

OUR LADY OF THE SACRED HEART, BULKINGTON AND SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI, BEDWORTH



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Both parishes are part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No. 234216

The Year of the Word - Sunday 13th December 2020 Third Sunday of Advent Gaudete (Joy) Sunday (B)

As you will be aware the current lockdown ended on the 2nd December. We are now in Tier 3. 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'. Singing will not be permitted. Please Note ALL Masses will be live STREAMED. DAILY MASSES: TUESDAY – FRIDAY 9.30AM, Saturday 4.00PM, Sunday 9.30AM and 10.30AM. Public Masses will resume from Wednesday 2nd December. STEWARDS are required.

CHRISTMAS MASSES:

Christmas Eve (Vigil Mass) at 2.00pm <https://2pmvigilmass.eventbrite.com>
Christmas Eve (Vigil Mass) at 4.00pm <https://4pmvigilmass.eventbrite.com>
Christmas Eve Syro Malabar Community (Fr Mathew's Community only) at 5.00pm <https://syromalabarchristmaseve5pm.eventbrite.com/>
Christmas Eve 'Midnight Mass' at 8.00pm <https://8pmmidnightmass.eventbrite.com>
Christmas Day Mass at 9.30am <https://9-30christmasday.eventbrite.com>
Christmas Day Mass at 10.30am <https://10-30amchristmasdaymass.eventbrite.com>

It is ESSENTIAL to book a place for Mass over Christmas as so many people will want to attend but due to Covid it is not possible for all to attend. We are using a booking site called Eventbrite in order for you to book 'tickets' for Mass. Think about which Mass you would like to attend and **look on the parish website from Monday 7th December**. There will be links to Eventbrite – one link for each different Mass. Click on the link, book the number of tickets you need. IMPORTANT- if MORE THAN TWO PEOPLE PER FAMILY are attending Mass, TWO tickets need to be booked (i.e. a whole pew) in order to maintain safe social distancing.

Thank you for booking places for the Masses. We are currently drawing up seating plans to ensure safe social distancing. In order to help us, please could you email olshweston@yahoo.com if you have booked more than one ticket. Please let us know how many people will be attending the Mass and if you are all in one bubble or otherwise. There may be more places available early next week. IF YOU HAVE ALREADY BEEN IN CONTACT WITH ME THERE IS NO NEED TO CONTACT ME AGAIN.

Sat 12th Dec	3.15-3.45pm 4.00pm	Prayerful Exposition. Celebrants' Intentions.	Bulkington
Sun 13th	9.30am 10.30am	David Abell RIP (Sheila). Jim & Audrey Bonsor Anniversary (Liz).	Bulkington
Mon 14th		No Mass.	Bulkington
Tues 15th	9.30am	Reg Thomas RIP (Margaret). Special Intention Fr Zbigniew (Sick) (Aileen). Michael Wright RIP (12th Anniversary)	Bulkington
Wed 16th	9.30am	Marie Arnold – 90th Birthday (Ina).	Bulkington
Thurs 17th	9.30am 4.30pm	Special Intention: Christine Smith (Seamus & Anne). Fr John Dewis RIP 1st Anniversary (Gissane). Sacramental Preparation via Zoom.	Bulkington
Fri 18th	9.30am	End of Term School Mass. Deceased members of O'Donnell Family RIP (M Preedy).	Bulkington
Sat 19th	3.15-3.45pm 4.00pm	Prayerful Exposition. Anne Patricia Spicer RIP (Frank). Martin Jones RIP – Birthday (Gill). Frank Bracken RIP – Month's Mind.	Bulkington
Sun 20th	9.30am	Bill Crawley (Birthday) (Winifred). Nigel Moynihan RIP 2nd Anniversary (Sheila & Anne Marie). For the People of the Parish.	Bulkington

ANNIVERSARIES

Rev Cyril Barlow, Rev John Griffith, Rev Joseph Rowland, Rev Denis Ryan, Rev Michael McKiernan, Rev Peter Kavanagh, Deacon Bryan Salter, Deacon Henry Atkinson, Mgr Bernard Navin, Rev Fergus O'Connell, Rev Daniel O'Connor, Rev Michael O'Meara, Rev John Dewis, Irene Bird, John Bird, Anne Gallagher, Patricia Woodhouse, Sean Brennan, John Whitehurst, Michael Wright, Mary McIlroy, John Batty, Robert Lary, William Chamberlain, Molly O'Donnell, Jack McCullough, Charlie O'Connor, Anne Spicer.

RECENTLY DEAD

Patrick Rafferty, Sr Patricia Wragg RIP.

May they rest in peace. Amen.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RELATIVES, FRIENDS, THOSE IN THE PARISH WHO ARE SICK AND THEIR CARERS - Aileen Glynn, Yvonne Neale, John, Sean & Tammy Jones, Dianah Gillias, Maureen Harrison, Margaret Payne, Carmel, Mr Roe, Julie Friel, Fr David Bazen, Paul Tedds, Mary Evans, Brendan Murnin, Joshua Gallagher, Fr Michael Stack, Ann Magee, Norman Barr, William Walton, Peter Moore, Janet Pittam, Bridie Guilfoyle, Sue Owen, Dale Cox, Joyce Cotterill, Jean Kimber, Lauren Glynn, Baby Florence, Mgr Graham Wilkinson, Fr Gerry Doyle, Tina & Baby, Ann Allsop, Paul Cooper, Rebecca Woodward, Natalie Brett, Wendy and Bryn Williams, Raymond and Nuala Nash, Tony Pittam, Maria Dixon, Margaret Smith, Sr Mary Veronica, Jane Goodyear, Paul Wooding, Joan McKenna, Pat McKenna.

FIRST COMMUNION In November 2019 we began preparations for First Holy Communion with a new group of parish children. Our classes ground to a halt in March with lockdown and the children were unable to make their First Holy Communion as planned in May. We were able to start up again in November, exactly a year on from our initial meeting, but this time on Zoom. Congratulations to all the children who have now completed their preparations. We still don't know when The First Communion Masses will be able to take place so please continue to keep the children in your prayers.

PARISH PRAYER:- HOLY SPIRIT, TURN OUR GOOD INTENTIONS INTO SOMETHING REAL AND ACTIVE AND FRUITFUL AND HELP US ENJOY THE PROCESS.

GIFT AID / CHURCH WEEKLY COLLECTIONS AND OFFERINGS AT THIS TIME NO INCOME IS COMING INTO THE PARISH AT ALL. ESSENTIAL MAINTENANCE AND RUNNING COSTS STILL HAVE TO BE PAID FOR. MAY I ASK YOU TO EITHER POST YOUR ENVELOPES THROUGH THE PRESBYTERY DOOR OR SAVE YOUR OFFERINGS EACH WEEK. ALTERNATIVELY YOU CAN MAKE A STANDING ORDER TO EITHER PARISH. SOME HAVE DONE THIS ALREADY AND I THANK YOU. IF YOU EMAIL ME (michaalgamble1@btinternet.com) I WILL SEND YOU THE PARISH DETAILS SO THAT YOU WILL BE ABLE TO SET THIS UP EASILY WITH YOUR BANK.

SCHOOL NEWS This Sunday is Bambinelli Sunday. Whilst watching Mass via the webcam the children need to have their Baby Jesus crib figures ready for Fr Michael to bless. The Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday) has for many years been the day when the children of Rome bring the figurines of Baby Jesus from their family cribs to St. Peter's Square to be blessed by the Pope during the Angelus. The day is affectionately known as "Bambinelli Sunday." Instituted by St. Pope John Paul II during his Papacy, the tradition has continued and has grown in popularity across the universal Church. Children are invited to wrap the blessed figurines in Christmas wrapping when they return home, and to place them under the tree, to be opened as the first gift of Christmas; thus encouraging young children to make the connection between the gifts they receive on Christmas Day and the greatest gift that any of us can receive, Jesus; and the connection between the Nativity set at home and the local Church where they worship each weekend. The children will email photos of their Bambinelli's to school so they can share them with friends. If you have a Bambinelli send us a photo, admin3502@welearn365.com the children would love to see!
Charlotte Culleton, Principal, St Francis Catholic Academy.

CHRISTMAS SHOE BOXES The first lorry, containing 8542 shoe boxes left Evesham on November 28th and arrived in Oredea, West Romania, on December 3rd. Further trucks have since been loaded up and gone on their way. Despite this year's restrictions, our little group based in Stretton on Dunsmore has managed to produce 2819 boxes, actually 100 more than last year! I have been asked to pass on heartfelt thanks to everyone in the parish who has helped with items for the boxes, knitting of hats, scarves and gloves and financial donations so vital to cover transport costs. We are already looking ahead to next year and know that we are likely to be short of soap, flannels, gloves and mittens. If you are venturing out to the sales, please bear us in mind. Thank you again for your on-going support.

IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT FOR THIS YEAR THERE WILL BE NO FACILITY FOR YOU TO BE ABLE TO LEAVE CHRISTMAS CARDS ANYWHERE IN CHURCH FOR OTHER PEOPLE TO COLLECT. ALL CARDS LEFT BEHIND IN CHURCH WILL BE DESTROYED AS PART OF THE CLEANSING PROCESS OF THE CHURCH. THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING. FR MICHAEL.

HELLO EVERYONE It lovely to see people back at Mass. It was particularly GOOD TO WELCOME John Jones back to Mass after recovering from COVID 19 and being in hospital. He is now making a good recovery. This week also saw to rolling out of the Vaccine for COVID 19 in Coventry. All our prayers have been answered as we go forward with Hope for the future. We know that its going to take a while for everyone to receive the vaccine but if will enable all to live safely and be rid of this terrible virus.

GUIDELINES FOR ATTENDING MASS UP TO 30 PEOPLE. JUST LIKE BEFORE STRICT GUIDELINE OF WEARING A FACE COVERING, SANITISING YOUR HANDS AS YOU ENTER AND LEAVE CHURCH AS WELL AS KEEPING A 2 METRE DISTANCE. TRACK AND TRACE AS BEFORE WILL BE ALSO REQUIRED. IF YOU ARE UNWELL FOR ANY REASON PLEASE STAY AT HOME FOR THE SAKE OF OTHERS. YOU CAN STILL WATCH MASS THROUGH THE LIVE STREAMING. Do continue to give us a wave. If you have any prayer requests please either ring them through to me or email me at michaalgamble1@btinternet.com. If you would like me to ask for prayers please make this clear so that we comply with GDPR regulations. **WE ALWAYS NEED MORE VOLUNTEER STEWARDS PARTICULARLY FOR THE WEEKENDS. IF WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH STEWARDS/CLEANERS WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO OPEN FOR PUBLIC MASS. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER AS A STEWARD DUTIES PLEASE CONTACT ME.**

CHRISTMAS 2020 Christmas is nearly upon us. It will soon be here. The Masses at Christmas this year will be very different, because of the restrictions placed upon us. I ask you to be patient and understanding. We are all doing our best and it has taken a lot of organising. The Christmas card on the website is a Christmas card produced by the children of St Francis School. It sends Blessings and Best Wishes to you all this Christmas as we can't hand a card out to everyone because of the restrictions.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS Once again we are doing the Christmas Flowers of Remembrance this year. You are invited to buy a flower or more than one in memory of a loved one / or ones for Christmas. These flowers will be used to decorate the Church and Altar during the Christmas Season. Like at Easter their names will be entered into a memorial book and will be placed on the Altar during the Christmas Masses. For EACH name you are invited to donate a minimum of £3. Place your money in an envelope and write "Christmas Flowers" on the top along with the name of the person or persons wished to be REMEMBERED underneath. Please place this through the Presbytery door OR GIVE TO FR MICHAEL OR THE SISTERS up until the day BEFORE Christmas Eve at the latest! What better way to remember our loved ones at the Altar during this Christmas period? NEXT WEEKEND 20TH DECEMBER IS THE DEADLINE FOR THIS.

CHRISTMAS MASSES The booking system for the Christmas Masses went live on 7th December by a system called "EVENTBRITE". I can't see any other way to do this If you haven't got access to a computer someone else can book on your behalf. **YOU MUST BOOK A PLACE FOR THE MASS THAT YOU WISH TO ATTEND. YOU WILL SADLY NOT BE ADMITTED IF YOU DON'T BOOK A PLACE. I AM SAD THAT WE HAVE TO DO THIS BUT I HAVE NO OTHER CHOICE. PLEASE COME TO ONLY ONE MASS OVER THE CHRISTMAS PERIOD. IT IS ALSO TIME FOR THE TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS TO THE CLERGY. THANK YOU.** We must keep going and NOT GIVE UP!

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT 20TH DECEMBER 2020 AT THE END OF MASS I WILL BLESS ALL THE BABY JESUS FIGURES FOR YOUR CRIBS AT HOME JUST AS THE POPE DOES IN ROME. THIS WILL ALSO BE ENJOYED BY THOSE WATCHING THROUGH THE WEBCAM AT HOME WHO CAN ALSO HAVE THEIR FIGURES BLESSED VIRTUALLY.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS Please do keep sending your weekly Offerings that can be placed either through the Presbytery door in Bedworth or in Bulkington. The Sisters will make sure I get any Post or Offerings. Alternatively you can make a Direct debit payment by Standing order. If you would like the Bank details please contact me.

CATECHETICAL PREPARATION Zoom sessions for those not in Catholic Schools who are going to receive their First Holy Communion and Confirmation continue this week on Thursday at 4.30 pm.

ST FRANCIS CHURCH, BEDWORTH—AN UPDATE This WEEK work on the Drainage system will begin on 16th December. We are now moving forward. THE WONDERFUL CHURCH ORGAN THAT WE HAVE ACQUIRED FREE OF CHARGE FROM THE GEORGE ELIOT HOSPITAL IS NOW IN BEDWORTH STORED UNTIL ALL THE WORK IS DONE IN THE CANON ROUGHAN ROOM. ANDREW IS VERY HAPPY WITH IT. PLEASE KEEP ST FRANCIS IN YOUR PRAYERS. ST FRANCIS PRAY FOR US.

OUR ADVENT APPEAL DAUGHTERS OF ST FRANCIS DE SALES—KAKAMUS (SOUTH AFRICA) I have agreed with Fr Thomas Varghese, Missionaries of St Francis de Sales that in conjunction with the Daughters of St Francis de Sales we would support each year 5 orphan children in their Orphanage Mission from each parish, (10 in total) at the cost of £120.00 per child per year. Total cost £600 per parish per year as a way of our Mission outreach. If anyone wishes to Sponsor a child personally at £120.00 per child per year please let me or the Sisters know. The donations go straight to their mission through our Sisters. Every penny reaches them. Cheques should be made payable to (The Daughters of St Francis de Sales).

**Do keep safe and well. With our best wishes and prayers,
Fr Michael, Fr Mathew and the Sisters.**

PRAYER TO MARY DURING THE CORONAVIRUS PANADEMIC

O Mary, you shine continuously along our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who at the Cross were near to the pain of Jesus, keeping your faith firm.

You, Salvation of the Roman people, know what we need, and we trust that you will provide for those needs so that, as at Cana of Galilee, joy and celebration may return after this moment of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the will of the Father and to do what Jesus tells us, He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and took up our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.

We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test – and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

Pope Francis



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Mary Mother of Jesus
Help us to reflect on you through this difficult time
We will listen to you as we do in church lead us through this
month safely
Help us all to see our way though help the people who are
suffering greatly
Please keep us all together, please help us find strength and
understanding
Mary Mother of Jesus we Pray to you
Amen

Maizey Tonks Y3

