

St. Joseph the Worker

Third Sunday of Advent

16th 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, 16 th December Third Sunday of Advent	9.00 am 11.00 am 12.30 pm (University Chaplaincy) 5.00 pm	Michael & Margaret Higgins (Anniv.) Intentions of the Ordinariate Special Intention Anastasia Whale (Anniversary)
Monday, 17 th December	10.00 am 7.00 pm	Jerry Donovan (B'day) Fr. Paul's Intentions
Tuesday, 18 th December	No Mass Today	
Wednesday, 19 th December	10.00 am 6.00 pm Penitential Service 7.00 pm	Kathleen Gavin Martin & Mary Turner (Anniversary)
Thursday, 20 th December	10.00 am 7.00 pm	Jim Coffey Fr. Paul's Intentions
Friday, 21 st December Commemoration of St. Peter Canisius, Priest	10.00 am	Mike Conway
Saturday, 22 nd December	10.00 am followed by Exposition	Fr. Jan Milcz
Sunday, 23 rd December Fourth Sunday of Advent	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 John Joseph Burke & Dec'd Family
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday, 10.30-11.30 am.		
Mass attendance last weekend: 212	Reading Rota	9am
Last week's first collection: £574.63; Gift Aid: £193.87.	Today	Val Edge
Poor Parishes Fund: £856.17. Thank You.	Next Week	Peter O'Brien
		Wendy Piper
		John Mulvenna

Welcome to Mass at St. Joseph's today.

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, Elizabeth White**, and all who have died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Mgr. Bernard Navin, Frs. Michael McKiernan, Peter Kavanagh, Fergus O'Connell, Daniel O'Connor and Michael O'Meara, Deacons Bryan Salter and Henry Atkinson, and also Mary McKinney, Bernie O'Neill, Thomas Fanning, Josephine Mooney, Carol McCarron, Hugh Gallagher, Anastasia Whale, Margaret Bremner, Garry Doyle, Thomas Fox, Margaret Clancey, Eugene Vincent, Patrick McMahon, Hannah Cullinane, Eugene Turley, Shirley Dainty, James Dolan, William Donahoe, Michael Lenagh, Edna Hughes, Dorothy O'Neill, John O'Hare and Peggy Isdale. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

Thank you to everyone for coming to our Advent Carol Service last Thursday. Thank you, too, for supporting our Christmas raffle which raised a grand nett total of nearly £400. Thanks especially to Carmel and Maria and all who helped, and to those who donated prizes. The list of prizewinners is on the notice board and there are copies if you need them.

The Sanctuary Candle is burning this week for a Special Intention.
The Sacred Heart Candle is burning this week for the intentions of the Nightingale Family.
Our Lady's Candle is burning this week for a Special Intention.

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.



Confession for Christmas. On Wednesday evening there will be a short Penitential Service at 6.00, before Mass, followed by the opportunity for Confession. Then on Saturday there will be extra time for Confessions. Remember, while Advent is not as penitential as Lent, it is a time of preparing to welcome the Lord, and a good way to prepare is by going to Confession.

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 please let me know. Lifts are available.

The Advent Walk With Me booklets are available in the church porch (£1), with the daily and Sunday reflections. There are also copies of the Advent *Day By Day* booklets (£1) which have the daily Mass readings.

Commemorative Sanctuary Candles. For £5 you can buy a candle that will be blessed at the Christmas Midnight Mass and then will burn in the sanctuary or by the Sacred Heart, Our Lady, St. Joseph or St. Anthony, 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?



Christmas Flowers. There will be a retiring collection after 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:

- 1st Prize, £15: No. 12; Lin Rogers.
- 2nd Prize, £5: No. 54; Lesley O'Connell.

Christmas Crib. Crib Offerings this year will be divided between Aid to the Church in Need and the Coventry Winter Night Shelter.

Coventry Foodbank. We collect non-perishable food items for the local Foodbank. You can leave anything you wish to donate in the box in the Jordan Room. Thank you.

A message from Father Hudson's Care. "In times of severe austerity for marginalised groups we continue to develop a caring and supportive response. We are very keen to recruit new Trustees in anticipation of the retirement of some very committed members of the Board. We particularly wish to invite interest from individuals with any of the following experience: Finance/Accounts, Fundraising, Children and Family services, or HR. The Board is keen that it represents the diversity of society in Britain today and those who we work with. Existing or previous charity experience would be useful but not essential. Trustees usually attend five Board meetings a year as well as join a sub-committee related to their experience/interest which meets four times a year. Please call the CEO on 07966 935533 or email andyquinn@fatherhudsons.org.uk"

Diocesan Directories. The new directories are now available in the church porch. If you want to know anything about our diocese, this is the book for you. Spiral-bound £4.50, normal binding £3.00.

Coventry Comhaltas are holding a Christmas ceili at Christ the King Club on Friday, 21st December, 8.30pm-11.30pm. Admission, payable on the door, is £5 Adults; £2.50 children, and a family (2 adults & 2 children) £10.00. For more details contact: Mr. Jarlath Mulhern, rayjar16@englandmail.com, or call 0787 601 3590.

Little Evangelist. The Christmas edition of this magazine for children is available in the porch (£3). It is a lovely booklet for families to work on together.

Christmas Service of Nine Lessons & Carols. The traditional Ordinariate Christmas Carol Service will be here on Sunday 30th December at 6.30 pm and they have invited all of us to join them to celebrate the birth of Christ in this beautiful way.

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 the Ordinariate priests: Fr. Paul and Fr. Timothy. Thank you.

Tailpiece: Here is a snippet for you. The liturgy of 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:

- Sapientia** (O Wisdom),
- Adonai** (O Lord),
- Radix Jesse** (O Root of Jesse),
- Clavis David** (O Key of David),
- Oriens** (O Rising Sun),
- Rex Gentium** (O King of the Nations), and
- Emmanuel** (O God-with-us)

By Christmas Eve we have all seven titles, and the first letters of the Latin words spelled backwards give us the message: ERO CRAS – "tomorrow I shall come". O come, O come, Emmanuel!

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