

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

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Week beginning Sunday 11 December 2011
Sundays Year B; weekdays Year 2; Psalter Week 3

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

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

Monday 12 December *Our Lady of Guadalupe*

7pm	Mass & Confessions	<i>Joe & Queenie Kelly</i>
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Tuesday 13 December *St Lucy*

9.15am	Mass (Y4 in school)	<i>Keith & Trish Allmand RIP</i>
7pm	School Carol Service (in church)	

Wednesday 14 December *St John of the Cross*

No Service

Thursday 15 December *Advent feria*

7.30pm	The Word, Holy Communion & Adoration	
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Friday 16 December *Advent feria*

12pm	Mass	<i>James Cannon & family</i>
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Saturday 17 December *'O Sapientia'*

4pm	Confessions	
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Sunday 18 December *Fourth Sunday of Advent*

5pm (Sat)	Mass	<i>Joan O'Grady</i>
10am	Mass	<i>People of the Parish</i>

THE WORD THIS WEEK

So who is coming? This Sunday's readings help to answer that question. John the Baptist is asked about the coming of the Messiah - is it him? He affirms his role as "a witness to speak for the light", by pointing to the one who stands among the crowd unknown to them who is coming after him. This idea is present in the First Reading, where Isaiah proclaims what the "anointed one" ('Messiah' in Hebrew) will do, and the joy that this will bring. It is interesting that the Psalm appointed for this Sunday is the Magnificat - Mary's song of praise at the announcement that the Messiah would be born of her - in which she sings of the works of the coming Messiah. Paul then reminds us that we are still waiting patiently: "God has called you, and he will not fail you." This is why, on this 'Gaudete' Sunday, we as God's people rejoice in his care, made visible in his promises, fulfilled in Jesus.



PLEASE PRAY FOR

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

Those whose anniversaries occur this week: Mary Elizabeth Harper, Lane Anne Maria Kearns, Alfred Oscar St Ossel, Elsie Riley, Francis Meredith, John Joseph Geraghty, Arthur Bernard Court, Thomas Michael Kelly, James Thomas Mealey

*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 Levell), 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, Margaret Trickett, Matthew Waterfield, Josie Wilson, Jean Winsper, Maureen Withy, Letitia Worth

GENERAL NOTICES

FINANCE

4 December: £398.83

(Gift aid £151.66 Loose £247.17)

Second collections

last Sunday: Poor parishes £317.75

this Sunday: Christmas flowers

next Sunday: Fireside (homeless charity)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

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

Mass at Christmas

Vigil Mass: 5pm

Midnight Mass: 9pm

Christmas Day: 10am

St Stephen's Day: 10am

Rosary Group: Mon Dec 12, 8pm. 2 Kettle Close, Burntwood. Special Christmas Rosary. All welcome.

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 20 December at 7.30pm.

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.

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.

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

Transport to church: If anyone is willing to be part of a group of volunteers who bring parishioners to Mass (on Sat or Sun) who cannot get there by themselves, please see Fr Patrick

Poinsettias: Please bring one to church next weekend so we can use them in church over Christmas. Thank you.

5p Collection: money collected will now go towards paying for a new tabernacle & lectern for the primary school chapel

Bacon sandwiches: money to go towards stained glass window for Cardinal Griffin school chapel