

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 6 DECEMBER 2020

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Blessed are you, sovereign Lord, just and true: to you be praise and glory for ever. Of old you spoke by the mouth of your prophets, but in our days you speak through your Son, whom you have appointed the heir of all things. Grant us, your people, to walk in his light, that we may be found ready and watching when he comes again in glory and judgment; for you are our light and our salvation. **R./ Blessed be God for ever.**

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

The Book of Exodus: God rescues his people from slavery

The name 'Exodus' comes from the Greek language and means a **going out**, a marching out or a solemn procession. The Book of Exodus narrates how Moses led the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt and how he led them in building the Tabernacle with God's instructions.

A quotation from Exodus

God said, "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me" (Exodus 20:2-3).

A crucial event

The events narrated in Exodus and the following books are of crucial importance for Israel's faith memory. Without the event of the Exodus there would never have been a people called Israel.

In the book of Genesis we were told the story of Abraham and his family, but soon their descendants will be formed into one nation and one people. Their liberation from slavery in Egypt and the giving of the Covenant at Mount Sinai made these people into a nation united in faith around its God, who will repeat again and again "You are my people and I am your God" (Exodus 6:7).

God leads his people out of slavery into service

Everything else in the Old Testament can only be properly understood against the background of the Exodus. Through the Exodus, Israel came to understand that its God was, unlike other gods, someone interested in their history. The other gods of the neighbouring peoples were only gods of nature, to be invoked to obtain a good harvest and to have good fertility; but Israel's God was also and above all a God of History, directly leading his people and intervening on their behalf.

The Passover

Even today, the Jewish people recall and make present the Exodus as they celebrate the Passover. When Jewish people celebrate it in worship, they participate in the experience and enter into it with deep meaning. God frees them from anything that enslaves them. This allows them to understand that the whole of life is seen as an exodus, a journey towards the Kingdom of God, and it makes it possible for them to have hope.

God speaks to us The message of Exodus is that God wants to free us from whatever enslaves us into the ways of faith and service. He has done this definitively through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Listen out for lots of readings from the Book of Exodus in Lent and at Easter.

✠ WORSHIP THIS WEEK ✠

Sunday 6 th	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	10.30am MASS	<i>For the People of the parish</i>
Monday 7 th	St. Ambrose, Bishop, Doctor of the Church	9.30am Mass	<i>Deneny & Baker families, deceased</i>
Tuesday 8 th	THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, Patroness of the Archdiocese	9.30am MASS	<i>Ricky Welsh RIP (school joining via livestream)</i>
Wednesday 9 th	Advent feria	9.30am Mass	<i>Sands family, deceased</i>
Thursday 10 th	Advent feria	7.30pm Mass	<i>Intentions of Eileen Monaghan</i>
Friday 11 th	Advent feria	9.30am Mass	<i>Teresa Martin RIP (1st anniversary)</i>
Saturday 12 th	Advent feria	9.30am Mass	<i>Tom Healy RIP</i>
Sunday 13 th	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT	10.30am MASS	<i>For the People of the parish Anne Callan RIP (Fr Tim)</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

Thank you to those who have already contacted Fr Paul to reserve a place at one of the Christmas Masses. If you haven't done so yet, please see the information relating to Christmas Mass times and arrangements. Forward planning this year will be essential 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. Requests for places are steadily coming in, especially for the 4.30pm Mass on Christmas Eve, so please make your arrangements sooner rather than later.

ADVENT READINGS & CAROLS Thank you for your lovely feedback about last Sunday's Advent Service of Lessons and Carols. The service is still available to watch on our Youtube channel.

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.

ADVENT MUSIC Once the "sounds of Christmas" start ringing in our ears and repeating again and again in our head, it is difficult to stay in the Advent moment. There are links on our website to some beautiful sacred Advent music to help us hold on to the spirit of Advent. The perfect accompaniment to some quiet prayer and reflection.

CHRISTMAS CONFESSIONS While a certain supermarket might have declared that there is no naughty list this year, the Sacrament of Confession will be readily available before Christmas for those who look forward to the Coming of One even greater than the big man from the North Pole! Saturday 19 10.30-11.30am; Monday 21st 10.15-11.00am; Tuesday 22nd 10.15-11.00am; Wednesday 23rd 10.15-11.00am; Thursday 24th 10.15-11.00am and at other times by arrangement.

CHRISTMAS SERVICE OF NINE LESSONS & CAROLS In a similar vein, Fr Paul will lead a Service of Christmas Lessons and Carols at 4pm on Sunday 27 December. In the busyness of Christmas why not set aside an hour to listen to the Good News of God-with-us proclaimed in scripture and to sing some carols.

CHRISTMAS EVE CRIB SERVICE Please note that this service at 3pm on Christmas Eve is a **livestreamed service only** (ie not in church). It is not a Mass, but a simple service of prayers and carols for families to watch either live or at another time over Christmas.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR 2021 It is now possible to request Masses for 2021. You can use the envelopes in church and post through the presbytery door or make a request via the website.

MONTHLY NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER & FASTING FOR LIFE On Monday 7 December, the Vigil of the Immaculate Conception, we're invited to join with other Catholics in prayer and fasting for an end to abortion and euthanasia. Included in our prayer are those agonising with decisions between life and death.

POOR PARISHES FUND At All Masses this 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. Thank you.

FOOD BANK Please place donated items in the blue box in the church porch. If you would like to volunteer please contact Helen Needham on 07925 019330 or email feedingcoventrycomms@gmail.com

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.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS After two postponements this year because of COVID, our Year 4 children will have the opportunity to make their First Holy Communion at the 9.30am Mass on either Saturday 12 or Saturday 19 December. The children will make their First Confession on Wednesday 9 December. Please pray for them.

GROWING FAITH

Week 5: The Holy Spirit & the Church

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 **The Holy Spirit & the Church**. Simply follow the link, press play and enjoy: <https://www.sycamore.fm/videos/session-5-the-holy-spirit-and-the-church/>

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

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

It is very important that we don't forget the basics of staying safe in church over the winter. Please make sure you:

Sanitise your hands on entry and exit (there are two automatic dispensers in the entrance porch and two in the exit porch).

Wear a face covering which covers both your mouth and nose.

Maintain physical distancing in and around the building.

From 2 December Government guidance on the safe use of places of worship insists that, "*In areas subject to Tier 2 and Tier 3 restrictions you must not meet (or mingle) with friends and family indoors in any setting, including a place of worship, unless they are part of your household or support bubble. In Tier 3 you must also not meet with people outside of your household or support bubble in a private garden or in most outdoor public venues.*"

COVENTRY PIONEER ASSOCIATION the Memorial Mass of Fr McKiernan will be on Friday 11th December at Christ the King at 7.00pm. This will be his 50th Anniversary Mass. If you wish to attend, please contact Deacon Gerry O'Reilly on 024 76 333881. For those unable to attend you can join us on the webcam.

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



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

are now taking place at All Souls

Mass times are 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.



CHRISTMAS CONFESSIONS

Saturday 19th 10.30-11.30am

Monday 21st 10.15-11.00am

Tuesday 22nd 10.15-11.00am

Wednesday 23rd 10.15-11.00am

Thursday 24th 10.15-11.00am

or by appointment: 02476674161 or allsoulscov@gmail.com

If you wish to make your confession before any Mass and if time permits, please ask the priest.

**Please wait for Confession in the seating by the
Sacred Heart chapel**

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.