

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 in Advent Year A 7th December 2025

Father Dominic writes: 'Prepare a way for the Lord! We prepare ourselves for the coming of Christ through repentance. We need to change the pattern of our lives in order to be ready when indeed he does come. In the next few weeks, we must straighten out our lives so that the Lord will have no obstacle in his path.' (Pope Saint John Sunday Missal.)

Father Joseph, Deacon Kevin and I, pray that the words of today's Entrance Antiphon may echo in your hearts: 'O people of Zion, behold the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of His voice heard in the joy of your heart.'

Please pray for Matilda Kaminski, Orla Rose Moseley and Hannah Woolstenhulme, who are to be baptised into the family of the Church this weekend. Please also pray for Luke Stephen Bancroft who is to be baptised, confirmed and received into Full Communion, on Friday 12th December during the 6.30pm Mass. The next baptismal preparation evening will take place on Thursday 11th December from 7.30pm, -9.00pm in the Presbytery. If you wish to attend, please speak with Mrs Mary Clark or one of the Clergy. All are welcome.

This weekend we are holding our Christmas Fayre. Thank you to all who are supporting the Fayre in any way, for the gifts you have brought, for the donations you have made, for the tickets you have purchased, for the food you have prepared. We do hope that you will be able to join us this Saturday afternoon and after the two Sunday Masses. Proceeds are for CAFOD and for Aid to the Church in Need.

This weekend some of the Youth Leaders from the St Carlo Acutis Youth Group are offering us some words of encouragement in supporting our young Parishioners.

We remember in our prayers our Parishioners from Hong Kong and their families in the aftermath of the devastating fire at an apartment complex in the city's Tai Po district. Monsignor Danny will be celebrating a Mass for the deceased on Saturday 13th December at 4.00pm

Archbishop Bernard invites you to a Mass of Thanksgiving for this Jubilee Year on Monday 8th December at 12.15pm at St Chad's Cathedral in Birmingham. If you would like to attend, please let Mr Paul Northam know via email: paul.notham@rcaob.org.uk If you are unable to attend please consider attending the Diocesan closing Mass for the Jubilee Year on Sunday 28th December at 11.30am with Bishop David Evans, again at St Chad's Cathedral.

Each Wednesday evening 'Lectio Divina' (the prayerful reflection on Scripture) takes place by zoom between 7.30pm-8.15pm. You are very welcome to participate. Email staugustine.solihull@rcaob.org.uk and we will provide you with a link. Each Thursday evening a prayer Meeting in the blue room of the Parish Hall 7pm-8pm. You are welcome to come along.

Next Saturday, 13th December, we are holding a Carol Concert, a festival of nine readings and carols, at 7pm in Church. All are welcome. We have requested free car parking in the lower level of the Dominion Car Park. Congratulations to our year 3 pupils of Saint Augustine's who celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time last Thursday evening.

Do please keep our Schools in your prayers as the pupils and teachers prepare for the Christmas Nativity Plays. Key Stage 2 of Saint Augustine's will be performing their Nativity Play here in Church on Wednesday 17th December at 6.30pm. Again, free car-parking in the lower level of the Dominion Car Park has been requested.

On Tuesday 16th December, we have an **Advent Penance Service** here in St Augustine's Church at 7pm. We have requested free car parking in the lower level of the Dominion Car Park for the duration of the Service. Offertory Collection last weekend: Gift Aid: £186.00 loose £1,1031.31 Total: £1,217:13. This weekend Second Collection Poor Parishes of the Diocese

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THE SICK OF THE PARISH

Roberto Cordora	Kevin Fahy	Sandy Simia	Adam Cole	Anne Deary	Lali Ratnaraja
Daniel Meadows	Kevin McDaid	Jonathan Williams	Michael	Julia. a Benjamin	Nora Shearin
Patricia Mann	Cornelius Callanan	John Kavanagh	Damian Poole	Kathryn Farmer	Sandra Evans
Catherine Walton	Harry Conlon	Eileen Nolan	Paulina Samathar	Rita Titchmarsh	Helen Brookes
James Brown	John McCarthy	Mary Johnson	Savio Baretto	Roger Cox	Fr Gerard Kelly
Christopher Edmund Poole		Liam Lewis	Joseph Wong	Briege Williams	Angela Hyland
Nicole Plummer	Pat Brogan	Molly Saunders	Mike Sassano	Mary & Amanda	Aoife Cook
Rosemary Knowles	Tony & Eilish Duffy	Breda Fleming	Lilian	Andrea Cadman	Mary Philpott
Father Michael White	Benjamin Wort	Callum Graham	Michael Leyland	Wilson Cotton	Angela Keating
Bridget McNamara	Ellen Gilmore	Ian Sanchez	Chris Docker	Eve	
Michael, Patrick, Aidan and Anne O'Donnell	Mrs. Bernie McCann	Bethany Tidyman	Jeanette and Robert Walton		

READERS	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS
Sat 6 th Dec 12.30pm Bernard	Saturday 6 th December	Sunday 7 th December 9am
Sat 13 th Dec 12.30pm T Duffy	12.30pm R&J Wong	M Hallissey/ J Sica
Sunday 7 th Dec 9am C Ramsey	Saturday 13 th December	Sunday 7 th December 11am B Ngala
Sunday 7 th Dec 11am H Cettler	12.30pm R Wong/A Kelly	Sunday 14 th December 9am
Sunday 14 th Dec 9am M Pearsall		M Coburn/G Sica
Sunday 14 th Dec 11am R Noronha		Sunday 14 th December 11am
		E Duffy

SVP REQUESTS: Thank you so much to all who have donated items requested for men in need- they have been gratefully received. Still required: tee-shirts, jogging bottoms and hoodies(sizes S,M,L only) Brand-new underwear/socks. Also, trainers sizes 8-11(41-44). Toiletries for male and females and nonperishable food. Please note WE ARE UNABLE TO ACCEPT ITEMS OTHER THAN THOSE ABOVE. With our appreciation-SVP St Augustine's: 07568 508271 **CHRISTMAS COMFORT LUNCH 11th DECEMBER, 12- 2pm**



Would you like to join us at St Augustine's Comfort Lunch, with a delicious hot succulent roast, Christmas desserts and bottomless hot drinks? Would you like to meet new friends and enjoy some warm, happy company? We would love to see you! To book your place, ring the SVP via Libby on: 07568 508271

'Bereavement Group - Upcoming dates-'Sacred Heart & Holy Souls Meeting Room. Wednesdays 10:45am 2025: 10th December; **2026:** Wed 14th January, 11th February, 11th March; 8th April, 13th May, 10th June, 8th July Supporting you in 'Bereavement'. **Meditation Group** - Upcoming dates" Sacred Heart & Holy Souls Parish Meeting Room. Mondays 1pm; 8th December; 12th & 26th January; 9th & 23rd February; 9th & 23rd March; 13th & 27th April; 11th & 25th May; 8th & 22nd June; 6th July A Guide to 'Meditation' 'Meditation' is a way of 'being' rather than a way of 'thinking'. It is about becoming still. It helps us to become more loving people in our relationships. It takes our mind off ourselves. & we see people as God sees them. Do come along and see for yourself.

Sock and Choc Appeal: We are extremely grateful for the donations to date. They have been passed on to those in need, who are delighted. We continue our appeal throughout Advent. The SVP in conjunction with Be Kind are asking for donations of new socks and chocolate treats (mostly for men) for Birmingham Christmas Shelter and our local homeless outreach team. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

For news and events around the Archdiocese please visit the diocesan website: www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk

Fr Andrew is hoping to organise a pilgrimage to Fatima next year, 11th to 15th September 2026. Fatima is a place where many have found comfort, healing and renewed faith, and we would love to see whether there is interest in forming a group. The estimated cost is around £1000 per person. We need a minimum of 20 to make it viable, the more we get, the more the price reduces. If this is something you may feel drawn to, please email foxvinedesigns@gmail.com to express your interest.

6th December Saturday	Isaiah 11:1-10 Romans 15:4-9 Matthew 3:1-12 Public & Live streamed Mass 12.30pm John Noone-RIP Holy Souls-Novena of Masses	Holy Hour 11am-12.00pm Confessions 11am-12.00pm Tea/Coffee available after Mass Christmas Fayre 1.30pm-4.00pm
7th December SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT 	Isaiah 11:1-10 Romans 15:4-9 Matthew 3:1-12 Public & Live streamed Masses 9.00am All People of the Parish 11.00am Father Ron Coslett-RIP John Feeney-RIP	Tea/Coffee available after both Masses Christmas Fayre-Continues after both Masses
8th December Monday SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY 16 th Anniversary of the Installation of His Grace the Archbishop	Genesis 3:9-15,20 Ephesians 1:3-6,11-12 Luke 1:26-38 Public and Live streamed Mass 9.30am Thomas Desmond Collins-RIP Julie Collins-Intention	
9th December Tuesday Advent Feria St Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin	Isaiah 40:1-11 Matthew 18:12-14 Public and Live streamed Mass 10.00am Philip & Mary Crossley-RIP Rose Nettikadan-18 th Birthday	Toddlers' Group 9.30am-11.30am
10th December Wednesday Advent Feria St Edmund Gennings/ Our Lady of Loreto	Isaiah 40:25-31 Matthew 11:28-30 Public and Live streamed Mass 12.00pm Requiem Phillip Austin Walsh May Fagan-RIP	Confession 11.15am-11.45am Lectio Divina 7.30pm-8.15pm staugustine.solihull@rcaob.org.uk
11th December Thursday Advent Feria St Damasus 1	Isaiah 41:13-20 Matthew 11:11-15 Public & Live streamed Mass 12.00pm Marie Adkins-Birthday 6.30pm Deceased Members of the Parish 2025	Prayer Meeting -blue room of the Parish Hall, between 7.00pm-8.00pm All are welcome
12th December Friday Advent Feria Our lady of Guadalupe	Isaiah 48:17-19 Matthew 11:16-19 Public & Live streamed Masses 10.00am Paul Bowen-RIP 6.30pm Martha Sheriden-RIP	Holy Hour & Exposition 5.15pm- 6.15pm Followed by Mass 6.30pm
13th December Saturday St Lucy	Isaiah 35:1-6,10 James 5:7-10 Matthew 11:2-11 Public & Live streamed Mass 12.30pm Ben & Susan McKiernan-RIP John McCaffrey-RIP	Holy Hour 11am-12.00pm Confessions 11am-12.00pm Tea/Coffee available after Mass
14th December Third Sunday of Advent 	Isaiah 35:1-6,10 James 5:7-10 Matthew 11:2-11 Public & Live streamed Masses 9.00am All People of the Parish Julie Hanly-RIP 11.00am Father Fred Sheldon-RIP Current & Deceased members of SVP	Tea/Coffee available after both Masses

Second Week of Advent

When John the Baptizer made his appearance as a preacher in the desert of Judea, this was his them: Reform your lives. The reign of God is at hand!" Mt. 3:1 Second Sunday of Advent O Jesus, in an empty desert your prophet John proclaimed: God is here, at your side. God has come to bring about a kingdom where injustice and suffering will be no more, where tears will be wiped away, and where those who turn to God will feast at a banquet.

"Turn now, your God is standing at your side. Reform your lives, God's kingdom is at hand." In an empty desert John said these things.

Give me faith like John's, O Lord, strong enough to believe even in a desert that you and your kingdom are no farther from me than my hand. Make my heart strong like his, not swayed by trials or snared by false pleasures. Give me courage to be faithful until your promises are fulfilled.

**O King of all nations, Jesus Christ,
only joy of every heart,
come and save your people.**



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Please pray for: Margaret Byrne (known as Greta) Requiem Mass at Holy Souls Church on Monday 15th December at 11.30 followed by burial at Robin Hood Cemetery, Barbara Bolton (Requiem Friday 19th December, 11.30am; Reception Wednesday 18th December, 6pm) Joy Smith, Sister Stanislaus S.D., Anthony Herron (Funeral Our Lady of Lourdes, December 16th, 10.30am), Mary Rita Johnston, (Yardley Crematorium), Antonio Albini, Mary Nichol, Seamus Manley, Sheila Griffin, Phillip Austin Walsh (Requiem Wednesday 10th December 12.00pm; Reception Tuesday 9th December 6pm), Robin Easterby, John Pears, Donald Platt and Anne Weir who died recently.

Also, Dorothy Phillips, Kathleen Hurdman, John West, Robert Wolfe, Malcolm Kelly, Tony Quinn, Raymond John Nicholson Margaret Anne Byrne, Ernest Edwin Phipps, Maureen Casey, Gervaise McMahon, Bob Morgan, Janet Dodman, Gordon Sutton, James McGettigan, Frank Norton, Julie Margaret Hanly, Margaret Kelly, Stephano Park, Bernadette Carol Ann Carbery, 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 Susan Wakeham. 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.

This Church live streams Mass and other events. Please see notices in Church for more details.

St Augustine's Catholic Primary School Applications are now open for Reception 2026 places (children born between Sept 2021 – Aug 2022) and Nursery 2026 places (children born between Sept 2022-Aug 2023).

Applications for Reception should be made directly to Solihull Council <https://www.solihull.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/starting-primary-or-secondary-school> Application forms for Nursery can be found on the school website <https://www.st-augustines.solihull.sch.uk/admissions> and should be made directly to the school either in person or by emailing the school office 85office@st-augustines.solihull.sch.uk. St Augustine's School Nursery, from Sept 2026 will offer a full time (8:50am – 2:50pm) provision, term time only. Additional fees will apply to stay in school until 3:20pm. The Advent Walk With Me booklets and Calendars are available in both porches.