

# University of Warwick Chaplaincy

## Third Sunday of Advent

15<sup>th</sup> December, 2019

Catholic Chaplain: Fr. Harry Curtis

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*Sacred Heart of Jesus, Seat of Divine Wisdom, enlighten us!*

*Our Lady of Good Counsel, pray for us!*

*St Thomas Aquinas and St. Aloysius Gonzaga, patrons of students, pray for us!*

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

Sunday, 15 <sup>th</sup> December <b>Third Sunday of Advent</b>	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 <sup>th</sup> December	10.00 am	Jerry Donovan RIP (Birthday)
Tuesday, 17 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>No Mass Today</b>	
Wednesday, 18 <sup>th</sup> December	10.00 am	Anastasia Whale RIP (Anniversary)
Thursday, 19 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>7.30-8.00 am Exposition</b> 10.00 am	Michael & Margaret Higgins (Anniv.)
Friday, 20 <sup>th</sup> December	10.00 am <b>6.00 pm Penance Service</b> <b>7.00 pm</b>	Della Power RIP Robert Anstee
Saturday, 21 <sup>st</sup> December Commemoration of St. Peter Canisius, Priest	10.00 am <b>followed by Exposition</b>	Eileen Connolly
Sunday, 22 <sup>nd</sup> December <b>Fourth Sunday of Advent</b> Day of Prayer for Expectant Mothers	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.

Welcome to the Chaplaincy for our celebration of Mass today.

Today is the Third Sunday of Advent – “Gaudete Sunday”, or “Rejoice Sunday”. We are encouraged to lift the veil a little to anticipate the joy of the presence of Jesus who comes to share His divine life with us.

Please note that there will be no weekday Masses here in the Chaplaincy during the holiday. Our Thursday and Friday Masses will start again in the new term. Similarly, prayer before the Blessed Sacrament on Thursday mornings at St. Joseph's will take a break over the Christmas vacation. We shall start again in January.



**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 and on Christmas Day at 12.30 pm.

**Carol Singing.** We have been invited to sing in Tesco's, 11.30-12.30 next Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> December. 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 St. Joseph's parish hall on Monday evening at 7.30 pm. Come and join in.

### 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.

**Morning Prayer.** Why not start your day with the Lord? We meet for Morning Prayer and quiet adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, at St. Joseph's on Thursday mornings, 7.30-8.00, followed by breakfast. All welcome.

**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?

**The Sacrament of Confirmation.** Bishop William is booked to come to St. Joseph's in February to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation. If you have not been confirmed, please come and see me.

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



**Christmas in the Chaplaincy.** Here is a list of the Christmas services here and at St. Joseph's:

24 <sup>th</sup> December	CHRISTMAS EVE
Mass:	10.00 am
Confessions:	10.30-11.30am
First Mass of Christmas:	5.00 pm
Carols and Readings:	11.30 pm
Midnight Mass:	12.00 midnight

25 <sup>th</sup> December	CHRISTMAS DAY
Mass (Parish):	9.00 am
University Chaplaincy	12.30 pm

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE WILL BE NO MASS AT 5.00pm 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. The kitchen will be stocked with fresh milk for hot drinks and bread to make toast.

**Evening Chapel.** We shall not be meeting on Friday evenings until the start of the next academic term.

**Christmas Dinner.** Last year there was a Christmas dinner provided in the Parish Hall for people who would otherwise be on their own. It was a great success and much appreciated by those who came. 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.

**The Advent *Walk With Me* booklet** is available for £1, with useful daily and Sunday reflections. If you haven't got £1 please take one anyway.

**“Faith in Politics”: Catholic Parliamentary and Public Policy Internships 2020-21.**

The Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales have organised an Internship Scheme and are looking to recruit up to nine recently-graduated Catholics to work for 11 months from September 2020 to July 2021 in Parliamentary, Public Affairs, and Social Action posts. The interns will be selected on the basis of ability and potential to gain most from the experience. The interns will live together with 70 other students in More House, a Catholic Chaplaincy and Student Centre in Central London. Financial support will be provided to cover living and travel costs for the duration of the internship. The closing date for applications is 28<sup>th</sup> February 2020. Further information is available from, and applications should be made through, the website [www.faithinpolitics.org.uk](http://www.faithinpolitics.org.uk)

**Would you like to spend a year** (Aug 2020-Jul 2021) as part of the SPEC community in London which runs retreats with young people in the Diocese of Westminster? Check out their website for more information: <http://dowym.com/spec/volunteer/>

**Christmas Crib.** Sometimes people like to make an offering of money when they see a Christmas Crib. Any Crib Offerings at St. Joseph's this year will be divided between Friends of the Holy Land and the Coventry Winter Night Shelter.

**Sign-Up Sheets for Christmas Masses/Services.** There are lists for volunteers to sign up to help over Christmas – Readers, Servers, Eucharistic Ministers, Welcomers, etc. Please do help out if you can.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**If this is your last Sunday here this term, have a great Christmas and I'll look forward to seeing you next term. May God bless you and all those whom you love. Fr. Harry**