

**Scripture Group.** The group continues its gentle reading of the *Acts of the Apostles*. New people always welcome. Next meeting is 7.30pm on 20 January, in the Benedict Room- read Chaps 9, 10 and 11 and just come along...

**Getting married?** A reminder that a minimum of six month's notice is required for those who intend to marry in the Catholic Church. Giving 12 months notice, makes it much easier to complete the required marriage preparation course etc.

**Diocese**

**Bishop Walsh:** 6<sup>th</sup> form prospectus in porch.  
**St Joseph's, Colehill,** offers residential

**Pray with Pope Francis**

The Pope's prayer intention for January is that Christians, followers of other religions, and all people of goodwill may promote peace and justice in the world.



To find the Pope's other current prayer intentions please visit [www.pathwaystogod.org/my-prayer-life/praying-pope](http://www.pathwaystogod.org/my-prayer-life/praying-pope)

care to older people and those with dementia in a Catholic setting, (Mass said daily by resident priests). Respite bedrooms are available for those who could benefit from a short stay. Call 01675 434500 for a chat or to visit.

**Parish Drawing Group**

Last summer a few parishioners came together under the leadership of Tony Sawbridge and Geraldine Foster to learn a little about portraiture and take part in a project to help commemorate this January's 75th Anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz. The final artwork will be featured in the national service of Commemoration - to be shown of the BBC on 27 Jan, and at Mass here on the 26 Jan.

People enjoyed the experience so much that the Drawing group is starting up again in February. The plan is to meet on Tuesdays after the post-Mass social - on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month. All Welcome!!

**Other**

**Lifeline for Marriages**

Is your marriage stressed, unloving, cold? Do you want to improve your communication? Have you separated, divorced, or are you thinking of doing so? Do you want to try again? The Retrouvaille programme may be what you need! Info from 0788 729 6983 or [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)

**Applying for 2020 place at St Nicholas School?**



Full details of admission process and requirements are on the school website.

Catholic parents who have attended Mass weekly for 5 years are encouraged to obtain a Certificate of Catholic Practice to support their application.

To request this Certificate please complete the form provided in the porch and return it to Fr Allen after any Sunday Mass.

**Tabor House** is Birmingham's only permanent night shelter, offering shelter and support to people experiencing homelessness. Tabor House operates year-round, providing safety, support, warmth and encouragement to people without the very basics and necessities of life. It is based in Digbeth.

If you can commit to helping on a regular basis, please contact the volunteer coordinator: SharonMcCall@fatherhudsons.org.uk or use the link: <https://bit.ly/36Y0ygR>

**Owning our Faith and Calling**

Do please complete and return this form to Fr Allen to register your interest in *Owning our Faith and Calling*. (Feel free to hand it in in person, post through Presbytery door, or fold and put in the Collection Bags.)

**Registering your interest does not commit you to anything, but will be a great help with our parish planning.**

Name .....

Address .....

Telephone .....

Email .....

Preferred day of week/time(s) for meeting

.....

**In Hospital or going there?**

Catholic Chaplains are appointed to all of the local hospitals.

Patients, and relatives of patients, are urged to make sure that Catholic patients admitted to hospital are registered as Roman Catholic on admission. If they wish to be visited by the Catholic Chaplain, they should ask the ward nurse to arrange this.

Data protection legislation means that **unless this is done** your details will not be passed to the Chaplain.

If you wish to be visited by Fr Allen as well as the hospital chaplain then please let him know. It is very helpful if you can give details of the ward the patient is on.

Many people find it helpful to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick when they experience serious ill health. If you would like to receive the Sacrament, please let Fr Allen know.

**Whole Community Catechesis: Holy Family Sunday**

**1. Listen to the word**

What do you hear in this Sunday's readings that encourages or challenges you?

**2. Look into Your Life**

- **Q4 Children:** How do your parents take care of you? How does God take care of you?
- **Q4 Youth:** What are your ambitions for your life? What do you think God hopes for you?
- **Q4 Adults:** What are the greatest challenges you have faced in your care for others? How has faith helped you in this?



**St Nicholas Catholic Church, Boldmere**

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

**Parish Priest:** Fr Allen Morris **E-mail:** [frallenmorris@gmail.com](mailto: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*

**Parish**

**Teas & Coffees** after Sun morning Masses.

**Preparation for Baptism of Infants**  
The next preparation programme starts on Saturday 11th Jan from 11am-12 noon in the Benedict Room. Please see Fr Allen beforehand for an application form.

**Travelling Solo lunch** All who 'travel solo in life' for whatever reason are invited to join with others after the Sunday 11am Mass for a jolly Sunday lunch at a local pub. *Next lunch: Our Christmastime lunch: Jan 5.*

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

**Book Club.** Next book is *100 poems* by Seamus Heaney. Read the book and come to discuss. The Presbytery, 8pm, 6 January.

**Owning our Faith and Calling**

Thank you to those parishioners who, over the past few weeks, have born witness to the importance of faith in their lives - and thank you to those who have already come forward ready to host small groups in the New Year. More details of these next week.

It really would be a great help if others who are thinking of leading or participating in groups would be so kind as to complete the form on the back page of the newsletter and hand it in this week.

Faith is something that we can take for granted only to find that we have pretty much left it on the back-burner of our lives. It is quite common for people not have really had an opportunity since leaving school to explore what faith means to us. Conversation is one of the principal ways in which we hone and develop our understanding of faith - and learn to live that faith more maturely, appropriately and fruitfully Without this development. This means that very often we truly miss out on what faith has to offer us, and the way of life that it draws us to.

This is a pity, and especially for those who have care and responsibility for others - for example parents and spouses and partners, but most likely all of us in the way we relate to family, friends, work colleagues and neighbours. Life makes real demands on everybody and the Christian is called to live love for

**MASSES AND OTHER LITURGIES Season of Christmas**

<b>Sa</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>Feast of the Holy Family</b> <i>Proper Psalter</i>	1700	Exposition and Sacrament of Confession
			1800	Teresa Bolger RIP (O'Gorman)
<b>Su</b>	<b>29</b>		0900	Eugene McWilliams (Byrne)
			1100	Mary Whelan RIP (Ward)
<b>M</b>	<b>30</b>		1000*	For the parish
			1500	Exposition and Rosary for Vocations
<b>T</b>	<b>31</b>		1000	Decsd family and friends of Jean Lawlor
			2300	For the parish
<b>W</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Mary, The Mother of God</b>	1200	Barry Cummings (Cummings)
<b>Th</b>	<b>2</b>			
<b>F</b>	<b>3</b>			
<b>Sa</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Epiphany</b> <i>Proper Psalter</i>	1700	Exposition and Sacrament of Confession
			1800	Janina and Michael Usowicz RIP (Usowicz)
<b>Su</b>	<b>5</b>		0900	Brian Kerins RIP (Kerins)
			1100	For the parish

**Scripture readings for Mass next Sunday**  
*Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 / Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 / Col 3:12-21 / Mt 2:13-15, 19-23*

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

**Exposition: & Vespers** 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Suns of month, 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:** *Living Eucharist:* <https://livingeucharist.wordpress.com/>. Also [universalis.com](http://universalis.com) or <https://pray-as-you-go.org/>

**Please pray for sick parishioners** including Lyn Hunt; Joan James; Thomas Stevenson; Lea Burke, Peggy Gallagher, Hazel Kemp. **Please pray** for Caon Gerry Burke and Tom Kearney who died recently and Arthur Aston, (funeral 7/1, 1pm); Pauline Venables (Funeral Mass 8/1, 10am), and Tony McCorry (funeral service, 15/1, 1245pm) and for Teresa Keane, Christine O'Reilly, Mary Woods, Eileen Lynch; Anne Byrne; Sean Finnegan, Frank Bates; Jhn Cassera; Audrey Waterson, Mary Smith, Eugene Harder and all whose anniversaries of death are at this time: **Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, may they rest in peace.**

friend and foe alike - this is a real call and a real challenge. A mature faith informs and develops our response to life. It safeguards us amidst all the challenges. As well as being a work and opportunity for us as individuals and as families. It is also these things for us as a parish too. Parishes too can be more or less mature, more or less equipped and ready to take up responsibility for itself and its members - and for the mission it receives from the Lord.

It is important that we function well as a parish - especially at the present time when it is more and more common for one priest to have responsibility for the ministering of sacraments in several parishes. The principal work of a parish is not inward-looking, but how we live in the world, and there bear witness to Christ and his love. At the same time

each community needs to have care for catechesis and administration. Those I have asked do not think our parish is well placed to take on those responsibilities at present.

*Owning our Faith and Calling* provides an opportunity for us to come together in small groups, to help us better gel as a parish, across generations and our other differences and varieties. It helps us explore what Jesus means to us, and how we understand the role of the Church.

The groups meet once a month for about 90 minutes of conversation and reflection. Do please take part - for your own sake, and for the sake of our parish and Church.

There is a link on the front page of our parish website to the materials for the first meeting for those who would like to know more!

Fr. Allen

## Introductory Rites

### Entrance Song

Joy to the world - the Lord has come!  
let earth receive her king,  
let every heart prepare him room  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing!  
Joy to the earth - the saviour reigns!  
let all their songs employ  
while fields and flocks, rocks and hills and plains  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness,  
the wonders of his love,  
the wonders of his love,  
the wonders, wonders of his love.

### Gloria

*Glory to God, (x3) in the highest, and on earth peace,  
peace on earth, peace to people of good will.*

We praise you, we bless you,  
we adore you, we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great glory,  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
O God, almighty Father.  
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us;  
you take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
have mercy on us.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.

## The Liturgy of the Word

### Ecclesiasticus 3:3-7,14-17

The Lord honours the father in his children,  
and upholds the rights of a mother over her sons.  
Whoever respects his father is atoning for his sins,  
he who honours his mother is like someone  
amassing a fortune.  
Whoever respects his father will be happy with  
children of his own,  
he shall be heard on the day when he prays.  
Long life comes to him who honours his father,  
he who sets his mother at ease is showing obedience  
to the Lord.  
My son, support your father in his old age,  
do not grieve him during his life.  
Even if his mind should fail, show him sympathy,  
do not despise him in your health and strength;  
for kindness to a father shall not be forgotten  
but will serve as reparation for your sins.

### Psalm 127(128):1-5 (sung by all)

O blessed are those who fear the Lord  
and walk in his ways!  
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.  
You will be happy and prosper.  
Your wife will be like a fruitful vine  
in the heart of your house;  
your children like shoots of the olive,  
around your table.  
Indeed thus shall be blessed  
the man who fears the Lord.  
May the Lord bless you from Zion  
all the days of your life!

### Colossians 3:12-21

You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you,  
and you should be clothed in sincere compassion,  
in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience.  
Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon  
as a quarrel begins. The Lord has forgiven you; now  
you must do the same. Over all these clothes, to keep  
them together and complete them, put on love. And  
may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because  
it is for this that you were called together as parts of  
one body. Always be thankful.

Let the message of Christ, in all its richness, find a home  
with you. Teach each other, and advise each other, in  
all wisdom. With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms  
and hymns and inspired songs to God; and never say  
or do anything except in the name of the Lord Jesus,  
giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Wives, give way to your husbands, as you should  
in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and treat  
them with gentleness. Children, be obedient to  
your parents always, because that is what will please  
the Lord. Parents, never drive your children to  
resentment or you will make them feel frustrated.

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! The virgin will conceive and give  
birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a  
name which means 'God-is-with-us'. Alleluia!

### Matthew 2:13-15,19-23

After the wise men had left, the angel of the Lord  
appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Get up, take  
the child and his mother with you, and escape into  
Egypt, and stay there until I tell you, because Herod  
intends to search for the child and do away with  
him.' So Joseph got up and, taking the child and his  
mother with him, left that night for Egypt, where he  
stayed until Herod was dead. This was to fulfil what  
the Lord had spoken through the prophet: 'I called  
my son out of Egypt.'

After Herod's death, the angel of the Lord appeared  
in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, 'Get up, take  
the child and his mother with you and go back to  
the land of Israel, for those who wanted to kill the  
child are dead.' So Joseph got up and, taking the  
child and his mother with him, went back to the  
land of Israel. But when he learnt that Archelaus  
had succeeded his father Herod as ruler of Judaea he

was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream  
he left for the region of Galilee. There he settled in a  
town called Nazareth. In this way the words spoken  
through the prophets were to be fulfilled: 'He will be  
called a Nazarene.'

### The Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;  
through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,

*At the following words, up to and including 'and became man', all bow.*  
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,  
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,  
he suffered death and was buried,  
and rose again on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and  
the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.  
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins  
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### The Prayer of the Faithful

*We pray to the Lord.* Through our lives and by our  
prayers, your kingdom come.

## The Liturgy of the Eucharist

### Offertory Song

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,  
but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.  
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,  
and stand by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay  
close by me forever, and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,  
and fit us for heaven, to live with thee there.

### The Eucharistic Prayer

#### Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.  
Heaven and earth are full, are full of your glory.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes, who comes in the name of  
the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

### Memorial Acclamation

Save us, save us, Saviour of the world, for by your  
Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

### Communion Rite

#### Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us. (x2)  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
grant us peace.

### Communion Song

What child is this, who, laid to rest,  
On Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,  
While shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,  
The babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies He in such mean estate,  
Where ox and donkeys are feeding?  
Good Christians, fear, for sinners here  
The silent Word is pleading.  
Nails, spears shall pierce him through,  
the cross he bore for me, for you.  
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,  
the Babe, the Son of Mary.

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,  
Come, peasant, king, to own him.  
The King of kings salvation brings,  
Let loving hearts enthrone him.  
Raise, raise a song on high,  
The virgin sings her lullaby  
Joy, joy for Christ is born,  
The babe, the Son of Mary.

## Concluding Rites

Go, tell it on the mountain  
over the hills and everywhere.  
Go, tell it on the mountain  
that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching  
o'er silent flocks by night,  
behold, throughout the heavens  
there shone a holy light.

The shepherds feared and trembled  
when lo! throughout the Earth  
rang out the angel chorus  
that hailed our Saviour's birth.

Down in a lowly manger  
the humble Christ was born  
and God sent us salvation  
that blessed Christmas morn.

