



Parish of the Sacred Heart and Saint Margaret Mary, Aston

Parish Priest: Mgr. Timothy Menezes

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Welcome to the Sacred Heart & St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church. If you are visiting us for the first time we wish to welcome you and your family and hope that you enjoy your visit.

Mass Times & Intentions

2nd Sunday of Advent (Year B)

Saturday 9th December 12.30pm – Keith Mallett (R.I.P)

Sunday 10th December 10.15am-Christy Willis

School Mass Wednesday 13th December 9.10am in the school hall – All are welcome

3rd Sunday of Advent (Year B)

Saturday 16th December 12.30pm - Sheila Ward (R.I.P)

Sunday 17th December 10.15am – Canon Gerry Breen (Anniv)

Collection 2nd/3rd December

Offertory £196.37

Second collection for Catholic Youth Service £193.65

Second collection this weekend for Poor Parishes.

Prayers for those who have died:

Fr Sean Turley, Fr Edwin Cownley, John O'Connor, Jenifer Cummings, Patrick Flood, Christina Timmins

Prayers for members of our parish community who are sick or housebound:

John McManus, Andy Walsh, Bernadette Harnett, Noreen Fowler, Clem Murray, Julie Bartram, Mary Cartridge, Paul Craig, Rob Badland, Robert Mee, Linda Lawton, Margaret Armstrong, Ann Walsh, Patricia O'Gorman.

This weekend, we light the second purple candle.

Symbolising Faith with the "Bethlehem Candle" reminding us of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem.

Good News the heating is working! On inspection both of the church boilers were broken and beyond repair. The engineer was able to source one replacement boiler – the cost of this will be in the region of £10,000. Further work will be carried out in the summer to replace the 2nd boiler – more information and costings will be given later.

Piety Stall: Full range of Christmas Stock

on sale including selection of diaries for 2024 calendars, cards, gifts and candles. The stall has recently been re-arranged so come and browse! We are here to serve the parish and welcome suggestions. Why not take a good look after Mass today?

School Carol Service in Church Thursday 21st December at 1.45pm – all welcome.

Please take this newsletter home with you

Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham - Registered Charity No. 234216

Message from Father Tim

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

The great Bill Shankly, Manager of Liverpool Football Club once said: Football is not a matter of life or death...it's more important than that!

With that in mind, I must say how delighted I was – as Parish Priest of Aston – to see the fantastic game last Wednesday when our local team completely outclassed Manchester City. It is a day that will live long in the memory!

Now, to things closer to God...could I please ask you to pay careful attention to our Christmas Mass times, because Christmas Eve is a Sunday with the normal Saturday and Sunday Masses. Then a Christmas Eve Mass on Sunday at 6pm and Christmas Morning at 10.15am.

Next Sunday, St Chad's Cathedral has its annual Carol Service with the beautiful singing of the Cathedral Choir. 5pm. You are most welcome. No charge and no booking required. Refreshments follow.

Best wishes and prayers,

Fr Tim

Receiving Holy Communion

A gentle reminder that if receiving Holy Communion in the hand, it should be received in two hands – one on top of the other. And you should place the host in your mouth immediately, and not walk away with it, for any reason. Thank you.

If you are not a Catholic, or are a Catholic who does not receive Holy Communion, you are welcome to come forward for a prayer of blessing. If you would like to receive a prayer of blessing, please fold your arms across your chest in the form of a cross and the Priest or Minister will give you a prayer of blessing.

Important Christmas Dates for your Diary

Confession Times

Saturday 9th December 11.30-12.00

Saturday 16th December 11.30-12.00

Sunday 17th December – After Mass

Christmas Mass Times

Saturday 23rd December 12.30pm Vigil Mass for

4th Sunday of Advent

Sunday 24th December 10.15am 4th Sunday of Advent

Sunday 24th December 6.00pm Christmas Eve Mass

Monday 25th December 10.15am Christmas Day

Who to contact

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Teresa O'Gorman. She can be contacted at: sg.sacredheart.bham@rcaob.org.uk or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/ safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concern.

Safeguarding Representatives:

Teresa O'Gorman 07585 907706

Sheila McKernan 0121 344 3028

Health & Safety Representative:

Marie Armstrong 07818 426891

Mass Intentions: Masses can be offered for anyone and for any intention. If you would like to have a Mass said for anyone then please complete a Mass Intention Request Envelope. These are kept at the back of the Church. You can choose to book your dates far into the future, so to secure a special date or anniversary, please let Father know. Dates in January and February are now all booked. Stipends for Mass intentions are a donation at your discretion, but a minimum of £5 is suggested. **ALL MASS INTENTIONS ENVELOPES SHOULD BE PLACED IN THE BASKET AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH.**