

St. Joseph the Worker

First Sunday of Advent

2nd December, 2018



Fr Harry Curtis, Parish Priest, email: sjtwcov@gmail.com

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

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Websites: www.stjosephcoventry.org.uk www.coventry-catholicdeanery.org.uk www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk

Sunday, 2 nd December First Sunday of Advent	9.00 am 11.00 am 12.30 pm (University Chaplaincy) 5.00 pm	Maureen Mooney RIP (Anniversary) Intentions of the Ordinariate The People of the Parish Bob Delargy	
Monday, 3 rd December Memorial of St. Francis Xavier, Priest Migrants' Day	10.00 am 7.00 pm	Margaret Griffin RIP (Birthday) Fr. Paul's Intentions	
Tuesday, 4 th December Op. Mem. of St. John Damascene, Priest	No Mass Today		
Wednesday, 5 th December Feast of St. Birinus, Bishop	7.00 pm	Holy Souls	
Thursday, 6 th December Optional Memorial of St. Nicholas, Bishop	7.30-8.00 am Exposition 10.00 am 12.15 pm (University Chaplaincy) 7.00 pm	Edmund Griffin (Intentions) Private Intention Fr. Paul's Intentions	
Friday, 7 th December Memorial of St. Ambrose, Bishop	10.00 am 12.15 pm (University Chaplaincy)	Fr. Pat Armstrong (Intentions) Private Intention	
Saturday, 8 th December Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	10.00 am followed by Exposition	Fr. Paul's Intentions	
Sunday, 9 th December Second Sunday of Advent Bible Sunday	9.00 am 11.00 am 12.30 pm (University Chaplaincy) 5.00 pm	Hannah Gavey Intentions of the Ordinariate The People of the Parish Jacqui Mullally	
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday, 10.30-11.00 am.			
Mass attendance last weekend: 228 Last week's first collection: £566.26; Gift Aid: £214.00. Catholic Youth Service: £215.31. Thank You.	Reading Rota	9am	5pm
	Today	Mary Blay	Bob Pryce
	Next Week	Henry Whitney	Patricia Burke

Welcome to Mass at St. Joseph's today.

Today we enter into **Advent** and the Church's new year (Happy New Year!). The Sunday Mass Lectionary Cycle is Year C, and the Weekday Cycle is Year 1. **Cycle of Prayer.** During the Seasons of Advent and Christmas we are asked to pray for the following intentions: Openness to the Word of God; Migrants and Refugees; Expectant Mothers.

Please pray for all the Sick of the Parish including: Vera Harris, Kevon Perry, Bridget Cherry, Gabrielle, and all the sick. If you wish to have your name or the name of a loved one included on the list, please let me know in writing.

Those who have died. Please pray for **Marian O'Kane, Michael Cunningham, Fr. Petroc Howell, Martina Acu** and all who have died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur about this time: Frs. Liam MacFarlane, Horace Relph, Michael George Knight, William Warner, Anthony Kane and George Rafferty and also Baby Katherine Lewis, Catherine Allsop, Maureen Mooney, John Henry Jones, Cornelius McParland, Elizabeth Dadley, Etta Seery, Christopher Mulligan, Gordon Peter Eaves, Mary Perry, Mary Turner, Martin Griffin, Mary Margaret (Rose) Young, Ellen Mullen, Johanna Pickering and Thomas Carroll. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. May they rest in peace.

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

To see the Diocesan Privacy Notice go to <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/privacy-policy>

For information about the Ordinariate go to www.ordinariate.org.uk/groups/coventry

The Sanctuary Candle is burning this week for John Paul Brogan.
The Sacred Heart Candle is burning this week for Margaret Griffin RIP (Birthday).
Our Lady's Candle is burning this week for Pamela and Christine (intentions).

Christmas Cards. I hope you like our parish Christmas cards. If you haven't found one on your seat, please take one from the back of the church, and take a few more to drop off to your neighbours. Thank you. The times of our Christmas services are on the cards.

The Parish Christmas Tree. As we prepare for Christmas we cannot avoid references to angels in the Scriptures: the Archangel Gabriel brings the news to Mary; he also advises Joseph; angels announce the news of Jesus' birth to the shepherds. Angels are messengers. This Advent I invite you to decorate our Christmas tree by writing your prayer for Christmas – for yourself, your family and friends, for the poor, for peace, and so on – on one of the paper angels and hanging it on the tree. God's messengers can help us with our prayers to God. Our tree is not just a decoration: it is a focus for our hope and prayer this Advent and Christmas.



Poor Parishes Fund. There will be a second collection at Masses next Sunday for the Poor Parishes of the Diocese. The Fund was put in place to help those smaller parishes where they experience difficulty in paying their day-to-day bills.

First Friday. This Friday is the First of the month. Novena Prayers to the Sacred Heart will be said at Mass.

Grand Christmas Draw. It's lovely to report that there are no Raffle Tickets left. **All that remains is for you to bring back the counterfoils and the money, please.** Each booklet (5 tickets) costs £1. Thank you to everyone who has donated a prize.

Advent Carol Service, at 7.00pm on Thursday, 13th December, and we shall be drawing the winners of the raffle that evening.

Christmas Dinner. There will be dinner on Christmas day at 2.00 in the parish hall for any parishioners who would otherwise be on their own. If you would like to be part of it, welcome! Please let me know. Lifts will be available if needed.

The Advent *Walk With Me* booklet is now available for £1, with the daily and Sunday reflections. *Walk With Me* can be a tool for the new evangelization and a wonderful resource to give to relatives, friends and work colleagues who are interested in discovering the true meaning of Christmas. There are also copies of the *Advent Day By Day* booklets (also £1) which have the daily Mass readings.

200 Club winners:

1st Prize, £15: No. 101; P. Monaghan.
2nd Prize, £5: No. 36; M. Whelan.

The Blessing of the Coventry Crib. Each year the Catholic Parishes in Coventry present a Crib to the City. It will be in place and blessed today, at 4.00 pm, outside the Central Library and W H Smith in the City Centre.

Prayers, please. I expect you have heard that the Parish site at St. Patrick's in Coventry was the scene of a fatal stabbing recently, and this has been very traumatic for all concerned. Please remember the young man who died, Jaydon James, and his family in your prayers and also Fr George Bennett, his parish and school.

Young Adults' Christmas Meal. A group of young adult Catholics (20-30s) are looking to set up a network around the Coventry, Kenilworth, Leamington, and Warwick Parishes that will provide an opportunity to share faith, and promote fellowship and spiritual growth. As a first event they will be having a Christmas meal at **Zizzi's in Kenilworth on Thursday, 13th December at 8:15 pm.** If you're interested please join the "West Midlands Catholic Young Adults" group on FB, or email WestMidlandsCYA@gmail.com to get on a mailing list.

Christmas Fayre. The Ordinariate community invites you to a Christmas Fayre in the hall next Saturday, 8th December, 11am-1pm. Hot meat batches, seasonal refreshments, raffle and stalls. All are very welcome.

Devotions to Our Lady on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception Saturday 8th December. After 10 am Mass at St Peter's Church, Dormer Place, Leamington Spa, CV32 5AE, there will be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament up to noon. There will be various prayers and devotions, including the rosary, for the **Sanctity of Life** from conception to natural death.

Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, for half an hour on Thursday mornings, 7.30-8.00, followed by breakfast. **Why not start your day with the Lord?**

Catholic Fellowship Carol Service / Nativity, today @ 3.00 pm, St John Fisher Church. The event finishes with a party and a raffle. All welcome!

Tailpiece: In the days before mobile phones and other modern forms of communication, a vicar travelled from his country parish into the city to order a banner to hang outside his church to proclaim the Good News of Christmas. But when he got there he found that he had forgotten to bring the details with him, so he sent a telegram to his wife. The clerk at the telegraph office was staggered to receive the reply: "Unto us a Child is born; seven feet six by one foot eight."

Thank you for all your cards, presents and good wishes to me over the last week for my birthday and also my mother's anniversary. As always, I shall remember you all in my prayers. May God bless you and all those whom you love. Fr. Harry