

# St. Joseph the Worker

## Fourth Sunday of Advent

### 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2016



Fr Harry Curtis, Parish Priest, email: [sjtwcov@gmail.com](mailto:sjtwcov@gmail.com)

Parish Secretary: Geraldine Griffin - Parish Office Open: Monday; Wednesday to Friday 9.30am to 12.30pm.

The Presbytery, 1 De Montfort Way, Coventry, CV4 7DU. Tel: 02476 419 111

[www.stjosephcoventry.org.uk](http://www.stjosephcoventry.org.uk)

Sunday, 18 <sup>th</sup> December <b>Fourth Sunday of Advent</b>	9.00 am 11.00 am 12.30 pm (University Chaplaincy) 5.00 pm	Annie & Joseph McKelvie RIP Intentions of the Ordinariate The People of the Parish Anastasia Whale RIP (Anniversary)									
Monday, 19 <sup>th</sup> December	10.00 am 7.00 pm	Special Intention Fr. Paul's Intentions									
Tuesday, 20 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>No Mass Today</b>										
Wednesday, 21 <sup>st</sup> December Commemoration of St. Peter Canisius, Priest	10.00 am 7.00 pm	Bishop Philip Pargeter (intentions) Special Intention									
Thursday, 22 <sup>nd</sup> December	10.00 am 7.00 pm	Holy Souls Fr. Paul's Intentions									
Friday, 23 <sup>rd</sup> December Commemoration of St. John of Kanty, Priest	10.00 am	William & Nora Farrell									
Saturday, 24 <sup>th</sup> December <b>Christmas Eve</b>	10.00 am 4.30 pm <b>Crib Service &amp; Carols</b> 5.00 pm <b>First Mass of Christmas</b> 11.30 pm <b>Carols and Readings</b> 12.00 <b>Midnight Mass</b>	Elizabeth Smith RIP  David Barnes (intentions)  Fr. Paul's Intentions									
Sunday, 25 <sup>th</sup> December <b>CHRISTMAS DAY: SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD</b>	9.00 am 11.00 am 12.30 pm (University Chaplaincy) <b>PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE IS NO EVENING MASS TODAY</b>	May, Jack, Sean McCrave, Patricia Swain Intentions of the Ordinariate Anne Healey									
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday, 10.30-11.30 am.											
<b>Mass attendance:</b> 171 <b>Gift Aid secretary:</b> Peter Kennedy, Tel: 76411002. <b>Last week's collection:</b> £508.64; Gift Aid: £169.10. <b>Direct Debit Donations (November):</b> £389.00. <b>Father Hudson's Care:</b> £333.21.	<b>Thank you.</b>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Reading Rota</th> <th>9am</th> <th>5pm</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Today</td> <td>Mary Blay</td> <td>Crystal Kofie</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Reading Rota	9am	5pm	Today	Mary Blay	Crystal Kofie			
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Welcome to St. Joseph's Church today for the Fourth Sunday of Advent, especially if you are visiting our parish for the Christmas and New Year holidays.

**Please pray for all the Sick of the Parish** including: Anne and Abie Doherty, Bob Jones, John McKelvie, David Martin, Anne Healy, Patsy Sarayar, Mary Smith, Dave Chimber, Kathleen Gavin, Danny and Mary Harrington, Phil Irwin, Kath Kearney, Ann Bullock, Bridget Cherry, Betty Mulvaney, Ann Kelly, Tom Murray, Eddie Kelly, Tess Skerrett, Alice Horner, Enid Butcher, Mari Meadowcroft, David Barnes, Terry Richards, Eleanor Oldham, Eileen Kennedy, Gabrielle, Uthaya Swoboda, Brian McLaughlin, Beryl Poppett, Margaret Dunne, Val O'Leary, Keelin Treharne, Peggy Ismale, Ron Hamilton and Ted Rodgers.

**Those who have died.** Please pray for all who have died recently, and all those whose anniversaries occur about this time: Mgr. Canon William Flint, Frs. Daniel O'Connor, Michael O'Meara and Patrick Wall and also Thomas Fox, Patrick McMahon, Hugh Gallagher, Anastasia Whale, Margaret Bremner, Margaret Clancey, Eugene Vincent, Hannah Cullinane, Eugene Turley, Shirley Dainty, Eric Bergan, Garry Doyle, William Donahoe, James Dolan, Michael Lenagh, Edna Hughes, Dorothy O'Neill, John O'Hare, Margaret Howarth, Elizabeth McLaughlin, Michael Collins, Bridie Barnes and Paul Foster. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. May they rest in peace.

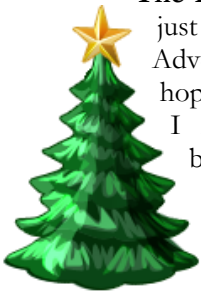
St. Joseph's Candle is burning this week for a Special Intention.

This Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No. 234216

[www.coventry-catholicdeanery.org.uk/sjtw](http://www.coventry-catholicdeanery.org.uk/sjtw)

[www.cathsocwarwick.wordpress.com](http://www.cathsocwarwick.wordpress.com)

[www.coventryordinariate.co.uk](http://www.coventryordinariate.co.uk)



**The Parish Christmas Tree.** Our tree is not just a decoration. On each of the Sundays of Advent I am hoping to pick out a theme: hope, peace, joy and love. To help with that I invite you to decorate the tree with baubles and for every bauble you hang you can also write a prayer for someone who you think needs to hear about that theme in their lives this Christmas. I shall put the prayers on the board at the back of church. So far we have red baubles for “hope”, blue baubles for “peace” and gold baubles for “joy”. Finally, today we have silver baubles for “love”.

**Remember: refreshments are available after the 9.00 Mass in the Parish Hall, and on Saturday mornings. Come and have a chat with friends.**

**Commemorative Sanctuary Candles.** For £5 you can buy a candle that will be blessed at Christmas and then will burn in the sanctuary or by the Sacred Heart, Our Lady or St. Joseph, for any week of your choice during the coming year. It can be for any reason you want: to remember a loved one; for a special intention; or why not give one as a Christmas present and have a card to go with it?



**Catholic Today.** The December edition of the Diocesan Newspaper is available in the porch; we have more than half a page on page 13.

**Advent Carol Service.** A big thank you to everyone who helped to make last Thursday’s Advent Carol Service such a lovely evening: those who provided the music, the raffle, the refreshments, the setting-out and clearing-up. Thank you to everyone who very generously provided prizes for the raffle (I won an alarm clock, so all Masses will start on time from now on!!!) and thank you most of all to everyone who came and took part. On the night we raised a record £437.85 for the Parish Funds. There is a list of prize-winners on the board in the porch.

**St. Joseph the Worker Pilgrimage to Assisi and Rome, Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2017**

To fly from Birmingham Airport at 6.50 am.  
 3 nights in Assisi (Hotel La Rocca) - full-board  
 3 nights in Rome (Hotel Lancelot) - half-board  
 3 nights at Palazzola - full-board  
 Returning to Birmingham Airport at 1.10 pm.  
 Plans still have to be finalised, and that may affect the final costs, but we shall be visiting the major sites in Rome and Assisi. Cost: (inclusive of flights, transfers, accommodation, coach, entry, tips) approx. £1395. Please sign the list in the porch if you would like to go.

**Times of Mass at Christmas:** I shall be celebrating Mass at 5.00pm on Christmas Eve and 9.00 am on Christmas Day; Fr. Paul will celebrate the Midnight Mass (at Midnight!) and 11.00 am on Christmas Day. I shall also celebrate Mass at 12.30 pm at the University Chaplaincy.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE WILL BE NO MASS AT 5.00pm ON CHRISTMAS DAY**

**Christmas Flowers.** There will be a retiring collection after the Masses today to help pay for Christmas flowers for the Church. If you would like to sponsor the flowers any Sunday of the year in memory of someone or for a special occasion please speak to me or Fr. Paul.

**200 Club winners:** 1<sup>st</sup> Prize, £15: No. 101, P. Monaghan; 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize, £5: No. 145, Mrs. Struthers.

**Christmas Offerings.** Traditionally the collection at the Christmas Masses is your personal offering to your priest. There are envelopes at the back of Church to use if you wish, some for me and some for Fr. Paul, whichever is appropriate. Thank you.

**Midnight Mass, St Chad’s Cathedral.** You may like to know that the BBC are broadcasting this year’s Christmas Midnight Mass from St Chad’s Cathedral.

**Crib Offerings.** With the encouragement of Archbishop Bernard, we shall be donating crib offerings this year to Father Hudson’s Care and Missio, the Catholic Church’s Official Charity for Overseas Mission.

**Counters’ Rota.** For those who are on the counters’ rota there are copies of an updated rota in the porch.

**Confession for Christmas.** Going to Confession is a good way to prepare to celebrate our Saviour’s birth. There will be extra time here next Saturday morning.

**Sacrament of Confirmation:** If there is anyone who would like to be confirmed next year please speak to me.

**Diocesan Directories.** The new directories (or as they are now called, “Year Books”) are now available. If you want to know anything about our diocese, this is the book for you. Spiral-bound £4.50, normal binding £3.00.

**“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”.** The second part of Advent is marked by the “O Antiphons” which highlight a different title each day for the Messiah and invite Him into our hearts: **O Sapientia** (O Wisdom), **O Adonai** (O Lord), **O Radix Jesse** (O Root of Jesse), **O Clavis David** (O Key of David), **O Oriens** (O Rising Sun), **O Rex Gentium** (O King of the Nations), and **O Emmanuel**.

**Tailpiece.** One year, a short time before Christmas, a wife said to her husband, “Darling! Last night I had a dream that you gave me a beautiful golden necklace for Christmas. What do you think it could mean?” Her husband just smiled and said, “Wait and see.” A few days later she said, “Honey! I had that dream again last night that you gave me a golden necklace. What could it possibly mean?” Again her husband smiled and said, “Wait and see.” Finally, Christmas Day arrived and the wife saw her Christmas present under the tree. Excited that for once her hints had paid off, she opened it to find a book entitled: *“The Meanings Of Dreams”*.

*If you were left scratching your head about the tailpiece last week, the answers are on the board in the porch. I especially liked “The Quadruped with the Vermillion Proboscis”, which was of course, “Rudolf the Red-nosed Reindeer”.*

**May God bless you and all those you love.  
 Fr. Harry**