

**SAINT AUGUSTINE
OF ENGLAND
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

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This Parish is part of Archdiocese of Birmingham
Registered charity No. 234216



Fr Dominic Kavanagh Father Joseph Narikuzhi Deacon Kevin O'Connor

Second Sunday of Advent 5th December 2021

Dear Parishioners,

'Christ is the joy we await. God will bring to completion the work He has begun in us. Our love for one another will help us to be blameless when Christ will come again. Our lives on earth are a preparation for the day when the Lord comes and so we should be full of joy and expectancy.' (Pope Saint John Sunday Missal.)

Father Dominic writes: 'Dear Parishioners, Father Joseph, Deacon Kevin and I, hope that this Season of Advent is bringing you great assurance of God's closeness to you, amid the extra duties and daily tasks. The Communion antiphon of today's Mass encourages us: 'Rise up, stand on the height and see the joy that is coming to you from God. '

Please pray for Mai Gray who is to be baptized into the family of the Church. Your prayers are also asked for William Huckvale and Chloe Felkin who are to be married at St Michael and All Angels on 17th December, Stonehouse, Gloucestershire.

Monsignor Danny McHugh, the diocesan co-ordinator for Ethnic communities invites our newly arrived Parishioners from Hong Kong to a meeting in the Parish Hall on Sunday 5th December at 3pm. **We would like to hold 'Night Fever'** on Saturday 4th December from 6pm-8pm in Church. We would welcome some volunteers to help with this. If you would like to help and require more information, please speak with Juliana Benjamin or with one of the Clergy.

On Saturday 19th December at 2.30pm, Father Andy Franklin at Our Lady of the Wayside invites Parishioners to the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. If you would like to attend, please let Fr Dominic know.

A Penance Service will take place here at St Augustine's on Tuesday 21st December at 7pm. We will be joined by the Clergy and Parishioners of Our Lady of the Wayside.

Thank you for your prayers for our First Holy Communion Candidates who celebrated their Sacrament of Reconciliation last Tuesday. Thank you to our Parents, Mrs Brett and our Teachers for preparing the children for this Sacrament.

As regards the Christmas Masses we are planning to have a 12.30pm; 4pm; and 8pm for 8.30pm on Christmas Eve; and a 9am and 11am Mass on Christmas Day. Please use the Eventbrite booking system on the Parish website to book your place or ask the Stewards for Helen Brookes' telephone number and she will book you a place. We would like to **PTO**

encourage you, especially the elderly, to choose a less busy Mass between Wednesday 22nd December and Saturday 1st January to attend as your Christmas Mass.

You will have heard us mention the 'Synodal Pathway' which from now on we will refer to as 'Walking Together'.

There is some very helpful information on the Diocesan website- www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk – which will keep you up to date with the stage we have reached on our journey.

Bishop Challoner TSA is working in partnership with CEFEL and The Catholic Education Service to deliver National Professional Qualifications (NPQs) for Teachers. We are also offering a new NPQ in Leading Behaviour and Culture. NPQs are currently fully funded for all state maintained schools. Apply here: <https://www.cefel.org.uk/npq/>
Applications close on 17th January 2022 for programmes starting February 2022.

Can you help at the Christmas Masses?: Masses are planned for Christmas Eve at 12:30pm, 4.00pm and 8.00pm and on Christmas day at 9.00am and 11.00am. **These can only go ahead safely if there are sufficient helpers to steward and clean after Mass.** Our present small band of volunteers are unable to cover all Masses as well as their usual Mass commitment. If you can help for 20 minutes after any Christmas Mass please give Father details of the Mass, where you can help or put your name on the list. Extra Mass volunteers would always be welcome to ease the pressure on our long serving volunteers.

All are welcome to join the next online meeting of the Diocesan Climate Group on Tuesday 14 December at 7pm via Zoom. Inspired by COP26 even more parishes and schools across the Archdiocese have signed up to CAFOD's livesimply award, as we look to reduce our carbon footprints. In this webinar, we will ask what decarbonisation actually means and how parishes can support a carbon reduction. Please register here: www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/Event/living-more-simply-this-advent-and-christmas

Friends of the Holy Land would like to thank all parishioners who donated, raising £370.31 for Christians in the Holy Land. Conditions are extremely challenging there currently. Please continue to remember FHL and those we support in your prayers.'

Divine Mercy Prayer Group. 7pm on Monday evenings at Our Lady of the Wayside, Shirley in the St Aidan's Chapel. All welcome.

Olton Friary and the SCJ Community have two vacant positions for Cleaners. Please contact the Parish Office on 0121 706 0505 or Fr Biju if you are interested.

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS AND FESTIVE FOOD BAGS...FRIENDS IN NEED

The SVP Society, St Augustine's, needs your help! We need:

Tins, Chunky Soups, Packet Mash, Toiletries, Cereals, Rice, UHT Milk and Juice, Christmas Puddings and Biscuits, Mince Pies, Crisps, Crackers, Chocolates, Children's selection boxes, Nail Clippers, Tin Openers and Lip Balm.....

Thank you! For more information, please contact: 07568 508271

Exciting opportunities to work within the Archdiocese of Birmingham at the Kenelm Youth Trust at based in Alton, Staffordshire. Competitive salary for paid positions depending on qualifications and experience.

Excellent benefits including good pension, spectacular environment and friendly teams.

For more details visit the recruitment page on our website: [work4KYT - KENELM YOUTH TRUST](http://work4KYT-KENELM YOUTH TRUST)

Or contact Debbie Woodward for an application pack via email Debbie.Woodward@kenelmyouthtrust.org.uk

ARCHDIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM The Catholic Schools Inspectorate would like to invite suitably qualified practising Catholics to join their inspection team in the Archdiocese of Birmingham. Further information from Ben McArdle- b.mcardle@bdes.org.uk Closing date for applications Thursday 16th December 12 noon.

Thank you for your Offertory contributions. 28th November Gift Aid: £125.:53 Loose £777.14 Total £902.97

Mission Appeal last week: £820.92 Second Collection this week: Poor Parishes of the Diocese

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THE SICK OF THE PARISH

Virginia Gregory,	Angela, Eilish,	Tony Duffy	Fr Fred Sheldon	Mary Ryan	William Moran
Roberto Cordora	Kevin Fahy	Sandy Simia	Adam Cole	Esther Brasil	Anne Deary
Trevor Windle	Danny Meadows	John Doyle	Dan Doyle	Kevin McDaid	Sue Hodrien
Patricia Mann	Paul Mann	Cornelius Callanan	Catherine Walton	Damian Poole	John White
Diane Burgess	Kathleen Clark	Kathryn Farmer	Sandra Evans	Roisin Brown	Gillian Jones
Philip Saunders	James Brown	John McCarthy	Kath Reidy	Noreen O'Connor	Mary Johnson
Christopher Edmund Poole		for protection and	peace in the Mbag	Family	Steve Bates
Nicole Plummer	Pat Brogan	Amanda Stellfox	Thelma Cole	Molly Saunders	Eve

Remember that we are never
more than instruments of God:
we must put our hand in His and let Him lead us.

His will is so mysterious. We must say: 'They will be done.'

He will never forget us. He never forgets, even when it seems most that we are forgotten,
we are not forgotten. He will lead us if we trust ourselves to Him.

Recollections of Emmeline Deane, quoted in the Copia Publica of Positio Papers, vol VII, p 2501



Please pray for: Ken Bolton (Requiem Monday 6th December 11am; Reception Sunday 5th December 5pm) and Kathleen Josephine McCabe (Requiem Tuesday 7th December 2pm; Reception Monday 6th December 6pm); Anne O'Grady and Sister Carmel who died recently.

Also, Joseph Marshall, Westley John Taylor, Alexander Joseph McGarry, Dorothy Phillips, Kathleen Hurdman, John West, Robert Wolfe, Malcolm Kelly, Tony Quinn, Raymond John Nicholson, Ernest Edwin Phipps, Maureen Casey, Bob Morgan, Janet Dodman and all with anniversaries at this time

Safe Guarding Representatives are:

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