

**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

First Sunday of Advent Year B 3rd December 2023

Dear Parishioners, 'Stay awake. Advent is a time of waiting and watching for the second coming of the Lord Jesus. The Holy Spirit is our constant help that we may always be on our guard and remain awake so that we are prepared for the last day. The best preparation is a good life lived in the knowledge that God is our Father and we are the work of his hands.' (Pope Saint John Sunday Missal.)

Father Dominic writes: Father Joseph, Deacon Kevin and I join with you in welcoming this season of Advent, a new liturgical year in which most of the Sunday Gospels come from St Mark.- Year B. This Advent begins a year of prayer, focusing on the 'Our Father' in preparation for the Jubilee Year of 2025.

Your prayers are asked for Serenity Hill who is to be baptised into the family of the Church this Sunday. **The next baptismal** preparation evening will take place on Thursday 7th December from 7.30pm to 9pm. If you wish to attend, please speak with Mrs Mary Clark or one of the Clergy.



We also look forward to our Christmas Fayre which will take place on Saturday 2nd December between 1.30pm-4.00pm and will carry over for the Sunday Masses on 3rd December. Thank you to those who have purchased raffle tickets, brought donations and gifts for the stalls and who have helped in any way. There will be a variety of food, including tasty dishes from England, Hong Kong and India. Do come and support the Fayre. The proceeds will be shared between CAFOD and Aid to the Church in Need.

On Monday evening, December 4th, The St Vincent de Paul Society are providing a Comfort Supper for any elderly person, anyone who lives alone or anyone who would like to come and enjoy a social evening with some home-made food. If you would like to attend please let a member of the SVP know or one of the Clergy.

Thank you for the welcome you gave to members of the diocesan Youth Service last weekend and for your generous contributions to the collection.

ADVENT REFLECTIONS AND BENEDICTION - for three weeks, starting Sunday 3rd December we will have a short Reflection and Benediction after the 11am Mass. We look forward to sharing these periods of Adoration with you.

Please pray for children in year 3 at St Augustine's who will be making their First Confession on Tuesday, 5th December, at 5.30pm in Church. Free car parking has been requested in the lower level of the Dominion Car Park. **MARY'S MEALS** (www.Marysmeals.org.uk feeding children in the world's poorest countries, for £19.15 per school year.) Presents a concert with Lichfield Gospel Choir, 9th December, St Martins the Bull Ring £10 per ticket. See leaflet in porch.

<p>2nd December Saturday</p>	<p>Isaiah 63:16-17,64:1,3-8 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 Mark 13:33-37 Public & Live Streamed Mass 12.30pm Eamonn Priestley-RIP Dennis Kenny-RIP</p>	<p>Holy Hour 11am-12.00pm Confession 11am-12pm Tea/Coffee available after 12.30pm Mass Christmas Fayre 1.30pm—4pm</p>
<p>3rd December FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT Migrants' Day</p> 	<p>Isaiah 63:16-17,64:1,3-8 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 Mark 13:33-37 Public & Live Streamed Masses 9.00am Mervyn-Steele Mortimer-RIP All People of the Parish 11.00am Ted, Mary, Eddie Deery-RIP Zofia Lozinska-RIP</p>	<p>Tea/Coffee available after both Masses Christmas Fayre continues after each Mass</p>
<p>4th December Monday Advent Feria St John Damascene</p>	<p>Isaiah 2:1-5 Matthew 8:5-11 Public and Live streamed Mass 10.00am Margaret Gallagher-RIP Wilma Schilder-RIP</p>	
<p>5th December Tuesday FEAST St Birinus</p>	<p>1 Corinthians 9:16-19,22-23 Matthew 9:35-37 Public and Live streamed Mass 10.00am Founders Day-CWL Margaret Keane-RIP</p>	<p>Parent & Toddlers Group- Parish Hall 9.30am-11.30am</p>
<p>6th December Wednesday Advent Feria St Nicholas</p>	<p>Isaiah 25:6-210 Matthew 15:29-37 Public and Live streamed Masses 11.30am John McGrath-RIP Joan Hammond-RIP</p>	<p>Confessions 10.45-11.15am Lectio Divina' at 7.30pm To join in the Meeting please email Helen Brookes who will forward you the link to join the Meeting. Helen's email: ehb73@yahoo.co.uk</p>
<p>7th December Thursday St Ambrose</p>	<p>Isaiah 26:1-6 Matthew 7:21,24-27 Public & Live streamed Masses 10.00am Kay Shields-RIP 2.00pm Requiem Declan O'Reilly 6.30pm Deceased of the Parish 2023</p>	<p>Baptismal Preparation Evening- Presbytery. 7.30pm-9pm</p>
<p>8th December Friday SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY Patroness of the Archdiocese of Birmingham</p>	<p>Genesis 3:9-15,20 Ephesians 1:3-6,11-12 Luke 1:26-38 Public & Live Streamed Mass 10.00am Mark & Catherine Fallon & Family 6.30pm Victor Sandbrook-RIP</p>	<p>Holy Hour 5.15pm-6.15pm Followed by Mass 6.30pm</p>
<p>9th December Saturday St Juan Diego</p>	<p>Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11 2 Peter 3:8-14 Mark 1:1-8 Public & Live Streamed Mass 12.30pm John Noone-RIP John Ownsworth-RIP</p>	<p>Holy Hour 11am-12.00pm Confessions 11am-12.00pm</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 Public & Live Streamed Masses 9.00am Julie Hanley-RIP All People of the Parish 11.00am Susan & Ben McKiernan-RIP Holy Souls-Novena of Masses</p>	<p>Tea/Coffee available after both Masses</p>

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE-Patron Saint of the unborn child- Mass to celebrate on Tuesday 12th December 12.15pm St Chads Cathedral. Archbishop Bernard to officiate at Service.

Safeguarding Sunday is an awareness-raising campaign organised by Christian Safeguarding Charity Thirtyone:eight. In doing this we will be joining thousands of other churches across the UK to share this message and demonstrate unity. We believe that safeguarding is an outworking of our faith in a loving and just God – the God who calls us to speak up on behalf of those who cannot speak for themselves and to defend the rights of the vulnerable (Proverbs 31:8). Please join us in praying for all those who work to ensure our communities and churches are safe for all. The link to Safeguarding on the Archdiocesan website is www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/Pages/FAQs/Category/safeguarding

ST AUGUSTINE'S SVP 'FRIENDS IN NEED CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2023'....Thank you for all your generosity so far this year. Please can you help us once more? (The following can be delivered to the church porch): Chocolates, Christmas puddings, UHT Fruit juice, UHT milk, Tinned fruit, Selection boxes, Tea, Coffee, Biscuits for Cheese, Tinned meat meals, tinned veg, Biscuits, Ladies' toiletry Sets, Men's toiletry sets. Also gifts for 2-year-old boy, 6-year-old girl, 9 year old boy, and 12 year old boy. Further details: Libby on 07568 508271.Thank you.

Advent Preparation Prayer Reflection Evenings: the Prayer & Life Workshop Circle of Prayer group will be leading a prayer reflection event on the Thursdays prior to Christmas; 7th December. 14th December 21st December in the Blue Meeting Room. We would love you to join us as we prepare for the coming of Our Lord and Saviour.

Inspired by conversations with Jewish and Muslim friends, we are organising -on behalf of the RC church in Birmingham, Columbans and Focolare- an **Interfaith Vigil for Peace** which will be held at **St Anne's Roman Catholic Church in Digbeth (B12 0PB)** on **Thursday 7th December 2023, from 7 pm**. It'll be a moment of witnessing together as people of different faiths calling for an end to the violence in the Middle East and beyond. It will consist of readings of peace from diverse faiths, silence and symbols. It is not a church service. There will be refreshments afterwards.

First 5 Saturday devotion : St George and St Therese A devotion recommended by Our Lady of Fatima Confession 9:15 Rosary 9:30 Mass 10am See leaflet in porch for more details.

Offertory Collection: Gift Aid:£135:50 Loose :£945:84 Total:£1,079:34 Second Collection last weekend; Kenelm Youth Trust:£842:35 Second Collection next week: Poor Parishes

Christmas party at Scanlons Club on 9th December. £25 per ticket to include pre lunch drink and 3 course lunch. Entertainment by Bob Brolly MBE. Arrival at 1pm, lunch is served at 2pm Contact Anita O'Sullivan - email - Anita@josstructures.com tel - 07811483049

READERS

Eucharistic Ministers

Saturday 2 nd Dec	12.30pm T Cund	Sunday 3 rd December	9am	Sunday 3 rd December	11am
Saturday 9 th Dec	12.30pm ???	M Hallissey		B Ngala	
Saturday 16 th Dec	12.30pm T Duffy				
Sunday 3 rd Dec	9am Finbar Joe Cormac	Sunday 10 th December	9am	Sunday 10 th December	11am
Sunday 3 rd Dec	11am H Cettler	D. Nettikkadan		A Kelly	
Sunday 10 th Dec	9am C Ramsey	Sunday 17 th December	9am	Sunday 17 th December	11am
Sunday 10 th Dec	11am J Benjamin	J Powers		A Keating	
Sunday 17 th Dec	9am M Coburn	Sunday 24 th December	9am	Sunday 24 th December	11am
Sunday 17 th Dec	11am C Hodrien	M Coburn		E Duffy	

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THE SICK OF THE PARISH

Roberto Cordora Kevin Fahy Sandy Simia Adam Cole Anne Deary
Trevor Windle Danny Meadows Eileen Doyle Cornelius Callanan Damian Poole Kathryn Farmer
Sandra Evans Catherine Walton Harry Conlon Eileen Nolan James Brown John McCarthy
Kath Reidy Mary Johnson Savio Baretto Christopher Edmund Poole Eve
Roger Cox Mary Ryan Liam Lewis Nicole Plummer Pat Brogan Thelma Cole Molly
Saunders Roger Cox Mike Sassano Rosemary Knowles Eilish, Tony & Angela Duffy
Angela Hyland Mary & Amanda Helen Brookes baby Saiorse Davies

First Sunday of Advent

Blessed God,

You will come when we do not expect you.

Help us to welcome you now

In one another

To reach out

To our sisters and brothers

In need of care and support

And in this way

May we be found ready

When you come again in glory. Amen



Please pray for: Lorry Chute, Bob Fogarty, Declan O'Reilly, (Requiem Thursday 7th December, 2pm; Reception Wednesday 6th December 6pm) John Thomas Elliott (Robin Hood, Friday 8th December 10.30am), Kiera Alexis Devine (Requiem Thursday 21st December 10am), Father Sean Turley, Jack Brosnan who died recently.

Also, Patricia Bridget Banks, Michael Murphy, Zofia Lozinski, Catherine Newman, David Barrett, Joseph Marshall, Westley John Taylor, Alexander Joseph MGarry, Dorothy Phillips, Kathleen Hurdman, John West, Robert Wolfe, Malcolm Kelly, Tony Quinn, Raymond John Nicholson and all with anniversaries at this time.

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese's policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are Anne Ryder and Teresa Cund. They can be contacted at: sg.staugustine.solihull@rcaob.org.uk or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concerns.

Retrouvaille – Do you need in your marriage? Retrouvaille has helped many couples find new hope, nourishment and growth in their marriages. If you want to uncover or reawaken the love, trust and commitment that brought you together and work through difficult times in your marriage contact Retrouvaille confidential for more information about our 2024 programmes. There is no group therapy or group work. Our next programme commences with a Virtual weekend on 8 - 11 February 2024 or there is a Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 14-16 June 2024. Call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443, email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk