

St. Joseph the Worker

Third Sunday of Advent

15th December, 2019



Fr Harry Curtis, Parish Priest

The Presbytery, 1 De Montfort Way, Coventry, CV4 7DU.

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Welcome to Mass at St. Joseph's today.

We are a parish with a clear identity and purpose: to be a Catholic community, formed by the Holy Spirit in the name of Jesus, for the glory and praise of God the Father and the service of His Kingdom, and also for the mutual up-building and support of its members. The core message that we feel called to live is contained in Jesus' words:

I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. (John 10:10)

Sunday, 15 th December Third Sunday of Advent	9.00 am 12.30 pm (University Chaplaincy) 5.00 pm	Patsy O'Neil RIP The People of the Parish Carmel Silver RIP (Birthday)	
Monday, 16 th December	10.00 am	Jerry Donovan RIP (Birthday)	
Tuesday, 17 th December	No Mass Today		
Wednesday, 18 th December	10.00 am	Anastasia Whale RIP (Anniversary)	
Thursday, 19 th December	7.30-8.00 am Exposition 10.00 am	Michael & Margaret Higgins (Anniv.)	
Friday, 20 th December	10.00 am 6.00 pm Penance Service 7.00 pm	Della Power RIP Robert Anstee	
Saturday, 21 st December <i>Commemoration of St. Peter Canisius, Priest</i>	10.00 am followed by Exposition	Eileen Connolly	
Sunday, 22 nd December Fourth Sunday of Advent <i>Day of Prayer for Expectant Mothers</i>	9.00 am 12.30 pm (University Chaplaincy) 5.00 pm	Maurice Flanagan The People of the Parish Katie Aubrey RIP	
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Friday 6.00-7.00 pm; Saturday, 10.30-11.30 am.			
Mass attendance: 249 Last week's first collection: £581.55; Gift Aid: £254.00. Poor Parishes: £325.86.	Reading Rota	9am	5pm
	Today	Mary Blay	Elise & Palmer
	Next Week	Henry Whitney	John Mulvenna

Please pray for Vincent Egan, Joan Kelly, and all who have died recently, and for all those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Mgr. Bernard Navin, Frs. Michael McKiernan, Peter Kavanagh, Fergus O'Connell, Daniel O'Connor, Michael O'Meara and Edmund Motherway, Deacons Bryan Salter and Henry Atkinson; and also Stephen McHale, James Synnott, 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. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. May they rest in peace.

Please pray for all the Sick of the Parish including: George Morton, Jane Pryce, Josie Dekkers, Paddy Beausang, Kevon Perry, Bridget Cherry, Chris Mullen, and all the sick.

The Sanctuary Candle is burning this week for the Sick and Housebound.
Our Lady's Candle is burning this week for Carmel Silver RIP (Birthday).

Christmas Crib. Crib Offerings this year will be divided between Friends of the Holy Land and the Coventry Winter Night Shelter.

Thank you to everyone for coming to our Advent Carol Service and Christmas Tea yesterday. Thank you, too, for supporting our Christmas raffle and to those who donated prizes. Thanks especially to Carmel and Maria and all who worked so hard to make it a lovely afternoon. The Tea itself raised £326.50, which will go towards the Crib Offerings. The raffle raised a grand nett total of £379.40. The list of prizewinners is on the notice board and there are copies if you need them.

200 Club winners:

- 1st Prize, £15: No. 14; J. Banks.
2nd Prize, £5: No. 59; Mrs. Finch.

Sign-Up Sheets for Christmas Masses/Services. In the porch there are lists for volunteers to sign up to help over Christmas – Readers, Servers, Eucharistic Ministers, Welcomers, etc. Remember, this Christmas we need more people than before to come forward; please do help out if you can.

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 Coundon Social Club, Shorncliffe Road, CV6 1GP, on Friday, 20th 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.

The Parish Christmas Tree. At Christmas we celebrate the birth of Jesus, the Light of the World. 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 “candles” and hanging it on the tree.



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 with a card?



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.

Instruction in the Faith. Do you know anyone who would like to know more about the Catholic Faith? Do YOU want to know more? In January we shall be cooperating with St. Thomas More Parish to hold a series of meetings there on Wednesday evenings, 7.30-8.30. Please let people know about this opportunity.

Coventry Foodbank. We collect non-perishable food items for the local Foodbank. **If you can help,** please leave things in the box in the Jordan Room. Thank you.

Carol Singing. We have been invited to sing in Tesco at lunchtime next Saturday, 21st December (no, they haven't heard us sing yet!). If you would like to take part in this, which should be fun as well as helping to share the Christmas message, you are most welcome. We shall be practising at **Singing for Fun** in the parish hall on Monday evening at 7.30 pm. Come and join in.

Christmas Dinner. Last year there was a Christmas dinner provided in the Parish Hall for people who would otherwise be on their own. Unfortunately, we can't do it this year in the same way. But perhaps if people would like to have a Bring-and-Share dinner we could at least offer company and celebration on that special day. Please let me know if you are interested.

Cleaning of metal in the church. To help make things look good for Christmas, would anyone like to help to clean the candlestands, the candlesticks, chalices, bell, etc. on Friday morning after Mass? Please come and let me know if you can help.

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. Thank you.

Coventry Winter Night Shelter. If you wish to offer specific aid to the CWNS, there is a list of requirements in the porch. I can pass on any offerings.

Confession for Christmas. On Friday 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.

Job Opportunity. There is a new and exciting role within the Archdiocese of Birmingham to support a newly formed cluster of parishes in the Wolverhampton Area. Please see the notice board for more details.

Tailpiece: A visitor to a church was curious when he saw a verse from the Bible (1 Corinthians 15:51) on one of the doors: “Behold, I tell you a mystery; we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed.” It all became clear when the visitor realised that it was the door to the nursery.

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