

# University of Warwick Chaplaincy

## First Sunday of Advent

3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2017

Catholic Chaplain: Fr. Harry Curtis

email: [sjtvcov@gmail.com](mailto:sjtvcov@gmail.com) or [h.a.curtis@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:h.a.curtis@warwick.ac.uk)

St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Church, The Presbytery, 1 De Montfort Way, Coventry, CV4 7DU.

Tel: 024 76 419111 or 0788 190 1587

(Mass times this week, at St. Joseph's unless otherwise stated)

Sunday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> December <b>First Sunday of Advent</b>  <i>Migrants' Day</i>	9.00 am 11.00 am 12.30 pm (University Chaplaincy) 5.00 pm	Margaret & Michael Higgins (Anniv.) Intentions of the Ordinariate The People of the Parish Margaret Griffin RIP (Birthday)
Monday, 4 <sup>th</sup> December <i>Op. Mem. of St. John Damascene, Priest</i>	10.00 am 7.00 pm	Maureen Mooney RIP (Anniversary) Fr. Paul's Intentions
Tuesday, 5 <sup>th</sup> December <i>Feast of St. Birinus, Bishop</i>	<b>No Mass Today</b>	
Wednesday, 6 <sup>th</sup> December <i>Optional Memorial of St. Nicholas, Bishop</i>	10.00 am 7.00 pm	John Lovegrove Alan James Goodwin RIP (Anniv.)
Thursday, 7 <sup>th</sup> December <i>Memorial of St. Ambrose, Bishop</i>	10.00 am 12.30 pm (University Chaplaincy) 7.00 pm	Sarah Cosgrove Private Intention Fr. Paul's Intentions
Friday, 8 <sup>th</sup> December <b>Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b>	10.00 am 12.30 pm (University Chaplaincy)	Maureen Parslow (Birthday) Private Intention
Saturday, 9 <sup>th</sup> December <i>Op. Mem. of St. John Diego Cuahltlatatzin</i>	10.00 am <b>followed by Exposition</b>	Fr. Paul's Intentions
Sunday, 10 <sup>th</sup> December <b>Second Sunday of Advent</b>  <i>Bible Sunday</i>	9.00 am 11.00 am 12.30 pm (University Chaplaincy) 5.00 pm	The People of the Parish Intentions of the Ordinariate Private Intention Pauline Whale RIP

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday, 10.30-11.00 am.

Welcome to the Chaplaincy for our celebration of Mass today.

**Happy New Year! (and that's not a misprint)**

Today is the First Sunday of Advent and the Church begins a new year today.

The Sunday Mass Lectionary Cycle is Year B, and the Weekday Cycle is Year 2.

The message of today's Mass is make sure that you are ready for the Lord's return.

*Sacred Head of Jesus, Seat of Divine Wisdom, enlighten us! Our Lady of Good Counsel, pray for us! St Thomas Aquinas, patron of students, pray for us! St Joseph of Cupertino, patron of those taking exams, pray for us!*

### Prayer Before Mass

God our Father, you sent Jesus, our High Priest, to redeem us and you willed that His saving work should continue through the ministry of priests. Enlighten us to celebrate this Sunday Mass with our priest, so that, empowered by the Word of life and the Eucharist, we may be strengthened by the Holy Spirit to live to the full our Christian calling. We ask this through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

**The Blessing of the Coventry Crib.** Each year the Catholic Parishes in Coventry present a Crib to the City as a witness to the real meaning of Christmas. It will be put in place this week and blessed this afternoon, at 4.00 pm, outside the Library in the Precinct (and not outside Marks and Spencers as previously announced).



University of Warwick  
Carol Service

WARWICK

**The University's Annual Carol Service.** The Christian Chaplains invite students and staff to join them at 4.30 pm on Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> December, for the University's Annual Carol Service in the Chaplaincy, where there will be carols, readings and a reflection followed by mince pies and drinks. It's festive, fun and a great way to end the term. Do come if you can.

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

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

[www.cathsocwarwick.wix.com/warwickcathsoc](http://www.cathsocwarwick.wix.com/warwickcathsoc)

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

**ADVENT VIGIL RETREAT.** Thanks to everyone who came to take part in our Vigil for any length of time last night. It was a great way to start Advent.

**Bible study,** in the Chaplaincy main space next Thursday, starting with a meal at 7.30 pm.

**Film Club.** The next film in our pre-Christmas series in St. Joseph's parish hall will be "It's a Wonderful Life" on Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> December. It starts at 7.00 pm. No charge; all welcome.

**Young People, The Faith And Vocational Discernment.** Here is a link to a Vatican poll which is being sent to students to hear what your thoughts are on the Church and the Faith: <https://survey-synod2018.glauco.it/limesurvey/index.php/147718>. It will close any day now, so please get in there today.

### **"Faith in Politics": Catholic Parliamentary and Public Policy Internships 2018-19.**

Are you graduating next summer?  
What will you do then?

The Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales have organised an Internship Scheme and are looking to recruit at least six recently-graduated Catholics to work for 11 months from September 2018 to July 2019 to learn from an intensive experience of political and social action in a spiritual context. The interns will be selected on the basis of ability and potential to gain most from the experience.

The scheme is divided into four positions, with some interns being placed with Christian MPs and Peers at Westminster, one in a parliamentary support role within the secretariat, two in public policy and social action with CAFOD and the Caritas Social Action Network, and one in a media role with the Catholic Communications Network. In addition to their working role, all interns also gain from individually guided retreats and spiritual guidance, as well as living in a vibrant, young Catholic community in the centre of London. During the year, as part of their overall formation, interns will study for a Postgraduate Certificate in Catholic Social Teaching from St. Mary's University, Twickenham.

The closing date for applications is 28<sup>th</sup> February 2018. Applications should be made through the website <http://faithinpolitics.org.uk> Please direct any questions to [stephanie.macgillivray@cbcew.org.uk](mailto:stephanie.macgillivray@cbcew.org.uk)

**The Advent *Walk With Me* booklets** are now available for £1. It can be a useful aid as we go through Advent.

**Christmas in the Chaplaincy.** For those who are staying at Warwick University over the Christmas break, you will be pleased to know that Mass will still be celebrated here in the Chaplaincy each Sunday at 12.30pm as usual, and also on Christmas Day.

**The Chaplaincy will be open in the Vacation** to all students and staff with valid University ID cards from 9am to 9pm each day in the vacation (including bank holidays). Over the December vacation we host 'The Student Lounge' in the Chaplaincy. There will be board games and other activities to use and the projector set up for you to be able to watch films together.

**Advent Carol Service at St. Joseph's,** starting at 7.00 pm on Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> December. All welcome.

**St. Joseph's Parish Christmas Tree.** Our tree is not just a decoration: it is a focus for our hope and prayer this Advent and Christmas.



Did you know that a **paper chain** was made by 60 people in 24 hours in Franklin, Virginia, USA in 2005 that measured 54.33 miles long? I don't think we want to rival that, but just imagine if every link in a paper chain was a prayer, so that the prayer of each individual was linked to everyone else's. I think between us we could make a chain long enough to decorate the tree by Christmas. *If you come to St. Joseph's, feel free to pick out one of the coloured strips that are available by the tree, write your prayer on the blank side and link it to the chain already on the tree. You can pray for yourself or your family, for someone you know, for the Church, for the world, for peace and justice, for the homeless and refugees, (the list goes on), or you could write a prayer of thanksgiving and praise, or just tell Jesus how much you love him.* There are many prayers we can make, and by linking them together let's make our tree a witness to our united joy and faith for Christmas.



**Sundays in Advent:** Each Gospel reading has a distinctive theme: the Lord's coming at the end of time (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent), John the Baptist (2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays), the events that prepared immediately for the Lord's birth (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday). The first readings are prophecies about the Messiah, especially from Isaiah. The second readings exhort and proclaim, in keeping with the different themes.

**Tailpiece:** Modern life, huh? As a little girl climbed onto Santa's lap, Santa asked, "And what would you like for Christmas?" The child stared at him open mouthed and horrified for a minute, then gasped: "Didn't you get my E-mail?"

**May God bless you and all those whom you love. If this is your last Sunday in the Chaplaincy this term, thanks, have a great Christmas, and I look forward to seeing you again next term.**

**Fr. Harry**