025 Jubilee Year** 'Pilgrims of Hope', 2024 has been designated a **Year of Prayer** by Pope Francis. It starts this Advent. This presents the Church with a significant opportunity to revisit the basics of prayer (the Our Father), and for us to become even more a *people of prayer*.

'Prayer doesn't help our relationship with God, prayer IS our relationship with God!' and so when we become more devoted to prayer, we are building up that Divine friendship. Being **Pilgrims of Hope** means that we should always be growing in our love of prayer on our journey of Faith. But the **Year of Prayer** also asks us to consider how we might help others to pray, so that they can experience a personal encounter with the risen Jesus.

More info and resources to come. Watch this space!

ECUMENICAL CAROL SERVICE
(Churches Together In Burntwood - CTIB)

We are hosting a Carol Service for Churches Together In Burntwood (CTIB) on **THURSDAY 7th DECEMBER at 7pm**. Please come along to pray together and to show our hospitality towards our Christian brothers and sisters from other local churches.

HOLY COMMUNION FROM THE
CHALICE (ST. JOSEPH'S)

From this weekend (2/3 December), Holy Communion will be given under **both kinds**. Recipients can receive the Precious Blood from the chalice if they want to.

How to receive from the chalice?

After receiving the Host in a usual manner (by hand or tongue), recipients go to the minister with the chalice, respond 'Amen' and take the chalice from the minister, **have a sip** from the chalice, and return it to the minister.

Please note: Recipients should receive the precious Blood **directly** from the chalice. **Intinction is NOT allowed.**

If you don't receive from the chalice, please return to your seats reverently as usual after receiving the Host.

ST. JOSEPH'S

PARISH MONTHLY DRAW: Only £5/month to win £150 (1st Prize) every month. The best way to get your tickets is to set up a standing order so that you won't miss our monthly draw. Please ask Fr. Linh or the office for the form.

YOUTH GROUP: Next session on **Tuesday 12th December** at 6.30pm, all are welcome from Years 6, 7 & 8. Open from 6.15pm. Cost £1. Every 2nd and 4th Tues of the month. Volunteers to help would be welcomed.

ST. JOSEPH'S SOCIAL OUTREACH: We urgently need *nappies sized 5 to 6 and family toiletries*. This is to support **SPARKS** - the local family centre. Please put your donations in the box provided in the hall. **Please note: NO soft toys**, unless brand new with the label still on.

JACQUELINE'S JAUNTS would those going to **TRENTHAM GARDENS** on Saturday 9 December pay the amount of £20.00 as soon as possible. There are a few seats still available. Please contact Jackie on 684582 or 07739422387.

FOOD BANK CHRISTMAS APPEAL: We are looking for: **nice toiletries (men's and women's), hats/scarves/socks (to keep warm), selection boxes for children, and toys.** Please place these items (wrapped or unwrapped) in the usual Food Bank Box

PARISH CHRISTMAS RAFFLE: tickets are available at the back of the church. **Draw Day: Sunday 10th December after Mass.** Donations for prizes are always welcome. Please place your donations on the table in the Hall Thank you.

CHRISTMAS STARS OF REMEMBRANCE AND HOPE

We will once again be decorating our trees with stars in remembrance and hope and invite you to purchase stars for loved ones.

1 star for £3 or 2 for £5. Forms are available at the back of the church. Please return the form by Sunday 17th December. Thank you

CHILDREN'S LITURGY CHRISTMAS PARTY

Saturday 16th December, 10am – 12pm

Please put your names on the list at the back of the church if you're coming.

Financial Information

Church	St. Joseph's	St. Bernadette's
1st (loose)	£200.09	£78.68
1st (GA)	£291.00	£57.00
2nd Col (Catholic Youth Service)	£178.47	£60.62
	£57.45(GA)	£13.00(GA)
SO	£549	£175
Total	£1,040.09	£310.68
Attended	188 (Sat & Sun)	76 (Sat & Sun)

ST. BERNADETTE'S

CHURCH FLOWERS If you'd like to donate for flowers in church in loving memory of you loved ones, please put donation and intention note in an envelope and hand it to Fr. Linh.

50/50 CLUB: We need to sell a minimum number of tickets for the draw to run, but thereafter all profits go toward church funds. With better odds of winning than matching 4 numbers in the national lottery, it is a great way to support our parish! Anne will be at church after weekend Masses to sell tickets and to answer your further questions.

THE PRESBYTERY: It is possible that there will be three religious sisters ("Daughters of Divine Love" Order) residing at the Presbytery. There are some discussions and arrangements to be made. Hopefully, they will move in sometime in January 2024.

CHRISTMAS PIETY SHOP: Christmas cards and gifts are on sales at the back of the church. Thank you for your support to the parish.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE TICKETS: on sales after Masses. Donations for prizes are always needed. Thank you.

MASS INTENTIONS: Do consider having Masses said for your intentions, and those of your nearest and dearest. Mass Offering Envelopes are at the back of the church.

YOUTH GROUP NEEDS YOUR HELP

Our Youth Group is taking place twice a month (2nd and 4th Tuesdays) 6.30pm – 8pm at St. Joseph's. The group has now been nicely established. The number of young people coming every time is stable. **We urgently NEED more adult volunteers to help.** If you can, please let Fr. Linh know or contact **Elaine: helen_ilsley@hotmail.com**

PRAYER FOR CHILDREN PREPARING FOR THE SACRAMENTS & THEIR FAMILIES

Loving God, pour out your blessing upon our beloved children, that during this time of sacramental preparation they may grow closer to you, and come to know your special love for them.

Bless their parents and families who have been entrusted with the development and nurturing of their child's growth and spiritual formation. Bless them in their willingness, to prepare their children for these sacraments, so that they, together with their children, may grow more deeply in faith and love.

May this time of preparation be a time of blessing for our families and our community, and unite us all in your great love. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Safeguarding Notice

Both our parishes operate in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese policies & procedures at all times. **St. Joseph's** Safeguarding Representative is **Mrs. Pat Davies** who can be contacted at: sg.stjoseph.burntwood@rcaob.org.uk
St. Bernadette's Safeguarding Representative is **Mrs. Sally Holmes** who can be contacted at: sg.stbernadette.brownhills@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.

CONFESSION: available during Holy Hour on Thursdays 6pm (St. Joseph's) or by appointment.

BAPTISM: Forms are available on the table at the back of the church, please take home to complete and return it to Fr. Linh, more arrangements to follow.

MARRIAGE: Please contact Fr. Linh for information and details at least 6 months before the intended wedding day.

LICHFIELD REPAIR AND SHARE CAFÉ: at St Joseph's (10-1pm, 1st Sat of each month) No charge to attend but donations appreciated to help cover costs. If you have a 'skill' to offer, then get in touch with the organisers or go along to a session.

PARISH GIVING: The best way to support our parishes financially is by setting up a Standing Order using the following bank details:

St. Joseph's: NatWest Bank, Account No: 25205439, Sort Code: 53-70-15

St. Bernadette's: NatWest Bank, Account No: 24003360, Sort Code: 52-21-00

If you don't have internet banking and want to sign up for Standing Order, please ask Fr. Linh or the parish office for the form. Thank you for your support to our parishes.

DO YOU KNOW

What is required to receive Holy Communion?

To receive Holy Communion, one must be **fully incorporated** into the Catholic Church and be in the **state of grace**, that is, not conscious of being in mortal sin.

How to receive the Host?

If you are receiving the Host in your hand, **extend both hands palms up** toward the Priest/Eucharistic Minister, **placing one hand directly on top of the other hand**. If you are right handed, the right hand goes on the bottom so you can receive the Host in your left hand and then pick it up with your right hand.

How to receive from the chalice?

After receiving the Host in a usual manner (by hand or tongue), recipients go to the minister with the chalice, respond 'Amen' and take the chalice from the minister, **have a sip** from the chalice, and return it to the minister.

Intinction is NOT allowed.

THE ANGELUS PRAYER

∞ The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary,
R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit. Hail Mary...

∞ Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

R. Be it done unto me according to thy word. Hail..

∞ And the Word was made flesh.

R. And dwelt among us. Hail Mary...

∞ Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray: Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts; that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ Thy Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross, be brought to the glory of His Resurrection. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen. May the Divine Assistance remain always with us. And may the souls of all the faithful departed, through the Mercy of God, rest in Peace. Amen.