

THE PRECIOUS BLOOD OF OUR LORD & ALL SOULS

The Catholic parish of Chapelfields & Earlsdon
Kingsland Avenue Coventry CV5 8DX



A parish of the Archdiocese of Birmingham in collaboration with the Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham

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SUNDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2020

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Public worship resumes at All Souls on Wednesday 2 December. The Mass times are as below.

Blessed are you, sovereign Lord, God of our ancestors: to you be praise and glory for ever. You called the patriarchs to live by the light of faith and to journey in the hope of your promised fulfilment. May we be obedient to your call and be ready and watchful to receive your Christ, a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for you are our light and our salvation. R./ **Blessed be God for ever.**



THE GOD WHO SPEAKS: CELEBRATING, LIVING & SHARING GOD'S WORD

Let's start at the very beginning: **The Book of Genesis**

The Old Testament begins with this book of beginnings with stories about creation and early relationships between God and his people.

A verse to remember

The book of Genesis narrates to us how God created the world and humanity. And when he had finished, "**God saw all he had made, and indeed it was very good**" (Gen 1:1-2:3).

The book of Genesis

Genesis is the first book of the Bible; it tells stories about beginnings: the beginning of the world, stories about how things developed. Most important, the book of Genesis is a story about the relationship between God and humanity. This is conveyed through stories.

For example, we hear about how God created **Adam and Eve** and how things went wrong due to their disobedience (Gen 3:1-13).

We hear the familiar story of the **Flood** and how **Noah** and his three sons were saved and how God made a covenant with Noah (Gen 9:12ff). The Flood is not simply a story of destruction and judgment.

It describes the friendship of a loving God who makes a covenant with Noah never again to destroy the earth with water (Genesis 9:8-11) and he gives the rainbow as a sign of that covenant.

However, sin remained a stark reality and led humans to another sin of arrogance: trying to reach God by building the **Tower of Babel** (Genesis 11:1-11:32).

The book continues with the story of God's relationship with **Abraham** and **Sarah** and their descendants. In this story, God tells Abraham, who was a nomad with no land of his own, to set out for a land that he will show him – the Promised Land (Genesis 12:1-6). God makes a promise to the elderly and childless Abraham that he will have children and grandchildren as numerous as the stars in the sky or the grains of sand on the seashore (Genesis 13:15-17). Through his **faith** Abraham was made a partaker of this promise, the name of God became known and a believing people came into being. Since then Abraham has been known as "the father of all believers" (Romans 4:1, 13).

God speaks to us God speaks to us through the stories in the book of Genesis about his desire to be in relationship with humanity.

✠ WORSHIP THIS WEEK ✠

Sunday 29 th	FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT	9.30am MASS <i>People of the parish</i> 4.00pm Service of Advent Readings and Hymns (live stream)
Monday 30 th	ST. ANDREW, Apostle	9.30am MASS <i>Breda Hanforth RIP</i> 10.30am Funeral Mass (Barbara Redpath RIP)
Tuesday 1 st Dec	ST. EDMUND CAMPION, Martyr	9.30am MASS <i>John McKernan Jr RIP</i>
----- Public worship resumes -----		
Wednesday 2 nd	Advent feria	9.30am Mass <i>Patrick Atkinson RIP</i>
Thursday 3 rd	St. Francis Xavier, Priest	7.30pm Mass <i>Michael & Julia Walsh RIP</i>
Friday 4 th	Advent feria	9.30am Mass <i>Ann McCarron RIP</i>
Saturday 5 th	ST. BIRINUS, Bishop	9.30am MASS <i>Veronica & Joseph Murphy RIP</i>
Sunday 6 th	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	10.30am MASS <i>People of the parish</i>

Adoration 30 minutes before Mass Monday-Saturday. Daily Evening Prayer (Vespers) via Zoom at 6pm (email Fr Paul to receive log-in details)

CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS

Please take note of the information below relating to Christmas Mass times and arrangements. Forward planning this year will be essential help in ensuring that Christmas services run smoothly and safely. Please pass on the information to other parishioners, including those who do not regularly attend Mass but intend to come at Christmas.



FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT: AN ADVENT SERVICE OF READINGS & HYMNS

At 4pm today, the First Sunday of Advent, Fr Paul will lead a livestreamed service of Advent Scripture Readings and Hymns. This simple service will hopefully help us to appreciate the depth of this all too easily under-appreciated season. It

is also an opportunity for us to sing some of the beautiful Advent hymns together (albeit in our own homes!). If you are unable to join the service live today, it will remain on our Youtube channel during Advent.

ADVENT MUSIC See our website for links to a sample of some beautiful Advent music. An excellent accompaniment to a period of quiet prayer.

RETURNING TO MASS The Sunday obligation remains suspended by our bishops, but if your own circumstances - including health and vulnerability to the virus - allow, please re-establish the discipline of weekly public worship. Livestreams and Acts of Spiritual Communion are intended to serve those who really need them; they are not proposed as substitutes or as a "new normal" for the majority.

REMAINING VIGILANT The decision of the government to allow public worship in churches in all tiers is in recognition of the importance of what takes place in our churches and of the efforts made by churches to create safe environments for worshippers. It is, therefore, very important that we continue to adhere to good practice and engage with the measures that are in place in our church. These include the restriction that we should not attend with, or socialise with, anyone outside of our household or support bubble. **Thank you for your co-operation, not least in following the guidance of our stewards.**

GROWING FAITH

Week 4: Who is Jesus?

To help sustain our faith during the challenging winter months, we are providing parishioners with a weekly link to resources from **Sycamore**, a Catholic course aimed at helping people mature in their faith. The main feature is a 30 minute film.

This week's session is entitled **A God who speaks**. Simply follow the link, press play and enjoy:
<https://www.sycamore.fm/videos/session-4-who-is-jesus/>

Those receiving the link by email will also find an attachment with some questions for reflection/discussion plus some related passages of scripture and teaching of the Church. You may wish to use the resources on your own or as a family. Please feel to pass them on to others who you think would benefit. Fr Paul

THE RECENTLY DEPARTED Please pray for **Barbara Redpath** whose Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Monday. Also for **Aidan Tyrrell, Rosalia Terranova, Fr Alan Griffin, Beverley Cooper and Lionel Farrell** who have died recently.

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS WALK WITH ME booklets and calendars are available at the back of church. Please consider delivering one safely to anybody who is unable to get to church.

CHURCHES TOGETHER 'PRAYER BREAKFAST' Father Paul will lead the monthly Churches Together Morning Prayer on Zoom at 8am on Saturday 5 December. An invitation will be sent during the week to all those on the parish e-mailing list.

POOR MISSION FUND At All Masses next week there will be a second collection for the Poor Parishes of the Diocese. All parishes have taken a financial hit by the effects of the pandemic, but many parishes in the diocese will be in a worse position than ours. Please give as generously as you are able.

MARY'S MEALS Throughout this year of many challenges, Mary's Meals has continued to feed desperately hungry children with a daily meal in a place of education. From 2nd November until 31st January 2021, donations made to our Double The Love campaign will be matched by the UK government, up to £2 million. Please consider setting a place at our [Big Family Christmas dinner table](#) or buying a Christmas gift card on our website. More information on how to support us can be found at www.marysmeals.org.uk/doublethelove

SCHOOL Fr Paul will be leading a live-streamed Advent Prayer Service for Year 1 on Tuesday and for Nursery and Reception on Thursday this week.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS You will know that our First Holy Communion have had to be postponed twice already this year because of covid. We are hoping and praying that the year 4 children will be able to make their First Holy Communion at two of the regular Saturday parish Masses during December. More information to follow soon.

NHS TRACK & TRACE Each time you come to Mass we ask you please to provide your contact details. You can do this in one of two ways: EITHER Download the **NHS Test and Trace app** to your smartphone and **scan the All Souls QR code** on the posters in the porch OR Bring a **piece of paper with your name and contact number** and post it in the metal box in the porch.

FOOD BANK A message from Helen Needham: I am writing on behalf of Feeding Coventry at Foleshill Community Centre to say a huge thank you for all the support we have received from the parish of All Souls since March. Your generous donations have enabled us to feed 500-600 people per week, provide 168 free school meal packs in October half term, 200 breakfast packs every week in the summer holidays and 70 deliveries per week to vulnerable people during the height of the pandemic. Volunteers have come forward from All Souls to help at the centre and make deliveries. Feeding Coventry are incredibly grateful for your support. If you would like to volunteer please contact Helen Needham on 07925 019330 or email feedingcoventrycomms@gmail.com If you would like to contribute food donations towards our Christmas appeal, please see below the wish-list of items we would most like to receive: Luxury Biscuits, Festive Chocolates, Cranberry Sauce, Packet Stuffing, Tinned Meat/Tuna, Coffee, Hot Chocolate, Squash, Jam, Peanut Butter, Chocolate Spread, Cereal, Tinned fruit and veg, UHT Milk, Pasta, Rice. Please place in the box in the porch.

GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION ON FAITH ENGAGEMENT

Catholics have been asked to respond to the following open consultation on the way Government engages with faith communities. The link to the online submission is:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/independent-faith-engagement-review-call-for-evidence> The consultation closes at 11:45pm on 11 December 2020



CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS AT ALL SOULS

Information for parishioners

A difficult year

This has been a very difficult year indeed because of COVID-19. Some of you will have lost loved ones to the virus; some of you will have had the virus yourselves; others will be facing an uncertain financial future. It is tempting to write off 2020 as an *annus horribilis*, but we know that as Christians we are called to have hope, to acknowledge that God is never absent from us and to believe that he works through the events of human history – even a global pandemic – for good and to establish his perfect kingdom. I would suggest, then, that rather than write 2020 off, we stay alert to what God is saying to us in and through this crisis. What unforeseen good might God bring out of this mess for me, my family, my parish, the Church, the world? What if in this moment God is inviting me to...? He is surely inviting all of us to greater trust in him and dependence on his goodness and mercy.

Churches open for Christmas

Thank God that we are able to gather in church at Christmas to celebrate the Birth of Christ. I look forward to seeing you if your health and circumstances permit. For those unable to attend Mass in person, services will be livestreamed and our prayers will be with you. The livestream is primarily intended for those who really can not be physically present at Mass. Please do not be tempted to use it as a substitute for being at Mass now that public worship is possible again.

Christmas will be different

It goes without saying that things will not be normal this year. Government restrictions remain in place to keep everyone safe. If you come to church you will need to wear a mask and will have to adhere to track and trace requirements. There will be no congregational singing of carols etc. There will be clear instructions about receiving Holy Communion and returning to your place. The number of people able to attend each Mass will be limited. Because of this last restriction parishes are circulating information about Christmas Mass times early.

Planning ahead

Parishes in Coventry will all have some form of 'booking' system over Christmas so that we are not in the position of having over-crowded churches. So please plan ahead now. You are asked please to attend Mass in your own parish (where you live or where you normally worship) and to familiarise yourself with the Christmas Mass times and arrangements. Details of your parish's Mass times and arrangements will be on the deanery website: <https://coventry-catholicdeanery.org.uk/new/>

The obligation to attend Mass on Christmas Day itself (or the evening before) does not apply this year. You might therefore consider making one of the days of the Christmas Octave (Christmas week) your 'Christmas Day'. Understandably many people *will* want to be in church on Christmas Day itself or the evening before, so here's the plan at All Souls!

Christmas Mass times at All Souls

Pre-Christmas Confessions: Saturday 19 December 10.30 – 11.30am; Mon 21 - Thurs 24 December 10.15 - 11.15am & by arrangement.

CHRISTMAS EVE Thursday 24 December

9.30am Mass (The last Mass of Advent)

3pm Family Crib Service with Carols (**via livestream only**)

4.30pm MASS* (Note: This will not be the usual family Mass)

8pm MASS*

CHRISTMAS DAY Friday 25 December

9.30am MASS*

11.15am MASS*

FEAST OF ST. STEPHEN Saturday 26 December

9.30am MASS

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY Sunday 27 December

10.30am MASS

4pm Service of Lessons and Carols (**via livestream only**)

FEAST OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS Monday 28 December

9.30am MASS

FEAST OF ST. THOMAS BECKET Tuesday 29 December

9.30am MASS

6th DAY IN THE CHRISTMAS OCTAVE Wed 30 December

9.30am MASS

7th DAY IN THE CHRISTMAS OCTAVE Thurs 31 December

9.30am MASS

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD Fri 1 Jan 2021

9.30am MASS

Booking arrangements at All Souls

If you would like to attend one of the Masses on **Christmas Eve** or **Christmas Day** (marked * above) you will need please to make arrangements in advance in one of the following ways:

TELEPHONE THE PRESBYTERY on 024 7667 4161. You will be asked for **your name, phone number, the total number of people from your household who will be attending and the Mass you wish to attend.** If there is nobody available to take your call please leave all the above information CLEARLY in a message or try again later. If you leave a message you will get a call back to confirm your request.

EMAIL Fr Paul at allsoulscoventry@gmail.com In your email please include **your name, phone number, the total number of people (including you) from your household who will be attending and the Mass you would like to attend.**

All information given will be used only for the purpose of Christmas Mass bookings and for Track & Trace, and will be deleted 21 days after Christmas Day.

Please note: If you come to a Christmas Eve or Day Mass (marked * above) without booking in advance, we can not guarantee that there will be space.

God bless you and your loved ones. Father Paul

PUBLIC MASSES

resume at All Souls on Wednesday 2 December

Mass times will be as below until further notice

Sunday 10.30am

Monday 9.30am

Tuesday 9.30am

Wednesday 9.30am

Thursday 7.30pm

Friday 9.30am

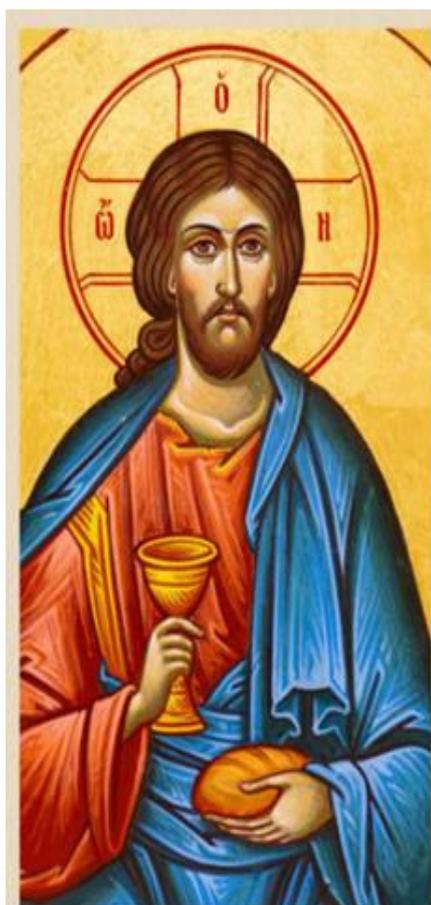
Saturday 9.30am

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 30 minutes before Mass
Monday-Saturday**

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

There is **no obligation to attend Sunday Mass** at the present time. If you are able to attend on another day, please do.

Prayers for Spiritual Communion



Prayer for Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,
I believe that You
are present in the
Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive
You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this
moment receive You
sacramentally, come at least
spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were
already there and unite
myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be
separated from You.

Amen.

Anima Christi

Soul of Christ, sanctify me
Body of Christ, save me
Blood of Christ, inebriate me
Water from the side of Christ,
wash me
Passion of Christ, strengthen
me
O good Jesus, hear me
Within thy wounds hide me
Permit me not to be
separated from thee
From the wicked foe defend
me
At the hour of my death call
me
And bid me come to thee
That with thy saints I may
praise thee
For ever and ever. Amen.

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your disciples, 'I am with you always'. Be with me today as I offer myself to you. Hear my prayers for others and for myself, and keep us all in your care. Amen.

O God, help me to trust you, help me to know that you are with me, help me to believe that nothing can separate me from your love revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer of General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you most humble and hearty thanks for all your goodness and loving kindness. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And give us, we pray, such a sense of all your mercies that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful, and that we show forth your praise, not only with our lips but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Conclude with the following:

The Lord bless us, and preserve us from all evil, and keep us in eternal life. Amen.

Local Restriction Tier information for places of worship

Activity	Medium (Tier 1)	High (Tier 2)	Very High (Tier 3)
Opening Places of Worship for communal prayer	Open for as many people as can be safely accommodated with social distancing measures		
Attending Places of Worship for communal prayer	Can attend and interact in groups of up to 6 people from different households	Can only interact indoors with your own households, but outdoors can interact in groups of up to 6	Can only interact with your own household both indoors and outdoors
Wedding Ceremonies	Can take place with up to 15 attendees, all of whom can interact.		
Wedding Receptions	Can take place with up to 15 attendees, all of whom can interact	Can take place with up to 15 attendees, all of whom can interact	Cannot take place
Funerals	Can take place with up to 30 attendees, all of whom can interact		
Commemorative events post-death	Can take place with up to 15 attendees, all of whom can interact		
Other Standalone 'Life-Cycle Ceremonies' that do not take place as a part of communal worship	Can attend and interact in groups of up to 6 people from different households	Can only interact indoors with your own households, but outdoors can interact in groups of up to 6	Can only interact with your own household both indoors and outdoors
Supervised Activities for Children	Can take place with no limit on the number of children permitted to attend, following COVID-Secure guidance. Adults must ensure social distancing at all times.		

N.B. Wherever interaction can take place, social distancing of 1m+ should still be strictly maintained between anyone who doesn't live together or are in a 'support bubble'

Baptisms fall into the government category of 'life-cycle ceremonies'. For baptism outside of Mass 6 people are permitted to attend. At baptisms during a regular parish Mass as many people as the building can safely accommodate are permitted, though we will be asking families to limit the baptism group to 30 people, including child, parents and godparents.