

Holy Family RC Church Coventry

Parish Priest: Fr Patrick Brennan
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 Priest in Residence (Retired) Fr Bernard Anwyl
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 02476 333128
 Registered as a Charity. Birmingham RC Diocese No: 234216



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B

Saturday	12th Dec	5 00pm		Ints of Dunne, Kerrigan, McDermott McGonagle and Porter Family's
Sunday	13th Dec	10 00 am		Michael McHugh RIP A
Monday	14th Dec	9 15 am		Nora Shaws Ints
Tuesday	15th Dec	9 00 am	Webcam Only	Peter Garnett birthday RIP
Wednesday	16th Dec	9 15 am		Deborah Ormsby
Thursday	17th Dec	9 15 am		Ann Sheehy's ints
Thursday	17th Dec	11.00 am	Requiem Mass (Family Only)	Patricia Ann Hancocks RIP
Friday	18th Dec	9 15 am		Fr Sarves RIP
Saturday	19th Dec	10.00am		People of the Parish
Saturday	19th Dec	5 00pm		Special Int
Sunday	20th Dec	10 00 am		Christopher Quinn RIP 27th A Arthur & Teresa Hawthorne RIP

Confessions at request ask stewards as you arrive.

The parish webcam <https://www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/coventry-holy-family>

Christmas Masses Christmas Eve 5.00pm (Fully Booked) Midnight
 Christmas Day 8 00 am 10 00 am

Masses on these two days MUST be booked beforehand PEOPLE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO JUST TURN UP

Please Pray for all who have died recently,
Patricia Hancocks and Isabella Mary McFarlane

Fr Pat is on twitter @Fr_PatBren and Facebook too I like to post reflections of encouragement there.

Fr Bernard has his own email address:
anwylb2@btinternet.com

"Let us love, since that is what our hearts were made for." Saint Therese of Lisieux.

Many thanks for the kind and generous donations that have come into the parish recently. The Malayalam (Kerala Community) raised from their families £1100 A wonderful effort. There has been further donations of £2000 collected this week. Your kindness during this year is helping the parish greatly.

THANK YOU

Diocesan Levy 2021

Our parish levy for the year to be taken out of the parish account by the diocese is £19,927.70 which means £4,981.93 per quarter. As you can see without chances of fund raising until at least Easter next year and with less in the collections it will be a challenging year financially next year. But pulling together, I am confident we will be fine!

First Reading

Isaiah 61:1-2a,10-11

The Lord's salvation will be made known to the poor and the oppressed.

Responsorial Psalm

Luke 1:46-50,53-54

Mary sings praise to God.

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Paul encourages the Thessalonians to rejoice and pray always.

Gospel Reading

John 1:6-8,19-28

John gives testimony that he is preaching and baptizing in order to prepare for the coming of another.

Christmas Arrangements Please note Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day have to be booked beforehand

What to do about Christmas?



There is now a run up to Christmas, Advent is in full swing, a new liturgical year has started, what will remain for now is face coverings, distancing, sanitising and track and trace. Christmas is not a case of just turning up and expecting a seat. The Masses will be booked before hand so that we know how many will be in attendance. Four Masses

Christmas Eve:	Mass at 5 00pm (FULLY BOOKED) and Midnight
Christmas Day	Mass at 8 00 am and 10 am.

During the weekends that we are back at Church there will be sheets of a4 paper to sign for each Mass that you are attending, with how many, and a contact number (this helps with track and trace) so that numbers can be regulated, this is vital to ensure that we do not have a problem with capacity. I would think 125-30 can fit safely into each of the Masses. Once a person or family arrives, they will be ticked off the list for the Mass, and seated. It will be important to book beforehand. Those who are coming to church when we return will be able to choose which Mass you wish to attend over Christmas eve and Christmas Day. The newsletter will be posted on the deanery website, the parish website and on the webcam site too. People can ring the presbytery to book attendance at Mass. Once we are fully booked people who just turn up may not be able to come inside. It is important to book beforehand. This is because of the pandemic and it makes everything different!

There will be restrictions for Masses over Christmas as there has been for most of this year already. The crib will be on the sanctuary, we can not gather around it as in years past. Carols will be played, but we are encouraged not to sing them as congregations. The webcam is an option for those who are unable to book a place or who feel it would be safer for them to stay at home and participate this year via the webcam. Thank you for your understanding and patience we are all in this together and staying safe is our priority during the pandemic.

Christmas Offering for parish priest. The collection on Christmas eve and Christmas day will be for the this purpose and as you know there will not be a passing of collection plate during Masses. You can give as you arrive or leave church or putting offering though the presbytery door marked for the priests. Thank you!

Alleluia, alleluia! The spirit of the Lord has been given to me. He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor. Alleluia!



The third Sunday of Advent is called “*Gaudete Sunday*” because the Mass for today (in its original Latin text), begins with the opening antiphon: “*Gaudete in Domino semper*” –“*Rejoice in the Lord always.*” To remind ourselves that we are preparing for the very joyful occasion of the birth of Jesus, we light the rose candle in the Advent wreath, and the priest may wear rose vestments. The common theme of the day’s Scripture readings is one of joy and encouragement. The readings urge us to make the preparations required of us as we await the rebirth of Jesus in our hearts and lives. Holy Scripture reminds us that the coming of Jesus, past, present, and future, is the reason for our rejoicing.

We need to bear witness to Christ the Light. Our mission, as brothers and sisters of Christ and members of his Church, is to reflect Christ’s Light to others, just as the moon reflects the light of the sun. It is especially important during the Advent season that we reflect Christ’s sharing love and his unconditional forgiveness through our lives. There are too many people who live in darkness and poverty, and who lack real freedom because of their evil addictions and bad choices. There are others who are deafened and blinded by the cheap attractions of the world. Many others feel lonely, unwanted, rejected, and marginalized. Let us bring the true Light of Christ to illumine the lives of all these brothers and sisters during this Advent season through our sharing love, overflowing mercy, unconditional forgiveness, and humble service. We will be able to accomplish this witnessing mission of radiating Christ’s Light only by repenting of our sins, asking God’s pardon every day, and by renewing our lives through our daily prayers, by frequenting the Sacrament of Reconciliation, by attending and taking part in the Eucharistic celebration, by reading the Bible daily in meditative, prayerful fashion, and by performing the corporal and spiritual works of mercy where we see these are needed.

Sign on a church bulletin board: “Merry Christmas to our Christian friends. Happy Hanukkah to our Jewish friends. And to our atheist friends, good luck. :-)