



Diocese of Birmingham
www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk
Registered Charity No. 234216

Archdiocese of Birmingham
ST MARY'S THE MOUNT
Roman Catholic Church
Vocationists
WALSALL

www.stmarysthemount.co.uk
Telephone: 01922 622633



Vocationists
www.vocationist.org
Registered Charity No. 1135796

St Mary's The Mount Parish Family Wishes You All A Warm Welcome

Parish Priest: Fr. Salvatore Musella, SDV

Brothers: Nelson, SDV,

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Justin Karakadu, SDV

Community Member: Fr. Roy Kottakkupuram, SDV

Formator & Assistant Priest, Manor Hospital

St. Thomas of Canterbury: Priest in Charge &

RC Chaplain: Fr. Jobin Kollappallil, SDV

Manor Hosp. RC Chaplain: Fr. John Villarete, SDV

Parish Advent Preparation

Does it seem to you that, at this time of year, we all get busier and busier - and further and further away from the true meaning of Advent and Christmas?

The best way to combat this tendency is to adopt or renew Advent traditions in the home. Whether you are single, a busy parent with children, or parents whose children are now adults with their own homes and families, you can celebrate Advent like you are actually anticipating the coming of Christ - which is the whole point. It is a spiritual journey!

So, as we begin the season of Advent, we ask everyone to make three small acts of commitment.....

A practical commitment: Just as you would prepare your homes for a special guest, spend some time, however small, working with other parishioners to prepare our church for the birth of baby Jesus. There are a number of different ways in which you can help and we are happy for you to come along at a time which suits you best - either individually or as a family. Please complete the slip inside the newsletter and return it to one of the priests.

Make a spiritual commitment by making a special effort to spend time in prayer. How wonderful it would be to know that the whole parish was praying the same prayer, at the same time! Let us all try to pray the *Angelus* each day, either alone or as a family. Traditionally, it is prayed three times each day - at 6am, 12noon and 6pm. If it is not possible for you to pray three times, choose whichever time is best for you and try to pray each day during Advent.

(This painting depicts two peasants bowing in a field over a basket of potatoes - pausing, during their busy working day, to say the Angelus.)



A charitable commitment: consider helping those in need by supporting our parish Advent charities. Please take home one of the '*Missio*' charity boxes, which are available this weekend, and support overseas children by helping to provide what they need for school. Whatever you can donate over the next few weeks will be gratefully received. Also, as you leave church today, the church wardens will be distributing coloured labels as part of our Advent appeal to help the homeless people in our local area. Please consider taking a label and purchasing one of the items to make life a little more comfortable for those less fortunate than ourselves.

"ADVENT is a journey towards BETHLEHEM.

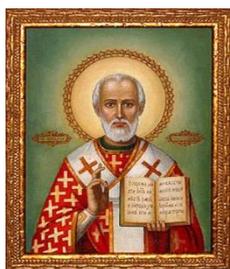
May we LET ourselves be DRAWN by the LIGHT of GOD made MAN."

(Pope Francis)

REMINDERS

- **COLLECTIONS:** Last Sunday - £1337.28. (Standing orders: £766, Offertory & Gift-Aid envelopes: £571.28.) Third World collection: £31.97. The value of your donations is increased when it is gift-aided. Next weekend there will be a second collection for the 'Poor Parishes of the Diocese'. Counting Team this week: E. (Next week: A)
- **Parish Patronal Feast Day - Saturday 8th December:** There will be a special Mass of celebration at 6pm on Saturday 8th December, followed by refreshments in the Parish Centre. We hope the whole parish community will come and join us for these celebrations. We are also looking for some help with preparing and serving refreshments, plus the inevitable tidying up afterwards. Please consider helping with this service; 'many hands make light work'. Please write your details on the sheet at the back of church if you can help.
- **RCIA Programme 2018/2019:** The next session of our Come & See programme will be on **Monday 3rd December at 7:45pm** in the Parish Centre. The topic for this session is '*The Eucharist*'. Everyone is welcome.
- **Memorial Mass:** There will be a Memorial Mass for Brother Nelson's mum on Wednesday 5th December at 7pm. We would like all our parishioners to come and join with Bro. Nelson, to pray with him and support him. There will be refreshments in the Parish Centre after Mass.
- **Mass Times:** Please note that there will be no 10am Mass on Tuesday as there is a funeral service for Stanley Thatcher.
- **Give a Home to Baby Jesus:** If you would like to offer a home to Baby Jesus, for one day during the season of Advent, please write your name on the sheet at the back of church, next to your preferred date.
- **Evening of Adoration & Advent Penitential Service: Friday 21st December from 6:00pm to 9:30pm.** Between 8:30 and 9:30 pm, we are planning a community adoration and would like to arrange praise and worship in different languages. More details will be available in the coming weeks.
- **Advent Charity:** During the season of Advent, we would like our parish to support two different charities. We will distribute mission boxes to families this weekend, so that we can raise money and help to provide the things that overseas children need for school. Secondly, we will make up simple packs of items to support the homeless people in our own local area during the cold winter months. These packs will include warm socks, gloves, a scarf, a warm blanket/throw and some chocolate bars. As you leave Mass this weekend, please take a card from one of the church wardens and purchase the item on the label, returning it to church by 16th December so that the packs can be distributed to those in need. *If you feel that you are able to purchase all 5 items, there is no need to take a label.* (The items need not be expensive; for example, places such as B & M or Wilco sell soft blankets/throws for £5 or less.)
- **RIP:** We pray for the soul of Mr Stanley Thatcher (father of Kim Daniels) who died on 9th November. He will be received into church at 4pm on Monday 3rd December and his funeral service will be at 10am on Tuesday 4th December, followed by burial at Streetly Cemetery at 11:15am. Let us keep his family in our prayers.
- **Memorial Garden:** If you are interested in having a memorial plaque fixed to the garden wall, in memory of a loved one. please add your name to the list at the back of church. We wish to preserve consistency in appearance and we have obtained a cost based on a bulk purchase. The plaque measures 30cms x 15cms x 10mm and is made of polished black granite. The cost will be £50 per plaque, plus £2 for each letter of the inscription (gold lettering). If there is sufficient support, we will ask for an initial deposit of £25 after Christmas; the balance to be paid 3 months later.
- **General Parish Information:** Please see the poster at the back of church, and also on the noticeboard outside church, for general parish information.
- **Evening of Community Carol-singing:** The Vocationist Co-operators are organising an evening of Christmas Carols, with mulled wine and mince pies, on Saturday 15th December, at 7:15pm; cost: £3.50. Sales of tickets are going well but there are still some tickets on sale this weekend. Please bring your friends and family along to enjoy this joyful occasion.
- **Maryvale Court:** There are some vacant flats in Maryvale Court. If you, or anyone you know, is interested, please call 07826849438 for more details.

- **Readers' Rota:** New rotas can be collected from the sacristy this weekend, if you have not already done so.
- **Bidding Prayers:** The new rota is available and can be collected from the sacristy this weekend.
- **Piety Stall:** Please have a look at the items on sale in our Piety Stall, which is located in the church porch. We have Christmas Cards, diaries, Advent Calendars and many other items suitable for special celebrations.
- **Refreshments:** Everyone is invited to join us for refreshments, in the Pastoral Centre on **Thursdays after 10am Mass and on Sundays after 9am Mass.**
- **Walsall Dementia Friendly Project:** Due to the shortage of numbers, this meeting has been cancelled. We hope to arrange an alternative date early in the new year. Apologies to those who have signed the list.
- **Christmas Bazaar- Saturday 1st December:** Many thanks to everyone who supported the Christmas Bazaar in any way. Thanks to Kim Daniels for her organisation, to everyone else who helped to prepare and clear up and to all our parishioners, families and friends who came along to support the event. If you were lucky enough to win a prize in the Grand Draw, please collect it from the sacristy.



➤ **School News:** On December 6th we celebrate the Feast of St. Nicholas. What a fantastic saint for the nursery to choose as their class saint and a great way for them to start their devotion to a saint that they can understand and ENJOY! This next week we will be asking the children how we can be generous with what we have, so that God's love is shared not only in spirit but materially. Let's see what they come up with to support the Parish Advent Appeal. Watch this space- remember we have amazing little people at St. Mary's school. Catherine Amos Head Teacher

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR 2018 CALENDAR

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Saturday 8 th December | Parish Patronal Feast Day – 6pm Mass, followed by refreshments |
| Friday 21 st December | Evening of Adoration – 6pm until 9:30pm, with Mass at 7pm |
| Wednesday 20 th February | 10 th Anniversary of Vocationist Mission in UK - 7pm Mass, followed by refreshments |

Prayer for Vocations

Divine Jesus, Son of the eternal Father and Mary Immaculate, grant many of the faithful true generosity in following your call, and bestow on them the grace of your Holy Spirit to persevere in overcoming all obstacles to their vocations. Give the church in this Diocese and throughout the world many holy priests and fervent religious. Through the intercession of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary, all the Angels, Blessed Justin and all Saints, we humbly ask you to hear our prayers and multiply the ministries by which we may serve one another in faith and love. **Hail Mary.....**

Prayer after Communion

“O my God and my all, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, may your will be done, your love reign, your glory shine always more in me and in everyone as in yourself, O my God and my all.” **Bl. Fr. Justin**

Prayer for Priests – Prayer of St. Theresa of the Child Jesus

O, Jesus, eternal Priest, keep your priests within the shelter of your Sacred Heart, where none may touch them. Keep unstained their anointed hands, which daily touch your Sacred Body. Keep unsullied their lips, daily purpled with your Precious Blood. Keep pure and unearthly their hearts, sealed with the sublime mark of the priesthood.

Let your holy love surround them and shield them from the world's contagion. Bless their labours with abundant fruit and may souls to whom they minister be their joy and consolation here – and in heaven their beautiful and everlasting crown. Amen.

Mary, Queen of Priests: **Pray for us.** Blessed Fr. Justin: **Pray for us.**

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| Saturday 1 st December | 6:00pm | Ch | <i>Private Intention</i> Eileen & Edwin Wisniewski & Bied Family | Angela T Wisniewski |
| Sunday 2 nd First Sunday of Advent | 9:00am 11:00am 7:00pm | Ch Ch Ch | Jaxson Gorton <i>TH</i> , <i>Baptism</i> Moskoula Papadakis <i>RIP</i> Imelda Scott <i>RIP</i> | Family F Hackett Kirby Family |
| Monday 3 rd St. Francis Xavier Priest | 10:00am 4:00pm 6:40pm 7:00pm | MV Ch Ch Ch | Anna & Andy <i>SI</i> Reception of Stanley Thatcher Holy Rosary Stanley Thatcher <i>RIP</i> | M & N Tomkins & Family |
| *Tuesday 4 th | 10:00am 6:40pm 7:00pm | Ch Ch Ch | Funeral Service for Stanley Thatcher <i>RIP</i> Holy Rosary Lisa & Paul Beeton <i>TH</i> | R Williams |
| *Wednesday 5 th St. Birinus Bishop | 9:00am 6:00pm 7:00pm | SCH Ch Ch | Nursery & Reception Adoration for Vocations Mass for Vocations Memorial Mass for Br. Nelson's Mother <i>RIP</i> | Parish |
| Thursday 6 th St. Nicholas Bishop | 10:00am 6:40pm 7:00pm | Ch Ch Ch | Val & Martin Scully <i>WA</i> (60 th) Holy Rosary Maria Ilarde <i>RIP</i> | V & M Scully E Sarto |
| *Friday 7 th St. Ambrose Bishop First Friday | 6:15pm 6:40pm 7:00pm | Ch Ch Ch | Confession Holy Rosary Imelda Scott <i>RIP</i> Joy Vaniyapurackal 5 th <i>DA</i> | SVP Suja & Babu |
| Saturday 8 th Immaculate Conception Of Blessed Virgin Mary | 10:00am 10:30am 11:15am 6:00pm | Ch Ch Ch Ch | Lisa & Paul Beeton <i>TH</i> Adoration & Confession Benediction Imelda Scott <i>RIP</i> | P Power W & M Bubb |
| Sunday 9 th Second Sunday of Advent Bible Sunday | 9:00am 11:00am 7:00pm | Ch Ch Ch | A.T. Abraham <i>RIP</i> Anthony Stout <i>RIP</i> Val & Martin Scully <i>TH</i> Ray & Mary Horton <i>RIP</i> Maria Ilarde <i>RIP</i> | Family M Donolan A Maybury E Sarto |

C=Conversion, RIP=Rest in Peace, DA=Death Anniversary, S=Sick, B=Birthday, TH=Thanksgiving, WB=Well-Being, SI=Special Intention, PC=Parish Centre, H=Healing, WA=Wedding Anniversary, Ch=Church, MV=Maryvale, Sch=School

Let us pray for those who are sick:

Clare Gontarek, Doreen Phipps (Peggy), Anna Morgan, Marie Hornblower, Eileen Moseley, John & Gwen Bush, Judith Dunthorne, Peggy McGill, Patricia Davies, Angela Gonsalves, Mary Gallagher, Margaret Powell, Anne Jennings, Matthew McGill, Dr. Petroc Willey, Lee Chit Wei.

READERS

| Mass | This Weekend | Next Weekend |
|-------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 6pm | Mr M Rose & Mrs J Gribble | Mrs D Powell & Mrs A D'Silva |
| 9am | Mr P Donnellan & Miss M Byers | Mrs L Bacallan & Mr J Nelson |
| 11am | Mr G Yoong & Mrs J Nduwimana | School Mass |
| 7pm | Mrs C Benzigar & Mrs L Darby | Mr J Heavin & Miss A Vincent |