



**Parish of the Sacred Heart and Saint Margaret Mary, Aston  
Parish of St. Joseph's Nechells**

*Parish Priest: Fr. Stephen Pimlott*

Telephone (0121) 327 0235

[sacredheartaston@hotmail.com](mailto:sacredheartaston@hotmail.com)

website [www.sacredheartaston.com](http://www.sacredheartaston.com)

Safeguarding Representatives:

Sacred Heart – Teresa O’Gorman 07585907706 & Sheila McKernan 0121 344 3028

Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham - Registered Charity No. 234216

**ADVENT IV**

**20<sup>th</sup> December 2020**

Day	Aston	Nechells	Intention
<b>Saturday</b> Vigil of Advent IV	11.00 am	6.00 pm	<i>Rachel Jackson Derek Smith</i>
<b>Sunday</b>	10.00 am		<i>People of Parish</i>
<b>Monday</b>			<i>Siobhan &amp; family</i>
<b>Tuesday</b>		11.00 am	<b>Funeral Mass of Winnie O’Brien</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	10.00 am		<i>Fr. Gerry Breen</i>

**CHRISTMAS MASSES**

Day	Aston	Nechells	Intention
<b>Christmas Eve</b> Vigil Mass of Christmas	7.30 pm	7.30 pm	<i>Paddy Sherlock (SJ)</i>
<b>Christmas Day</b>	10.00 am		<i>Peter McKernan</i>
<b>Saturday St. Stephen’s Day</b>	11.00 am	6.00 pm	<i>Annie Rooney &amp; Tess Kehoe Susan McClure</i>
<b>Sunday Holy Family</b>	10.00 am		<i>John White</i>
<b>Holy Innocents</b>		9.30 am	<i>Susan McClure</i>
<b>St. Thomas Becket</b>	10.00 am		<i>People of Parish</i>
<b>Wednesday</b>		9.30 am	<i>Marion Cowden</i>
<b>Thursday</b>	10.00 am		<i>Anthony &amp; Vivienne McArdle</i>
<b>Friday Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God.</b> New year’s Day	11.00 am		<i>Betty &amp; Tony Lanchester</i>
<b>Saturday</b> Sunday Vigil	11.00 am	6.00 pm	<i>Nuala Doyle Winnie O’Brien</i>
<b>Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after the Nativity</b>	10.00 am		<i>People of Parish</i>

Fr. Stephen is now almost out of Mass intentions.

Dear Parishioners,

Christmas is now almost upon us, so I wish you all a very Happy Christmas. It will be an unusual one for most of us and I pray that you will all be kept safe. If it is safe for you try to get to one of the Christmas Masses, please do. After all that is the centre of the celebration – the Christ Mass. Remember Christmas Day starts the Christmas celebrations which consist of a whole series of festivals which draw out its meaning. This year Christmas Day is followed by the weekend so there will be the St. Stephen’s Day Mass at 11 am at SH and the Vigil Mass of the Sunday at 6 pm at SJ, followed the next Day by the Sunday Mass at 10 am at SH. Then there are further Masses during the week with New Year’s Day being the Octave Day of Christmas and the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God. That is certainly a day to get to Mass if you can. Mass will be at 11 am at Sacred Heart.

Christmas is also a time for praying and singing carols in the home. I attach some prayers for each day to be used in the home. This could help you revive family prayers for those families which have not be praying together in the home. It is such an important thing to do, to publicly give glory and honour to God as families. There are also two website resources which might be helpful. **At the Manger: Family Crib Services for the Eight Day of Christmas.** PDF attached and as a web link – [godwhospeaks.uk/at-the-manger-family-celebrations-for-the-eight-days-of-christmas](http://godwhospeaks.uk/at-the-manger-family-celebrations-for-the-eight-days-of-christmas) and a short Youtube meditation <https://youtu.be/h-qKINUziig>

Finally can I stress the importance of keeping the Covid rules when you come to Church especially keeping at least one metre apart from those not in your bubble, not singing, following instructions from the stewards and at the end going straight out of the Church and into the street, pausing just to put your money in the collection basket and sanitising your hands. Please don't hang around near the door or talk to people in the Church. Once out in the street, continue to keep social distancing.

I wish you all a very Blessed Christmas. May the light of the Christ Child shine brightly in your lives  
Fr. Stephen Pimlott

**Helpers needed at Sacred Heart Church**, especially following the death of Julie who did so much for us. Could you help with any of the following, Sacristy laundry, Sacristan, Church cleaning, counting the collection, helping at funerals or being a steward during present restrictions?

**The second collection** this weekend is for the **Apostleship of the Sea**.

There is no second collection next weekend.

As is customary the collections at the Christmas Masses are a personal gift for the Parish Priest.

### **Collections last Sunday**

Sacred Heart First collection £154.05

Second collection for Holy Places £117.55

St. Joseph's First collection £68.70

Second collection for Holy Places £52.50

**Here is the last Advent talk** by Fr. Andrew Robinson who is on the staff at Oscott College.

[Fourth Sunday of Advent – 20th December - YouTube](#)

**[Pope Francis Declares Year of St. Joseph: 8 Ways to Gain a Plenary Indulgence Over the Next Year](#)** Follow this link to find out more about it.

**APF BOXES** Please will you return your full Missio Red Boxes asap now. Bring them to Church when it opens.

**Bible Study Group** continues to meet on Skype on Mondays **at 7.00 p.m.** If you would like to join it, please contact Shirleyni on 07562754382. All are welcome.

**Please Pray for the sick;** Mary Levell, William Parish, Anne Robinson, Maura Greene, Jimmy Armstrong, Pat Davis, Bernadette Harnett, Lisa Brean, Michael Brennan, Alex McClure, Phil Robinson, Mona Recci, Mary Cartridge.

**BECOMING A CATHOLIC** If you wish to become a Catholic, or know someone who wishes to become a Catholic, or perhaps are a Catholic but have little perception of what that means, please contact Fr. Stephen by phone, email or in person.

**Sr. Vivian's retirement Mass** You may not have been able to be at Sr. Vivian's Mass, but you can see some lovely photographs of it by going to <https://flic.kr/s/aHsmSQYP6e>

**MARRIAGE MATTERS** [www.twoinoneflesh.org.uk](http://www.twoinoneflesh.org.uk)

Fourth Sunday of Advent

(2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-11, 16 Romans 16: 25-27 Luke 1:26-38)

*Listening is a way of loving*

David, Paul and Mary listened to God, changed their plans and way of life. Before marrying we listened intently and consequently felt loved and cherished. Today, with the pressures of everyday living, our listening can be impaired. We need constantly to overcome the temptation to just 'hear' what's said, and work on listening with our hearts, eyes and full attention.

**Standing Tall** is a Birmingham charity matching individuals experiencing homelessness into stable jobs in local business. At the same time we ensure they have a safe home to come back to at the end of the day. From 1<sup>st</sup> December to Christmas Eve, Standing Tall is doing a 24 hour Christmas campaign going out on the Birmingham streets having conversations about homelessness and sharing videos of these conversations on social media. At the same time we are trying to raise £6000 to enable 3 people to start a stable job in the new year and move off the Birmingham streets for good. Your Christmas alms would be highly appreciated

– [www.crowdfunder.co.uk/standingtall](http://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/standingtall) or you can find more information at [www.standingtall.org.uk](http://www.standingtall.org.uk)

**MARY'S MEALS** We have incredible news! From today until 31 January 2021, public donations made to our Double The Love appeal will be doubled by the UK government, up to £2 million.

**HOUSING JUSTICE CHRISTMAS APPEAL** To be homeless is one of the worst things that can happen to us. To support this appeal do to <https://www.housingjustice.org.uk/give>. All donations will be doubled (up to £25,000) An earlier fault on this link has been corrected

**EWTN** is broadcasting what it calls EWTN essentials which is a continuous devotional broadcast with the Mass every 2 hours. Get it on the free EWTN app.

**ON-LINE RETREATS FROM BELMONT ABBEY** There are some interesting options here. God to <https://www.belmontabbey.org.uk/online-retreats/register> for more information and to register.

**CORONAVIRUS** For the Church's guidelines see the Conference of Bishops website <https://www.cbcew.org.uk> or go to [gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public)

**USEFUL WEBSITES** <https://www.mcnmedia.tv>

<https://www.wordonfire.org>

<https://www.stchadscathedral.org.uk/>

<https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/>

<https://www.ewtn.com/radio/shows/called-to-communion>

<https://www.catholic.com/>

<https://www.walsingham.org.uk/>

<https://magiscenter.com/>