

Jeremiah 33:14-16

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah:

‘In those days and at that time, I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David, who shall practise honesty and integrity in the land. In those days Judah shall be saved and Israel shall dwell in confidence. And this is the name the city will be called: The-Lord-our-integrity.’

The Common Psalm for Advent

Psalm 24:4-5,8-9,10,14



Lord, make me know your ways.
 Lord, teach me your paths.
 Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: for you are God my saviour.
 The Lord is good and upright.
 He shows the path to those who stray,
 He guides the humble in the right path,
 He teaches his way to the poor.
 His ways are faithfulness and love for those who keep his covenant and law.
 The Lord's friendship is for those who revere him; to them he reveals his covenant.

1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2

May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints.

Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help. *Alleluia!*

Luke 21:25-28,34-36

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations

Next Week: Second Sunday of Advent

Scripture readings: Bar 5:1-9 / Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 / Phil 1:4-6, 8-11 / Lk 3:1-6

If I can give you any advice, I beg you to get closer to the Eucharist and to Jesus... we must pray to Jesus to give us the tenderness of the Eucharist.

St Teresa of Calcutta.

Exposition and Benediction at St Nicholas

- Sunday 1800—1900** Exposition and Evening Prayer
2nd and 4th Sundays of the month
- Monday 1500—1600** Exposition and Rosary
Praying for vocations
- Friday 1930—2000** Exposition
and prayer for the Church
- Saturday 1700—1740** Exposition and Sacrament of Confession



in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand.

‘Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.’

Prayer of Blessing for Advent Candles

Lord God, your Church joyfully awaits the coming of its Saviour, who enlightens our hearts and dispels the darkness of ignorance and sin.

Pour forth your blessings upon us as we light our Advent candles; may their light reflect the splendour of Christ,

who is Lord for ever and ever.

Amen.



Scripture readings from the Jerusalem Bible are published and copyright © 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton, Longman & Todd, Ltd and Doubleday, a division of Random House, Inc, and used by permission of the publishers. Text of the Psalms: Copyright © 1963, The Grail (England). All rights reserved.

The Ordinary of the Mass is found on p200 ff of Laudate.

The settings of, Holy, Memorial Acclamation and Lamb of God for Advent are found on those same pages also.



St Nicholas Catholic Church, Boldmere

Address: 243 Jockey Rd., Boldmere, Sutton Coldfield, B73 5US
Telephone: 0121 354 1763 **Email:** stnicholasrc@btinternet.com
Website: www.stnicholasboldmere.co.uk
Parish Blog: www.stnicholasboldmere.wordpress.com

Parish Priest: Fr Allen Morris **E-mail:** frallenmorris@gmail.com
Parish Safeguarding: Ann Foulds (0121 355 7892) and Mary Rose (0121 354 4730)
 Our Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No. 234216

Boldmere Nativity Parade
 Saturday 15th Dec, 3.30pm
 Dress up as your favourite Nativity character, carry a star, bring a toy sheep or just be yourself.
 Starts at Boldmere Methodist Church, Boldmere Rd, and goes via St Nicholas Church; Wylde Green URC; and ends at St Michael's Church, Church Rd. Maybe bring a lantern or torch.
A short Christmas reading and a carol at each church.
 Everyone is welcome



Spiritual resources for Advent

- Do take home a copy of the parish Keeping Advent 2018 leaflet with its various texts for the Liturgy that can nourish our prayer during Advent and the other practical suggestions there.
- Copies of *Advent Walk with Me* are available in the porch - cost £1.00!
- Advent Calendars are available at all Masses this weekend too.
- This weekend we begin the Year of Luke, and for a year our Sunday Gospels come from there. Read Luke's Gospel on our parish blog! One chapter a day from Dec 1st until Christmas Eve, Dec 24th.



Congratulations to John Garvey who is in training for the ministry of Deacon. This weekend he receives the ministry of Lector (Reader) in one of the necessary liturgical stages on his way to being ordained for service as deacon. Please keep him and his family in your prayers.

Masses Week of 1st Sunday in Advent

S	1	1st Sunday of Advent	1700 1800	Exposition and Sacrament of Confession Tommy Quinlisk RIP (Gill)
Su	2	Psalter Wk 1	0900 1100	For the parish Victims of recent earthquake/Tsunami
M	3	St Francis Xavier	1000*	Decsd family/friends of Dominguez-Persiva family
T	4		1000*	Patrick Devenney & Frank Mullin RIP (D) followed by refreshments
W	5	St Birinus	1000	Robert McWilliams RIP (McW)
Th	6	St Nicholas	1000*	Mass with St Nicholas School Peggy Roberts RIP (B&S)
F	7	St Ambrose	1100 1900*	Exposition and Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick Michael McDermott RD (Wilkinson) Mass followed by 30 mins exposition
S	8	2nd Sunday of Advent	1700 1800	Exposition and Sacrament of Confession Thomas Quinlisk RIP (Gill)
Su	9	Psalter Wk 2	0900 1100 1800	For the parish Maria and Jan Szambir RIP Exposition and Evening Prayer (2nd Sunday)

Morning/Evening Prayer 20 mins before weekday Masses, *as indicated above* *.

Exposition: & Vespers 2nd & 4th Suns, 6-7pm; **& Rosary** Mon at 3pm.

Reconciliation Sat. 1700-1730 (Exposition until 1740) and by arrangement.

Baptism, Matrimony, Anointing of the Sick: by arrangement.

Nourishing prayer at home: livingeucharist.wordpress.com/

Please pray for sick parishioners including Claire Banks; Pat Serafinas; Thomas Stevenson; Peter & Olwyn Foster; Bernie Morton and Fr Neil Bayliss. **Please pray** for Harold Brown and Kay Cooper, whose anniversaries of death are at this time, . **Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, may they rest in peace.** **NB** If you or another parishioner are sick and would like to invite the parish to pray for you, please see Fr Allen, so that the record of your permission now needed under Data Protection legislation can be completed.



St Nicholas Advent Fair
 after each Mass this Sunday

Do come to the Fair after Mass today - and spend a little time relaxing and chatting with other members of the parish - and supporting the stalls!

Profits from the Fair will be sent to support The National Association for People Abused in Childhood (NAPAC), a national charity supporting adult survivors of all types of childhood abuse, including physical, sexual and emotional abuse and neglect..

Thank you to all who have helped prepare and staff the Fair this year!

Parish

Sad news and glad news Bishop Robert Byrne is now not able to confer the Sacrament of Confirmation to parishioners and other pupils from St Nicholas School at the Liturgy on 13th October. He is required for a meeting in London that day. However Bishop Philip Pargeter is able to take his place, and so it will be lovely to welcome him back that evening, and for confirmation to proceed as planned.

Thank you to all who have volunteered their services for the Christmas Services. The Rota is on the board and copies available in the porch.

Thank you for your generous support for the Birmingham Catholic Youth Service last Sunday. £481.49 was raised.

First Communion families. Forms to parents to register their preference for the date of their child's First Communion are available after Mass today.

Travelling Solo lunch All who 'travel solo in life' for whatever reason are warmly invited to meet for pub lunch straight after the 11am Mass on 9th Dec.

Rosary for Vocations. The Rosary group meets in church on Mondays at 3pm to pray for vocations. All welcome.

Scripture group Next meeting **7.30pm, Tues 11 Dec**, in the Benedict Room to read Chapters 7 & 8. All welcome

it is not Advent yet, but...

often people appreciate early notice of the services below

Tues 18 th Dec, 7.30pm	Carols for Christmas.
Thursday 20 th Dec. from 1030 to 12noon from 7 to 8pm	Exposition and Advent Prayer (with chance for Individual Reconciliation). Advent Reconciliation Service (with visiting priests).
Christmas Eve, 24 th Dec 2.30pm	Mass with KS1 children and younger.
6pm	Christmas Eve Mass for KS2 children.
10pm	Mass in the Night.
Christmas Day 25 th Dec 9am and 11am	Christmas Day Mass.
Monday 31 st Dec, 11pm	New Year's Eve Mass.
Tuesday 1st Jan, 12 noon	New Year's Day Mass.

Churches Together.

The next meeting of *Churches Together* is at St Nicholas this coming Wednesday. The first part of the meeting (7.30-8pm) is a brief business meeting, and the second part 8-8.30 is a presentation of our parish - its history and its church). All welcome.

Volunteers are needed to deliver our share of the *Churches Together* Christmas Cards. If you can help, please just take the cards for a road. And who knows, your kindness in delivering a card might bring someone (back) to faith.

Parish Book Clubs meet in the parish house, and all are welcome.

(A) The Daytime Group Next meets at 1030 on Weds 2nd Jan, and the book is *The God who won't let go* by Peter van Breemen, SJ. The book is a prayerful invitation to enter the depths of forgiveness, mercy, compassion and resurrection. **(B) The Night Time Club** Next meets at 8pm on Mon 3 Dec and the book is *Everyone brave is forgiven*. 'A spellbinding novel about three unforgettable individuals thrown together by war, love, and their search for belonging in the ever-changing landscape of WWII London.'

Preparation for Baptism of Infants. The next preparation programme starts on

Sat 19 Jan from 11-12 noon, in the Benedict Room. Please see Fr Allen before hand and complete an application form.

Diocese

The Sower Copies of the Advent edition of this new Diocesan publication are available in the porch. It is a free

ST JOHN PAUL II Multi Academy

Admissions 2020/2021 to schools St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Sutton Coldfield; St Nicholas Catholic Primary School Boldmere; Holy Cross Catholic Primary School Walmley; and Bishop Walsh Catholic Secondary School that form part of the St. John Paul II Multi Academy.

The Board of Directors have published the proposed Admissions Policy and SIF (Supplementary Information Form) to be implemented for the school year 2020/2021. These documents are now available on the individual schools websites for the consultation period.

Please refer to these new policies if you are considering making an application for the 2020/2021 intake in any of the above schools.

Should you want to comment or discuss the proposed policy content please email j.farrell@sjp2.net before 1st February, 2019

magazine. Archbishop Bernard hopes we will find the content relevant, beneficial and of interest. It is possible to provide feedback on our views. Details on how to do this on pages 13 and 14.

Pastoral Administrator (St Paul's School) -Hours: 36.5 plus banked hours. Salary from £19K Further details you can download an application pack from www.stpaulgl.bham.sch.uk Closing date Fri 14 Dec.

Dance the night away at fundraising ball The 115th Annual Fundraising Ball in aid of Father Hudson's Care takes place on 26 January 2019. This year's event raised over

£7,300 for vulnerable children and adults who need support to live independently, and we're hoping next year's Ball will be bigger and better. With a three-course meal, live music and a variety of fundraising activities, it is set to be a great night in aid of a worthy cause. The Ball will take place at the National Conference Centre, Solihull, from 7.30pm - 1am. Tickets cost £40 and are available from fundraising@fatherhudsons.org.uk or by calling 01675 434015.

Aspiring for leadership positions in Catholic schools across the Archdiocese of Birmingham?

Saturday 19th January 2019 8.30am - 3.30pm (no cost for this course). Don Bosco House, Coventry Road, Coleshill,

Applying for a place in Reception at St Nicholas in Sept 2019?

Please hand any forms for signing to Fr Allen at Mass this weekend or next. They will be ready to collect at Mass the Sunday following when you hand them in.

PLEASE hand in ONLY the form for signing, not proof of residence/baptism etc

Parish Meeting 8th December at 1pm for parents applying for place in Catholic primary schools.

A chance to meet for a brief meeting, a cup of coffee and ...

- ◆ discuss the application process
- ◆ hand in form for priest's reference
- ◆ discuss the proposed revised Admission Policy for some of the local Catholic schools

B46 3EA To book course go to <http://www.pfrms.co/2ltp>

St Joseph's Home, Coleshill, offers residential care to older people and those living with dementia in a Catholic setting. Ring 01675 434500 for a chat or to arrange a visit.

Other

Get Crafty Maryvale Community Project are crowd funding for a 'Get Crafty' which will use creative activities to tackle isolation and loneliness for older people and adults with learning disabilities. Details at <https://bit.ly/2TXimCY>

Supporting the homeless. A list of local organisations offering a variety of support to those who are homeless is on

MARYVALE INSTITUTE
INTERNATIONAL CATHOLIC DISTANCE LEARNING COLLEGE

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN PHILOSOPHY AND THE CATHOLIC TRADITION

Degree validated by
The Open University

Scholarship Offer*

Just apply for the degree via the scholarship application for one year of tuition fees (year 1 only)

This scholarship opportunity is open to any BA in Philosophy and the Catholic Tradition applicant.

Scholarship applications are invited until 16.12.2018

Degree commences: 11-13 January 2019 first residential weekend.

"Breaking new ground into the study of philosophers who I knew nothing about."

"Lectures by experts in the field."

BA Philosophy Students - January 2018

BA Philosophy Students - January 2018

Please contact the Administration for an application form at headofadm@maryvale.ac.uk

*Application fee applicable, if successful to fund balance of future Years funding.

Reg Cheryl Ho, 10/16/18

www.maryvale.ac.uk
Tel: +44 (0)121 360 8118
Maryvale Institute, Old Oscott Mill, Birmingham, B44 9AG, United Kingdom

our parish blog <https://bit.ly/2DT86WE>
One group not previously publicised is Birmingham Christmas Shelter. They can be contacted at <https://www.birminghamchristmasshelter.org/>

Friends of the Holy Land (FHL) are holding a Carol Service at Lichfield Cathedral in aid of struggling Christians in the Holy Land on Fri 7 Dec at 7.30pm. Come and support the 'Living Stones' of the Holy Land. Singing will be led by the Cathedral Choir. Tickets £10 (includes programme and light refreshments) available from 01926 512980 or office@friendsoftheholylan.org.uk Olivewood made by Christians in the Holy Land will also be on sale.

Dads' Get Together

Thank you to Mark O'Rourke who, at our last meeting, spoke really powerfully and helpfully about he has learnt about being a Dad from his experience as a teacher and Head of Year at Bishop Walsh. Some lively conversation followed, and some nice food and drink too. The next meeting will include a reflection from Matt Long - date (in January) and topic to be confirmed shortly.



For the sick and those who are for them

A simple and brief monthly service of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, with prayer for the sick and for carers, and the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. Followed by light lunch.

11am on First Fridays (usually). Next service is December 7th

Pray with Pope Francis

The Pope's prayer intention for December is that people involved in the service and transmission of faith, may find, in their dialogue with culture, a language suited to the conditions of the present time.



To find the Pope's other current prayer intentions please visit <http://www.apostleshipofprayer.org/>

I have been asked how parishioners can demonstrate that they have 5 years of weekly practice? If you have been attending regularly in one parish over 5 years, and the priest has not changed in that time, things should be straightforward. If you are regularly away, or if there have been several changes of priest in that time, or if you have moved in from another parish, things are not so clear. It highlights a potential weakness of the policy. **Can the Admission Authority be sure the Admission Criteria can be fairly applied to each family, in the wide variety of circumstances of their lives?**

There has also been discussion about the particular difficulty posed by young people who commonly return to the practice of their faith after the birth of their first child. When they come to apply for a place for that child in their parish primary school they will not be able to point to 5 years of regular practice. This does NOT mean they will NOT be offered a place, but it increases the possibility. The guidance provided to priests does mean that these families will be 'penalised' for the time they spent as a 'resting Catholic'. **Will the 'rule' help the Church to support young parents returning to the practice of their faith?**

Fr. Allen