

*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    Fr Paul Devaney    Deacon Kevin O'Connor**

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B    December 10th 2017**

**Dear Parishioners,**

**'Prepare a way for the Lord!** We prepare each day of our lives for the coming of the Lord. We have to straighten out those things in our behaviour which prevent us from living holy and saintly lives. The new heavens and the new earth where God reigns are what is promised to us and that is why we should always try to be joyful.' (Pope Saint John Sunday Missal.)

**The second of December's** baptismal preparation evenings will take place on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 8pm in the Presbytery. All are welcome.

**Congratulations and many thanks** for your generous support of the Christmas Fayre. It was a very enjoyable afternoon and a delightful festive atmosphere in a nicely decorated hall. The amount raised, which includes CAFOD lunches and coffees and teas, is £3,845.50- a marvellous achievement. This will make a huge difference to many people's lives. Thank you. There are a few raffle prizes to be collected from the Sacristy.

**Congratulations also** to the pupils of Saint Augustine's for the confident and enthusiastic way in which they performed their Nativity Plays. They really conveyed the beauty and holiness of the Christmas story. Thank you also to our Teachers.

**Please note** that we have a Deanery Meeting this Tuesday, so Mass will begin 10 minutes earlier at 9.50am.


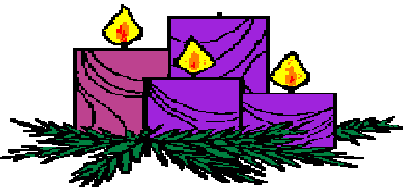
**We are holding a Penance Service** on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm . this will include a shared Liturgy of the Word, an Examination of Conscience and Individual Confessions. Father Gerardo will be helping with Confessions. There is free car parking in the lower level of the Dominion Car Park.

**There is also a Penance Service** at St Thomas More's in Sheldon on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm.

**The times of the Christmas Masses are:** Christmas Eve 4pm; 8pm Carols and Readings followed by Mass at 8.30pm. Bishop Robert will be the leading celebrant at the 8.30pm Mass.

Christmas Day 9am and 11am Masses.

**There is a list in the Sacristy** for our Readers and Special Ministers of Holy Communion to sign, indicating your availability for the Christmas Masses.

<p>9th December Saturday</p>	<p>Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11 2 Peter 3:8-14 Mark 1:1-8 12.30pm Ken &amp; Nora Lancaster-RIP Rose-Birthday Raymond Nicholson-RIP</p>	<p>Confession/Exposition 11.00-12.00 Noon Tea/Coffee available after 12.30pm Mass</p>
<p>10th December SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT</p> 	<p>Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11 2 Peter 3:8-14 Mark 1:1-8 9.00am All People of the Parish 11.00am Sarah Temple-Poorly</p>	<p>Tea/Coffee available after 9.00am and 11.00am Masses</p>
<p>11th December Monday Advent Feria St Damasus</p>	<p>Isaiah 35:1-10 Luke 5:17-26 9.35am The Rosary 10.00am Eilish O'Sullivan- RIP Novena of Masses- Holy Souls</p>	<p>Pre-School 9.30am-12.30pm Journey in faith Meeting after 10am Mass</p>
<p>12th December Tuesday Our Lady of Guadalupe</p>	<p>Isaiah 40:1-11 Matthew 18:12-24 9.25am The Rosary 9.50am Marjorie Birch-RIP Novena of Masses- Holy Souls</p>	<p>Legion of Mary 6.15pm Youth Group 7pm</p>
<p>13th December Wednesday St Lucy</p>	<p>Isaiah 40:25-31 Matthew 11:28-30 9.35am The Rosary 10.00am Pat Murphy-RIP Angela Duffy-Intentions</p>	<p>Parents &amp; Toddlers Group Rainbows 4.30pm-5.30pm Brownies 5.45pm-7.30pm</p>
<p>14th December Thursday St John of the Cross</p>	<p>Isaiah 41:13-20 Matthew 11:11-15 10.30am Requiem Charlie Jones 12.05pm The Rosary 12.30pm Elaine Sarconi-Get Well Maureen Seager -RIP</p>	<p>Pre-School 9.30am-12.30pm Exposition 12.05-12.30pm SVP Meeting 7.00pm Baptism Preparation Evening 8pm-Presbytery</p>
<p>15th December Friday Advent Feria</p>	<p>Isaiah 48:17-19 Matthew 11:16-19 9.35am The Rosary 10.00am Thanksgiving-Pushpa-Rajah Family 6.30pm Patrick &amp; Peggy Smythe RIP &amp; Nora &amp; Ken Lancaster -RIP</p>	<p>Exposition after 10am Mass until 12.30pm Holy Hour 5.15pm-6.15pm Followed by Mass at 6.30pm</p>
<p>16th December Saturday Advent Feria</p>	<p>Isaiah 61:1-2,10-11 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 John 1:6-8,19-28 12.30pm Tom Brennan-RIP Sarah Dennison-RIP Kevin Grant-RIP 3.00pm Wedding Matthew Blake &amp; Fayth Cannon</p>	<p>Confession/Exposition 11.00- 12.00 Noon Tea/Coffee available after 12.30pm Mass</p>
<p>17th December Third Sunday in Advent</p> 	<p>Isaiah 61:1-2,10-11 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 John 1:6-8,19-28 9.00am Jing &amp; Yukyo- Intention 11.00am Susan &amp; Ben Kiernan-RIP</p>	<p>Tea/Coffee after 9am and 11am Masses</p>

Offertory Collection last week: £1440:42 (Gift Aid £412:61 Loose £887:81)

Second collection this weekend: Poor Parishes of the Diocese

**The Catholic Union Of Great Britain- Urgent assistance needed to sign online letter to Secretary of State for Education. The government** may be about to renege on its manifesto commitment to remove the 50 % cap on Catholic admissions to Free Schools. It appears that lobbying and letters to MPs have not worked. The bishops have therefore put an online letter on their website, which all Catholics are asked to consider signing. It takes around 3 minutes. Follow the link: <http://cbcew.org.uk/education-cap> and then follow the two steps.

**FRIENDS OF THE HOLY LAND**-are organising a Carol Concert at Lichfield Cathedral on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm. For details:[www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk/fhl-carol-service](http://www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk/fhl-carol-service)

**CRIB DONATIONS THIS YEAR**- All donations made at our Crib will be distributed between; Father Hudson's Care, Life, and Friends of the Holy Land.

**ABLAZE-2018**- 6<sup>th</sup> January 2018 organised by Sehion Ministries. From 12-5pm at Bethel Convention Centre, Kelvin Way West Bromwich B70 7JW

**DIOCESAN DIRECTORIES**- On sale in the porch. £3.00 each.

Readers this week	Eucharistic Ministers this week
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>SUNDAY</b>
<b>9.00am</b> Michael Keating <i>Don Deneny</i>	<b>9.00am</b> Don & Mary Deneny <i>Joan &amp; Dan Doyle</i>
<b>11.00am</b> Juliana Benjamin Mary Clark	<b>11.00am</b> Helen Brookes <i>Eilish Duffy</i>
<b>Cleaning Rota: for week beginning December 11th for Services 16th/17th December - B</b> Monica Green, Maureen Casey, Bernadette Rourke	
<b>Flowers Rota: – for week beginning December 11th for Services December 16th/17th-Advent no flowers</b>	

**Please remember in your prayers the sick of the Parish**

Jayne Hemming	Brian Jones	Anne White	Joseph Lockington
Clare Farmer	James Farmer	Kathleen McLoughlin	Martha Sheridan
Patricia Jones	Eilish Duffy	Mick Green	Andrew Simpson
Bernadette Day	Patrick Gallagher	Richard Bird	Russell
Christopher Browne	Kate McAvinney	Sarah Maloney	John Balder
Ann Marie Boyd	Kathy Stead	Amando Tenorio	Heath Balder
Maureen McLoughlin	Louisa and Nick	Margaret Kelly	Teresa Farrelley
Joseph Farmer	Peggy Roper	Therese Coulton	Patrick Brogan
Baby Lily Day	Rose Walsh	Aidan, Patrick and Michael O'Donnell	Norman Hart
Martine and Rita McDonnell	Raymond Shenstone	Cornelius Callanan	Doreen Shirley
Sally & Maddy	John Keaney	Glen Hughes	Finbarr Herron
Susanna Gordon	Mark Andrew Sutton	David Nunan	Angela Duffy
Dean	Gavin Jones	Baby Lara Constantinou	Tony Duffy
Suzanne RhodenTench			

## Prayer for the Advent Wreath

Lord, our God, we praise You for Your Son, Jesus Christ, for He is Emmanuel, the Hope of all people.

He is the Wisdom that teaches and guides us.

He is the Saviour of us all.

O Lord,

let your blessing come upon us as we light the first and second (purple) candles of this wreath.

May the wreath and its light be a sign of Christ's promise of salvation.

May He come quickly and not delay.

We ask this in His holy name. Amen.

## Waiting

We light a candle today, a small dim light against a world that often seems forbidding and dark. But we light it because we are a people of hope, a people whose faith is marked by an expectation that we should always be ready for the coming of the Master. The joy and anticipation of this season is captured beautifully in the antiphons of hope from the monastic liturgies:

See! The ruler of the earth shall come; the Lord who will take from us the heavy burden of our exile

The Lord will come soon, will not delay.

The Lord will make the darkest places bright.

We must capture that urgency today in the small flame of our candle. We light the candle because we know that the coming of Christ is tied to our building of the kingdom. Lighting the flame, feeding the hungry, comforting the sick, reconciling the divided, praying for the repentant, greeting the lonely and forgotten . doing all these works hastens His coming.



**Please pray for:** Charlie Jones (Reception, Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December, 6pm; Requiem Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December 10.30am) who died recently. Also Ernest Edwin Phipps, Bob Morgan, Gordon Sutton, James McGettigan, Frank Norton, Mary Eileen Lunn, Hugh Hegarty, Simon Andrew Roche, Timothy O'Shea, Maureen Anne Bernadette Seager, Lilian Powell, Joan Gorman and Renee Goddard whose anniversaries are at this time:

**Safe Guarding Representatives are:** Anne Ryder 0121 705 3067 [anne.ryder@staugustinesoliuhull.org.uk](mailto:anne.ryder@staugustinesoliuhull.org.uk)  
Teresa Cund 0121 733 2143