

CATHOLIC CHURCHES IN BURNTWOOD & BROWNHILLS

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

Website: www.burntwoodbrownhillsrcchurches.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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR B)

DATE	TIME/PLACE	INTENTIONS	FEASTS
Sat 23rd December	5.00pm	Patricia Harper RIP	Sunday Vigil
	6.30pm(Brownhills)	The Craddock Family	
Sun 24th December	9.00am (Brownhills)	Janet Reeves RIP	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
	11.00am	Dennis Gurrey RIP	
	5.00pm	Lauren Murphy RIP (<i>family Mass</i>)	CHRISTMAS EVE
	7.30pm (Brownhills)	Anne-Marie Cooper RIP	
9.30pm	Tony Stanley RIP		
Mon 25th December	9.00am	Deceased of the Willets & Hateley Families	CHRISTMAS DAY
	11.00am	Maurice Baker RIP	
Tue 26th December	11.00am	Deceased of the Salt Family RIP <i>(Altar servers from both parishes are invited to attend)</i>	ST STEPHEN'S DAY
Wed 27th December		NO MASS	
Thurs 28th December	9.30am (Brownhills)	Robert Blair RIP <i>(Rosary after Mass)</i>	Feast of the Holy Innocents, Martyrs
Fri 29th December	9.30am	Netta Barreto RIP <i>(Divine Mercy after Mass)</i>	Feast of St Thomas Becket
Sat 30th December	5.00pm	Jackie Frost RIP	Sunday Vigil
	6.30pm(Brownhills)	Anne-Marie Cooper RIP	
Sun 31st December	9.00am (Brownhills)	John & Kath O'Grady RIP	FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH
	11.00am	Deceased of the Honan Family	
Monday 1st January	9.00am (Brownhills)	People of the Parish	NEW YEAR DAY <i>Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God</i>
	11.00am	People of the Parish	

Wishing you and your loved ones a very Blessed Christmas and a New Year filled God's Grace and Love!

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:

Pat & Billy Greene RIP

Sacred Heart's Light:

Dave Marston RIP

Our Lady's Light:

Lauren Murphy RIP

ANNIVERSARIES WITHIN THE WEEK

ST. JOSEPH'S: James Newbrook, Winifred Drewsbury, Madeline King, Anna Iwachiw, Joan Bettsworth, James Hopley, Joseph Paget, Joseph Kane, Charlotte Smith, Noel Williams, Robert Mousley, Winifred Smith, Henry Benton, Thomas Kinsella, Janet Laird, Amelia Goldingay, Bernard Fish, Albert Ritbergeris, Edward Cannon, Maris Low, Mary Horton, Ellen Porter, Mrs Beamish, Kathleen McInnes, Ivy Bevington, Mary Cummins, Christine Short, Margaret Burke, Winifred Bradbury and Christine Tonks

ST. BERNADETTE'S: Tony Nelson, Lisa Stanley, Katharine Hughes, Peter Collins, Charlotte Smith, Mary Smith, Trevor Farr, Rose Cave and Hugh Rodgers

DEEPEST SYMPATHY

St. Joseph's: Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Kathleen Kutt** who died recently. We extend our deepest sympathy to her family during this difficult time. **Kath's** funeral details: **Reception – 4pm Tuesday 9th January, Funeral Mass – 9.30am Wed 10th January.** May she rest in Peace!

SICK IN THE PARISH

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

St. Joseph's: 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.

CRIB DONATION

Your donations will go to "*Friends of the Holy Land*" (FHL), the ecumenical and non-political charity which supports the most needy Christian families in and around Bethlehem where our Lord was born, especially those who are suffering from the current war in the Holy Land. Please be generous. More info about FHL, or donate online, please visit: www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

(from our Archbishop Bernard Longley)

"...this season of the year, we think very much about the coming of Jesus into our world, the Son of God, the Word made flesh, born at Bethlehem for us as also we look forward to his second coming at the end of time.... We pray especially to him at this time of year as Prince of Peace for the gift of peace in our own hearts which is where the gift of peace first takes root in our families, in our communities, and of course across the world where over these last few months we have heard of the suffering of innocent civilians in so many places.

We ask the Prince of Peace to influence those who can bring peace to the communities in the Holy Land. We think also of those who continue to suffer in Ukraine, and we ask that that gift of Peace may first of all take root in us in our deeds in our actions as we look to the coming year.

...Let us pray for reconciliation and forgiveness within the world today and especially that as we greet the Prince of Peace this Christmas, Peace may be the reality for so many people who suffer in the coming year. May God bless you and your families over the Christmas season and give you every blessing in the year ahead."

ST. JOSEPH'S

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: are in loving memory of **Vincent O'Connor and Zita McMahon, Yvonne Horsley, Doris Salt and James Salt.**

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 9th January 2024** 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. Unfortunately the December session has been cancelled as many of the children are away with their school.

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.

COMMUNITY STORE AT SANKEY'S CORNER: where food can be bought at very reasonable rates. Open on Mondays, Weds and Fridays from 10.30am to 2.30pm

THANK YOU: Mini Christmas Fair at Jackie's home raised £100 for the parish. Thank you to Jackie and those supported the fair. Parish Christmas Raffle raised £2,500. Thank you so much for your generosity and support. There are still few prizes need to be collected. Please ask Fr. Linh for them.

CHRISTMAS OFFERING

Christmas offering on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day are traditionally gifts for the Parish Priest. You can use special envelopes which are available at the back of the church. Thank you very much for generosity, love and support.

Financial Information

Church	St. Joseph's	St. Bernadette's
1 st (loose)	£210.06	£77.78
1 st (GA)	£18.00	£67.00
2 nd Col (Parish Maintenance)	£136.94	£46.12
	£28.00(GA)	£12.00(GA)
SO	£549	£175
Total	£777.06	£285.78
Attended	217 (Sat & Sun)	73 (Sat & Sun)

*Thank you very much for your generosity to the Church.
May God bless you!*

ST. BERNADETTE'S

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: are in loving memory of **the deceased of the Baxter and Jones Families**

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 mid-January.

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. Draw takes place this weekend (after Sunday Mass)

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. **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,
℟. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit. Hail Mary...
∞. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.
℟. Be it done unto me according to thy word. Hail..
∞. And the Word was made flesh.
℟. And dwelt among us. Hail Mary...
∞. Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God.
℟. 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.