

**SAINT AUGUSTINE
OF ENGLAND
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

1 Herbert Road, Solihull, B91 3QE
0121 705 0228

www.staugustinesolihull.org.uk
staugustine.solihull@rcaob.org.uk

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



Fr Dominic Kavanagh Father Joseph Narikuzhi Deacon Kevin O'Connor

Fourth Sunday of Advent Year B 24th December 2023

Dear Parishioners, 'Mary, you have won God's favour. God is forever faithful to His promises. From the time of David right up to the birth of Jesus there is no doubting that God is with his people. That which is hidden for endless ages is revealed in Jesus Christ who is the Son of the Virgin Mary. (Pope Saint John Sunday Missal.)

Father Dominic writes: Father Joseph, Deacon Kevin and I, so look forward to celebrating with you the Feast of our Saviour's birth. We express our gratitude for all your support for the life, worship and activity of our Parish. We have much for which to thank God over the last months but also more recently, not least the support for the Christmas Fayre, the School Nativity plays and St Augustine's Community Drop-in Café.

As a result of those of you who Gift Aid your Sunday offerings, we have received a total of £9,002:53p (£7,007.53p from Gift Aid and £1,995:00 in loose coinage.) Thank you for your generosity.

Your offering on Christmas Day is your traditional gift to the Parish clergy. We hope that our Teachers, Parents, Governors and Pupils have a very blessed and restful Christmas holiday.

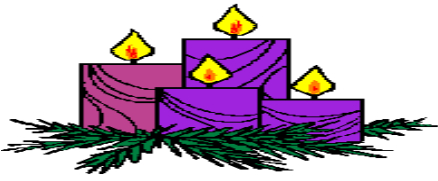


On St Stephen's Day we will celebrate with our Altar Servers their patron's Feast Day. We congratulate and thank them for their Ministry, including those who have served for 10 years or more. Mass is at 10am.

At midday on St Stephen's Day, Mass will be celebrated for the Albanian Community by an Albanian priest. He has recently been appointed by the Bishops' Conference in Albania to serve as Chaplain for the Albanian Community in various regions of England.

Please note that the Christian Unity Service during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity will take place here at St Augustine's on Sunday 20th January 2024 at 5pm. All are welcome.

We hope that the next baptismal preparation evening will take place on Thursday 18th January at 7.30pm in the Presbytery. It will last until 9.00pm. If you wish to attend, please give your name to Mrs Mary Clark or to one of the Clergy.

The Columban Fathers have provided us with Calendars for 2024, which are freely available in both porches.

<p>23rd December Saturday</p> <p>O Emmanuel (God-With-Us)</p>	<p>2 Samuel 7:1-5,8-12,14,16 Luke 1:26-38</p> <p>Public & Live Streamed Mass</p> <p>12.30pm Margaret Carroll-Intention Charlie Jones-RIP</p>	<p>Holy Hour 10.45am-12.00pm</p> <p>Confession 10.45am-12pm</p> <p>Tea/Coffee available after 12.30pm</p> <p>Mass</p>
<p>24th December</p> <p>FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT</p> <p>Day of Prayer for Expectant Mothers</p>	<p>2 Samuel 7:1-5,8-12,14,16 Luke 1:26-38</p> <p>Public & Live Streamed Mass</p> <p>10.00am Annette Kelly-Intention All People of the Parish</p> <p>4.pm Thomas, Catherine & Frances Kelly-RIP & Kinnaird Family Seamus Manley-Intentions</p> <p>8.00pm Mr Smallwood Wilfred Wooton-RIP</p>	<p>Tea/Coffee available after Mass</p> 
<p>25th December Monday</p> <p>SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD</p>	<p>Isaiah 62:11-12 Titus 3:4-7 Luke 2:15-20</p> <p>Public and Live streamed Mass</p> <p>9.00am Minnie Bushell-Intention Beata Pierzchala</p> <p>11.00am Bernadette O'Donnell-Birthday Bridie O'Shea-RIP</p>	
<p>26th December Tuesday</p> <p>FEAST St Stephen</p>	<p>Acts 6:8-10,7:54-59 Matthew 10:17-22</p> <p>Public and Live streamed Mass</p> <p>10.00am Holy Souls-Novena Tom Wall-RIP</p>	
<p>27th December Wednesday</p> <p>FEAST St John</p>	<p>1 John 1:1-4 John 20:2-8</p> <p>Public and Live streamed Masses</p> <p>11.30am Savio Baretto-Intentions Francis O'Regan-Intention</p>	
<p>28th December Thursday</p> <p>FEAST Holy Innocents</p>	<p>1 John 1:5-2:2 Matthew 2:13-18</p> <p>Public & Live streamed Masses</p> <p>10.00am Intentions of the Prayer Box Albuquerque & Family-Thanksgiving</p>	
<p>29th December Friday</p> <p>FEAST St Thomas Becket</p>	<p>Colossians 1:24-29 Luke 22:24-30 OR Matthew 10:28-33</p> <p>Public & Live Streamed Mass</p> <p>10.00am John & Mary Edge-RIP</p> <p>6.30pm Mike Conway-Intention</p>	<p>Holy Hour 5.15pm-6.15pm</p> <p>Followed by Mass 6.30pm</p>
<p>30th December Saturday</p>	<p>Ecclesiasticus 3:2-6,12-14 Colossians 3:12-21 Luke 2:22-40</p> <p>Public & Live Streamed Mass</p> <p>12.30pm Eamonn Priestley-RIP Mary Allden-RIP</p>	<p>Holy Hour 11am-12.00pm</p> <p>Confessions 11am-12.00pm</p>
<p>31st December</p> <p>FEAST</p> <p>Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph</p>	<p>Ecclesiasticus 3:2-6,12-14 Colossians 3:12-21 Luke 2:22-40</p> <p>Public & Live Streamed Masses</p> <p>9.00am All People of the Parish</p> <p>11.00am Tom Gill-RIP Stephano Park-RIP</p>	

Mass readers: New rotas are now available in both porches and the website.

Escorted Pilgrimage to Knock & Co Mayo, 14th April 2024. £899.00 pps. Price includes flight, 10kg hold luggage, 5 nights in 4* Castlecourt Hotel, Westport with Dinner, Bed & Breakfast. Lunch on three days. All entertainment, excursions and transport included. Visit Knock, Galway City, Kylemore Abbey, Croagh Patrick & Ashford Castle. Single supplement on Enquiry. Contact Patricia or Natali on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com.

The Messengers-Saturday 23rd December Conference Room St George & St Teresa Church Hall. 4pm Refreshments available.

The Parents and Toddlers' Group have expanded to include babies, toddlers and pre-school children. Meeting on a Tuesday morning between 9.30am-11.30am. The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 2nd January 2024

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.

Mary's Meals: Thank you so much for your support and donations to our Gospel Concert. It is much appreciated. Mary's Meals feeding the next hungry child in a place of education for £19.15 per school year.

Offertory Collection: Gift Aid:£256 Loose :£813:41 Total:£1,069:41 Second Collection last week: Poor Parishes £480;41

READERS

Eucharistic Ministers

Saturday 23 rd Dec 12.30pm T Cund	Sunday 24 th December 10am	Sunday 24 th December 10am
Saturday 30 th Dec 12.30pm ???	M Coburn	E Duffy
Sunday 24 th Dec 10am M Watts	Sunday 24 th December 4pm	Sunday 24 th December 8pm
Sunday 24 th Dec 4pm T Duffy	A Kelly	A Kelly
Sunday 24 th Dec 8pm M Watts	Monday 25 th December 9am	Monday 25 th December 11am
Cormac C Hodrien Riyana	M Hallissey	E Duffy
M Coburn		B Ngala
Monday 25 th Dec 9am C Ramsey	Sunday 31 st December 9am	Sunday 31 st December 11am
Monday 25 th Dec 11am R Lam	M Hallissey	B Ngala
Sunday 31 st Dec 9am Finbar Joe		
Cormac		
Sunday 31 st Dec 11am M Keating		

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THE SICK OF THE PARISH

Roberto Cordora	Kevin Fahy	Sandy Simia	Adam Cole	Esther Brasil	Anne Deary
Trevor Windle	Danny Meadows	Eileen Doyle	Kevin McDaid	Sue Hodrien	Don Deneny
Patricia Mann	Paul Mann	Cornelius Callanan	John Kavanagh	Damian Poole	Kathryn Farmer
Sandra Evans	Gillian Jones	Catherine Walton	Harry Conlon	Eileen Nolan	Jennifer O'Donnell
James Brown	John McCarthy	Kath Reidy	Mary Johnson	Savio Baretto	Eileen Keaton
Christopher Edmund Poole		Eve	Roger Cox	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

CHRISTMAS

JOHN BETJEMAN

**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
And lives today in bread and Wine.***



THE INN KEEPER

**I had to send that pair away- they do not pay and trade is trade and money too I say.
And yet that girl-she shivered in the doorway there and once she raised her eyes to mine and smiled
I could have knelt I swear
But some lout made a call for wine and broke the spell
I turned then from the door and I did well
Two merchants took the great room overhead
That's my policy I buy and sell
And keep my pity for the dead
And yet that girl- that girl- she turned and looked and fairer than before and went away
As if she walked with emperors and was a queen
And all the world was hers.**

Please pray for: Mary Geraldine Ryan (Requiem Thursday 4th January 2024, 10.30am) Maria Arlete Ferreira Gomes Rodrigues (Requiem 9th January 2024 12.00pm), Ellen Teresa Farrelly (Friday 19th January 2024, 10am), David McAdams, Jane Smith, and Father John Lungley who died recently.

Also, Kathleen Ewart, Joan Handley, Baby Eve Fox, Joseph Ruhan, Doreen Delaney, Lilian Josephine Roe, Doreen Mary Essex, Gerard McVeigh, Laurence Anthony Hoefkens, Gerald Reddington, Mary Jo Byrne, Mary Concannon, Thomas Kennedy, Helen Patricia Bird, Mary Bernadette Pilley, Maureen Ferran, Jacqueline Lemmon, Margaret Taylor Smith 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