

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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 Registered as a Charity. Birmingham RC Diocese No: 234216



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B

Saturday	19th Dec	5 00pm		Special Intention
Sunday	20th Dec	10 00 am		Christopher Quinn RIP 27th A Arthur & Teresa Hawthorne RIP
Monday	21st Dec	9 15 am		John Savage RIP A
Tuesday	22nd Dec	9 00 am	Webcam Only	Mary Foster Birthday
Wednesday	23rd Dec	9 15 am		Paula & Keith Taylor 25th Wedding A

Christmas Eve/Christmas Day

Thursday	24th Dec	5.00 pm	FULLY BOOKED	Patrick Noel Long Birthday RIP
Thursday	24th Dec	Midnight	FULLY BOOKED	Boyle & Cheesmond Fam Fr Savres RIP
Friday	25th Dec	8 00 am		Hughie & Mary O'Hara RIP
Friday	25th Dec	10.00 am		Victoria Ennim 80th birthday Paul Stokes RIP 10th A
Saturday	26th Dec	5 00pm	Feast of Holy Family	Evelyn Noone RIP
Sunday	27th Dec	10 00 am	Feast of Holy Family	Maise Hope Ints

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

Christmas Masses Christmas Eve 5.00pm (Fully Booked) Midnight (Fully Booked)
 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

WISHING YOU ALL A HAPPY AND HOLY CHRISTMAS! FROM FR PAT AND FR BERNARD

Please Pray for all who have died recently,
Patricia Hancocks and Deborah Ormsby

Fr Pat is on twitter @Fr_PatBren and Facebook too

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

"Let nothing perturb you, nothing frighten you. All things pass. God does not change. Patience achieves everything." — **Saint Teresa**

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. Thank you also for Christmas cards and presents received. 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

2 Samuel 7:1-5,8b-12,14a,16
 The Lord promises David that he will raise from his descendants a kingdom that will endure forever.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalms 89:2-5,27,29
 A prayer of praise to the Lord for his faithfulness to his covenant.

Second Reading

Romans 16:25-27
 Paul praises God for making his revelation known.

Gospel Reading

Luke 1:26-38
 The angel Gabriel visits Mary to announce the birth of Jesus.

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



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 (Fully Booked)

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 130 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!



Today's readings focus on the circumstances leading up to the first coming of Jesus, which sets the pattern for his coming to us now and at the end of time. The Gospel stresses the key role of Mary in the work of our salvation. The focus of today's liturgy is the Davidic covenant, the promise of a throne that will last forever, which appears in the First reading in the Responsorial Psalm, and in the Gospel, where the angel Gabriel announces to Mary that "the Lord God will give (her son) the throne of David his father." Thus, today's Scripture texts describe God's promise to David and its fulfilment in Jesus, the Son of David. They also tell us that God's preparation for the coming of Jesus was full of surprises. The First reading surprises us by telling of God's promise to David that he would have a long line of royal descendants culminating in a final King, Jesus Christ. God's response to David's wish (to build Him a Temple), is that God will do more for David (build an everlasting dynasty) than David could ever do for God. In the Responsorial Psalm (Ps 89), the

Psalmist recalls all of God's promises, and surprises us by describing God's promise to David and his descendants in terms of a Covenant. Today's Gospel surprises us by telling us that this King would be born to an ordinary virgin, not by means of sexual relationship, but through the Holy Spirit, and that the Son of God, Jesus, would become Incarnate as a descendant of David. This would occur through Joseph, Mary's betrothed husband and the legal father of her son, as Joseph was "of the House of David." The Gospel narrative surprises us also by reminding us that God's promise is best fulfilled not in buildings, or even in great kings like Solomon, but rather in humble souls like Mary, who trusted in God's

"Somewhere, somehow, set things right." On the wall of the museum of the concentration camp at Dachau is a moving photograph of a mother and her little girl being taken to a gas chamber at Auschwitz. The girl, who is walking in front of her mother, does not know where she is going. The mother, who walks behind, does know, but there is nothing, absolutely nothing, the mother can do to stop this tragedy. In her helplessness, she performs the only act of love left to her. She places her hand over her little girl's eyes so that at least she will not have to see the horror which faces her. When people see this picture in the museum, they do not move quickly or easily to the next one. You can feel their emotion, almost hear their cries, "O God, don't let that be all there is. Somewhere, somehow, set things right." — Luke's word to us this day is that God hears those prayers, and that it is into just such situations of hopelessness and helplessness that the power of God is born. It is there that God invests His treasure, lifting up the lowly and filling the hungry with good things — setting things right