

**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**

**The Feast of the Holy family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph 26th December 2021**

**Dear Parishioners,**

**'Christ in the human family.** God sets before us the Holy family of Nazareth as the model for all families. The family unit is the basic structure on which human society is built. A good Christian family is a most powerful witness to our world of God's love for us revealed in Christ.' (Pope Saint John Sunday Missal.)

**Father Dominic writes:** 'Dear Parishioners, Father Joseph, Deacon Kevin and I, join with you in joyful praise to God our loving Father for this beautiful Feast of our Saviour's birth. We wish you and all who are dear to you every joyful Blessing and pray that you may all experience the tender and warm embrace of the babe of Bethlehem. We would also like to thank you for your prayers and offerings of Mass, for your cards and gifts and for all the ways in which you joyfully witness to your Faith.

**Archbishop Bernard** has made a Christmas message for you, which is available on the Diocesan website. We are also very pleased to inform you that Midnight Mass is being broadcast from St Chad's Cathedral Birmingham by the BBC at 11.30pm onwards, on Christmas Eve. Archbishop Bernard will be the leading celebrant and preacher.

**Next Friday evening,** New Year's Eve, the 6.30pm Mass will be an anticipated Mass of the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. The Holy Hour, between 5.15pm and 6.15pm will be an occasion to thank God for this last calendar year and to ask Our Lord's abundant blessing for 2022.


**We are pleased to inform** you that the Diocesan Handbook for our 'Walking Together' on the Synodal Journey' is now available on the Parish website. Please take the opportunity to read and reflect on it. We will be arranging two evenings in the second half of January when we will get together to discuss our 'Walking Together', (possibly Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> January.)

There is some helpful information on the Diocesan website. [www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk](http://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk)

**Thank you for your most** generous support of the St Vincent de Paul's appeal for various items to provide for families and individuals in need. You have shown your love in action and this is really appreciated.

**For those associated** with St. Peter's School, you will have been notified of the retirement next summer of Mrs Marie Murphy.

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| <p>25th December<br/><b>SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD</b></p>                                        | <p>Public and Live streamed Mass<br/>Isaiah 62:11-12 Titus 3:4-7 Luke 2:15-20<br/>9.00am Bernadette O'Donnell-Birthday<br/>Anna Varghese-RIP<br/>11.00am Mamie &amp; Pat Owens-RIP<br/>Mini Bushell &amp; Deceased members of Rozwach &amp; Sobieraj Families</p>                                                                           | <p>Church open for Private Prayer<br/>11.45am-12.30pm Mass<br/>Confession 11.45am-12.15pm</p>                                                                                                        |
| <p>26th December<br/><br/><b>SUNDAY</b><br/><br/>FEAST of the HOLY FAMILY of JESUS &amp; MARY and JOSEPH</p> | <p>Ecclesiasticus 3:2-6,12-14 Colossians 3:12-21 Luke 2:41-52<br/>Public and Live streamed Mass<br/>9.00am All People of the Parish<br/>Patrick Gill-RIP<br/>11.00am James Hollywood-RIP &amp; Anne Hollywood-RIP<br/>Eilish, Tony Duffy &amp; Family-Intentions</p>                                                                        | <p>Church open for Private Prayer<br/>10.30am<br/>Confessions 10.30am-10.45am</p>                                                                                                                    |
| <p>27th December Monday<br/><br/><b>FEAST</b><br/>St John</p>                                                | <p>1 John 1:1-4 John 20:2-8<br/>Public and Live streamed Mass<br/>10.00am Kath Clark- Intention</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <p>Church open for Private Prayer<br/>After 10am Mass until 11.30am</p>                                                                                                                              |
| <p>28th December Tuesday<br/><br/><b>FEAST</b><br/>Holy Innocents</p>                                        | <p>1 John 1:5-2:2 Matthew 2:13-18<br/>10.00am Public and Live streamed Mass<br/>Mary Concannon-RIP &amp; Mary Pilley-RIP<br/>Marie &amp; John Buglass-Intention</p>                                                                                                                                                                         | <p>Church open for Private Prayer<br/>After 10am Mass until 11.30</p>                                                                                                                                |
| <p>29th December Wednesday<br/><b>FEAST</b><br/>St Thomas Becket<br/><i>Patron of Clergy</i></p>             | <p>Colossians 1:24-29 Luke 22:24-30 OR Matthew 10:28-33<br/>Public &amp; Live streamed Mass<br/>11.30am Mary &amp; John Edge-RIP<br/>Eddie Cummings-RIP</p>                                                                                                                                                                                 | <p>Private Prayer &amp; Confession<br/>10.45am-11.15am</p>                                                                                                                                           |
| <p>30th December Thursday<br/>Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord</p>                    | <p>1 John 2:12-17 Luke 2:36-40<br/>10.00am Public and Live streamed Mass<br/>Dasan &amp; Tessa-Intentions<br/>Anne Monaco-Intentions</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <p>Church open for Private Prayer<br/>After 10am Mass until 11.30am</p>                                                                                                                              |
| <p>31st December Friday<br/>Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord<br/>St Sylvester</p>   | <p>Public and Live streamed Masses<br/>11.00am Mass of the Angels<br/>Baby Joshua Mikell Dizon<br/><br/>Numbers 6:22-27 Galatians 4:4-7<br/>Luke 2:16-21<br/>6.30pm Evening Mass of the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God<br/>David &amp; Mary Sheridan- RIP<br/>Deceased members of the Healy &amp; Paulger Family &amp; John Walsh-RIP</p> | <p>Holy Hour 5.15pm-6.15pm<br/>Church open for Private Prayer<br/>5.15pm-6.15pm &amp; up until 6.30pm Mass</p>  |
| <p>1st January Saturday</p>                                                                                  | <p>Ecclesiasticus 24:1-2.8-12 Ephesians 1:3-6,15-18 John 1:1-18<br/>Public and Live streamed Mass<br/>12.30pm Living &amp; Deceased Benefactors of St Augustine's Church<br/>Jennifer Cox- RIP</p>                                                                                                                                          | <p>Church open for Private Prayer<br/>11.45am-12.30pm Mass<br/>Confession 11.45am-12.15pm</p>                                                                                                        |
| <p>2nd January<br/>Second Sunday after the Nativity</p>                                                      | <p>Ecclesiasticus 24:1-2.8-12 Ephesians 1:3-6,15-18 John 1:1-18<br/>Public and Live streamed Masses<br/>9.00am All People of The Parish<br/>11.00am Baz Facey-RIP</p>                                                                                                                                                                       | <p>Church open for Private Prayer<br/>10.30am</p>                                                                                                                                                    |

We will hopefully have the opportunity to express our thanks for her giftedness. In the meantime, the Governors are advertising for the position of a Head Teacher for St Peter's. Please see the poster on the noticeboard for full details. The post closes on January 10<sup>th</sup> 2021

Thank you to all who have taken part in Lectio Divina each Wednesday evening. Special thanks to Helen Brookes for enabling the Meetings. The Meetings will recommence on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> January

**SOCIAL WELFARE ADVISOR AGILE WORKING.** Job description for this role available from Gerry Dryden, Human Resources & Communications Director- email [gerry.dryden@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:gerry.dryden@rcaob.org.uk) To fulfil the duties of this role you are likely to have/must have a nursing or social work background and can communicate/empathise with individuals of senior years. Also an understanding of state and local authority benefits.

**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.

**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

**Thank you for your Offertory** contributions. 19th December Gift Aid: £348:79 Loose £418:76 Total £767:55

Voluntary 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection for the people of Afghanistan last weekend: We are sending £5,000:00 to CAFOD on your behalf. Thank you for your generous offerings.

**The Christmas Offerings** are your Christmas gift to your Parish Priest; envelopes are available in the porch.

**Standing Orders** for the month of October £1,801 **Standing Orders** for the month of November £2,264

**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 | John Kavanagh                               | Damian Poole  | John White     |
| Diane Burgess                 | Kathleen Clark  | Kathryn Farmer     | Sandra Evans                                | Roisin Brown  | Gillian Jones  |
| James Brown                   | John McCarthy   | Kath Reidy         | Noreen O'Connor                             | Mary Johnson  | Joanne         |
| Moss Christopher Edmund Poole |                 |                    | for protection and peace in the Mbag Family |               | Eve            |
| Steve Bates                   | Nicole Plummer  | Pat Brogan         | Amanda Stellfox                             | Thelma Cole   | Molly Saunders |
| Catherine Walton              | Roger Cox       |                    |                                             |               |                |

V6. *And is it true? And is it true,  
This most tremendous tale of all,  
Seen in a stained-glass window's hue,  
A baby in an ox's stall?  
The Maker of the stars and sea  
Become a Child on earth for me?*

V7. *And is it true? For if it is,  
No loving fingers tying strings  
Around those tissued fripperies,  
The sweet and silly Christmas things,  
Bath salts and inexpensive scent  
And hideous tie so kindly meant,*

V8. *No love that in a family dwells,  
No carolling in frosty air,  
Nor all the steeple-shaking bells  
Can with this single Truth compare-  
That God was Man in Palestine*

**THE CRIB-** St Francis of Assisi started it all in the 13<sup>th</sup> century in the little town of Greccio 40 miles north of Roman. But first, he had asked the Pope, who thought it was a great idea. So on Christmas Eve, 1223 Fr Francis and Friar John built the first Crib. Legend has it that when he sang the Gospel, at the words ' and they laid him in a manger' he knelt down to meditate on the mystery of the Incarnation- God becoming one of us- and at that moment there appeared in his arms a child surrounded by a brilliant light. From then on, one of the most important parts of Christmas is making the Crib- for our homes and in churches. It is the outward sign of welcoming Jesus into our lives at Christmas time.



**Please pray for:** Baby Yoshua Mikell Dizon-Mass of the Angels, Friday 31<sup>st</sup> December 11am. Mrs Anne O'Grady and Teresa Doherty (Requiem Friday 7<sup>th</sup> January 10am; Reception Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January 6pm) and Eileen Kelly who died recently.

Also, Doreen Mary Essex, Gerard McVeigh, Laurence Anthony Hoefkens, Gerald Reddington, Mary Concannon, Thomas Kennedy, Helen Patricia Bird, Mary Bernadette Pilley, Maureen Ferran, Jacqueline Lemmon, Margaret Taylor Smith, Patrick Joseph Rooney, Thomas Coyle, Kathleen(Kay) Margaret Perry, Francis Gerard Kelly, (Hilda) Ann Hammond, Irene Elizabeth Whitehouse, Alice Devaney, and all with anniversaries at this time

**Safe Guarding Representatives are:**

**Anne Ryder 0121 705 3067**

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**Teresa Cund 0121 733 2143**