

PRAYER TO ST JOSEPH

O Blessed St Joseph,
Patron of the Universal Church,
extend to all God's children the care you showed
to the Holy Family in Nazareth
and pray for us as we gather to celebrate the Eucharist.
Guide & protect all the people of our parish
and make the light of Christ shine among us
so that His Kingdom may be established in our midst.
Amen.

PARISH GROUPS

Rosary Group: Mondays after Mass
SVP: meets alternate Wednesdays at 2.30pm.
CAFOD group: meets monthly contact Mary Kane
Music Group: contact Julie Train
Bereavement Group: contact Maureen Barnes
Guild of St Stephen (altar servers): last Sat of the month at 9am
Play Group & Nursery: contact Ann King on 671356
Diners' Club: meets monthly
Men's Breakfast: 1st Saturday of the month 8.30am

PARISH INFORMATION

Parish Office: Maureen Barnes & Cath Nugent, office hours: Weds & Fri 10am-3pm
Gift Aid Organiser: Angela Thompson
Child Protection: Breda Helm
Parish Magazine: Margaret Taylor / Tony Hayward
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sat 4pm or by appointment
Sacrament of Baptism: after Mass on Sundays
Sacrament Marriage: By Appointment
Adoration: Mondays 7.30—8.30pm & Thursdays 8—8.30pm

SUNDAY MASS TIMES IN NEIGHBOURING PARISHES

Brownhills St Bernadette: Sat 6.30pm, Sun 10am
Cannock SS Mary & Thomas More: Sat 5.15pm, Sun 8am, 10.30am
Hednesford Our Lady of Lourdes: Sat 6pm, Sun 9.30am
Lichfield Holy Cross: Sun 8.30am, SS Peter & Paul Sat 6pm, Sun 11am
Rugeley SS Joseph & Etheldreda: Sat 7pm, Sun 11am, 6.30pm

*This parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham and registered as a charity.
Number 234216 (1883)*

St Joseph's is a Fair Trade Parish



ST JOSEPH'S PARISH NEWS

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Parish Priest: Fr Patrick Mileham
Deacon: Rev Tony Deaville

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Week beginning Sunday 4 December 2011
Sundays Year B; weekdays Year 2; Psalter Week 2

Sunday 4 December *Second Sunday of Advent*

5pm (Sat) Mass Tom, Margaret & Frank Hurmson
10am Mass People of the Parish

Monday 5 December *St Birinus*

7pm Mass, Rosary & Holy Hour Lillian Agnew & deceased of Agnew & Lambe families

Tuesday 6 December *St Nicholas*

11am Mass (Y5 in school) Lottie Hughes

Wednesday 7 December *St Ambrose*

9.15am Mass Mrs Y. Horsley

Thursday 8 December *Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception*

6pm Mass James Carmon & family

Friday 9 December *St Juan Diego Cuatitlatoatzin*

12pm Requiem Mass Richard Sedgely

Saturday 10 December *St Edmund Gennings*

4pm Confessions

Sunday 11 December *Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday)*

5pm (Sat) Mass People of the Parish
10am Mass Patrick Drain
6pm United Carol Service Chase Terrace Methodist Church

THE WORD THIS WEEK

Throughout the first three weeks of Advent our focus is very clearly on the Second Coming of the Lord - not so much on the run up to Christmas (until the last week). If we view Advent as a preparation for Christmas these readings will make little sense - and neither will the figure of John the Baptist who appears today: if it's about the preparation for Christmas, then John the Baptist, preaching after Jesus was born, is a confusing figure: but his role is to preach to us, as he did of old, and to prepare us for the (second) coming of the Lord. Today we have a very graphic reference to the end of time and the Second Coming in the reading from Saint Peter; it is a frightening picture, and so the first reading offers tender words of comfort to help us understand who is coming, and why we should be ready to meet him.



PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those who have died recently: Eileen Head, Richard Sedgeley, Joan O'Grady, James Ward, Terry McHale, Olga Grant, Kath Mealey

Those whose anniversaries occur this week: Florence Eleanor Gill, Joseph Buckley, Lucy Harriet Wilton, Harold Law, Kate Box, Jan Skrodski, Daisy Kelly, Selwyn William Simpkins, Margaret Burke, Mark Wright

*Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace: Amen*

The sick & housebound: Sheila Appleton (nee Lovell), Gillian Atkinson, Chris Austin, Christopher Barton, Christopher Brown, Nikki Carr, Pauline & Ken Chaplain, Anne Corfield, Auriel Dalley, Janet Evans, Stuart Frost, Jean Griffiths, Jill Gutteridge, Joshua Harley, Bernard Hession, Tracy Holland, Mary Hughes, Dorothy Hurley, Clare Kettle, Josie Kimberly, Lorraine Macbeth, John Magulski, Lily McGrath, Michael McGowan, Tracy McGregor, Amy McKeon, Anita McLean, Diane Meddings, Paul Robert Moffat, Daniel Moody, Ricardo Morcillo, Vincent Morgan, Betty Myatt, Elsie Norman, Maureen Parker, Bob Preston, Bernadette Samongie, Tony Scott, Margaret Smith, Michael Stanley, Derrick Stone, Margaret Trickett, Matthew Waterfield, Josie Wilson, Jean Winsper, Maureen Withy, Letitia Worth

GENERAL NOTICES

Sacrament of Reconciliation: The dates for the local Penance Services, for those who wish to go to confession before Christmas are:

Burntwood: Mon 12 Dec 7pm (after Mass)

Lichfield: Tues 20 Dec 7pm

Tamworth: Weds 21 Dec 7pm

Rosary Group: In church, after the 7pm Mass on Monday

Cafod lunches: There will be soup & bread in the hall on the Fridays of Advent, after 12pm Mass. The next Cafod meeting is on Mon 5 Dec at 7.30pm. All welcome.

Traidercraft are taking Christmas orders. Catalogues available. Delivery within 5 days. Please see stallholders.

Journey in Faith: Meeting in the hall on Tuesday 6 December at 7.30pm.

Diners' Club Christmas dinner: Fri 9 Dec, Nag's Head. Anyone who would like to come please contact Douglas on 306419 asap.

Cardinal Griffin Senior Citizens Christmas Party - 16 December 2011

Raffle: members of the Cafod group will be selling raffle tickets after mass for a luxury Christmas hamper. Please see display in lobby. Draw to take place at mass on Sun 18 Dec.

Children's Liturgy: If anyone is interested in being involved in children's liturgy, either the 5pm Mass on Saturday or the 10am mass on Sunday please see either Yvonne Stanley or Fr Patrick.

Church bell: Plans have been drawn up for the church bell which should be up by Christmas. The 5p collection has so far raised £1400 which should cover the cost.

Pilgrimage to Rome: Information about the pilgrimage is with the sign up list at the back of church. The dates are July 24-31 2012. The cost is £1125. There will be a meeting on Fri 9 Dec at 5pm to ascertain numbers and arrangements.

Mission group: If anyone's interested in being part of a group to help coordinate the missionary activity of the parish (adult catechesis / IT / parish census etc.) there will be a meeting on Fri 13 Jan at 6pm in the hall. All welcome

FINANCE

27 November: £419.03 (Gift aid £158.27 Loose £260.76)

Second collections last Sunday: Church Maintenance £258.41

this Sunday: Poor parishes of the diocese

next Sunday: Christmas flowers

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY