



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

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Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham - Registered Charity No. 234216

2nd SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

3rd January 2021

Day	Aston	Nechells	Intention
Saturday Sunday vigil	11.00 am	6.00 pm	<i>Nuala Doyle</i> <i>Winnie O'Brien</i>
Sunday	10.00 am		<i>People of Parish</i>
Monday			<i>Deceased of the Delaney family</i>
Tuesday			<i>Peter McKernan</i>
Wednesday Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord	11.30 am	9.30 am	<i>Winnie O'Brien</i> <i>Martina & family</i>
Thursday			<i>Ann Phillips</i>
Friday		12 noon	<i>Frank Lowery</i>
Saturday Sunday Vigil	11.00 am	6.00 pm	<i>People of Parish</i> <i>Anne McCleary</i>
Sunday Baptism of the Lord	10.00 am		<i>Julie Gallagher</i>

Dear Parishioners,

First I would like to thank all those who contributed to the Christmas collection for me or gave me present and cards. Thank you very much. I greatly appreciate it.

This week we have the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord, when we celebrate the coming of the Magi to the crib. It is a Holy Day of Obligation. As you know the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy days is dispensed at present due to the Covid. However we do now have public Masses even in Tier 4. As long as the Church is not too full according to present restrictions, then you should attend Mass if you are not in a high risk position. If you can't come to Mass you still need to keep the "Lord's Day" appropriately, attending Mass on-line and keeping the day holy. It has been lovely to have the special family home prayers for the Christmas season. Both our churches have plenty of room for more people.

Some of you may have known Sr. Sabina who was well known for her work with the homeless through "Fireside". She died a year ago and a CD of tributes to her has been made. There are a few copies at the back of Church. Do take one and then pass it onto to someone else.

As we enter the new year I have been reflecting on those words we use so often now. "Strange times" and "Keep safe". They have become sort of greeting and farewell. In Church we have become accustomed to making our spiritual Communion. The priest holds up the host and says "The Body of Christ" and we respond with that holy word of complete affirmation "Amen". Normally the priest says quietly "May the Body of Christ keep me safe for eternal life" before he makes his Communion. Perhaps when we say our Covid farewells – "Keep safe" - we should bear in mind that extra dimension, not just safe **from** Covid, but safe **for** eternal life.

May God keep you safe in 2021 for eternal life.

Fr. Stephen Pimlott

There is no second collection this weekend or next weekend.

Collections last Sunday

Sacred Heart First collection £136.86

St. Joseph's First collection £28.00

[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 Shirley on 07562754382. All are welcome.

THE ARCHBISHOP'S PASTORAL LETTER given last Sunday can be accessed here [Archbishop's Pastoral Letter Sunday 27 | Birmingham Diocesan Trust \(birminghamdiocese.org.uk\)](#)

2021 DIOCESAN DIRECTORIES are now available. £2.75. Ask Fr. Stephen.

A Revolutionary View of Gender An interesting article in the Catholic Herald [A Revolutionary View of Gender - Catholic Herald](#)

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.

RECENTLY DEPARTED Please pray for Justina Igodifo, Mary Quinn and Maureen Wall whose funerals will be coming up over the next few weeks.

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 Second Sunday after Christmas (Ecclesiasticus 24:1-2, 8-12 Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-18 John 1:1-18) *You have been chosen* St Paul says "You have been chosen" and John says "All things have life in Him". In a marriage, each partner has been personally called to love their spouse in a lifelong relationship. The fact that God calls us individually means that He has chosen us for a specific reason: to bring life to my partner, to understand and forgive.

MARY'S MEALS We have incredible news! Up until 31 January 2021, public donations made to our [Double The Love](#) appeal will be doubled by the UK government, up to £2 million.

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

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/>

What's in a Candy Cane?

Shape - A
Shepard's Staff

Color - White, he
cleansed our sin

Letter - "J" for
Jesus, the reason
for the season

Stripes - By His
stripes we are
healed.

Color - Red, his
blood shed for us

Candy - His love
toward us is sweet

by @fondatio

Merry Christmas