



**Parish of the Sacred Heart and Saint Margaret Mary, Aston**

Parish Priest: Mgr. Timothy Menezes

Telephone (0121) 230 6211

Email [sacredheart.bham@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sacredheart.bham@rcaob.org.uk) Parish Website: [www.sacredheartaston.com](http://www.sacredheartaston.com)

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**

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent (Year B)**

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 12.30pm – Annie Rooney & Tess Kehoe**

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December 10.15am – Special Int.**

**Christmas Vigil Mass (Sunday) 6.00pm - Families of the Parish**

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Day  
Normal Mass time 10.15am –  
People of the Parish**

**School Masses have finished now for this term.**

Holy Family (Year B)

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> December 12.30pm – Marron & Hurley Families

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December 10.15am – Maura Greene (R.I.P)

**Christmas Collections**

All collections at the Christmas Masses are for the Clergy who serve the Parish. Envelopes are available at the back of the church.

Collection 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> December

Offertory £233.04

**Prayers for those who have died:**

Fr Sean Turley, Jenifer Cummings, Esther McSweeney, Noreen Fowler, Hugh Gunn

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

John McManus, Andy Walsh, Bernadette Harnett, 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 fourth purple candle**, the traditional colour of the fourth Sunday of Advent a symbol of Peace with the Angels Candle reminding us of the message of the angels: “Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men.”

At the Christmas Vigil Mass and at the Mass of Christmas Day we light the White candle “Christ Candle” to signify the Birth of Jesus.

**Funeral Details for Esther Mary Knight McSweeney**

Reception into Church: Wednesday 10th January 2024, 5pm

Funeral Mass: Thursday 11th January 2024 12.15pm

**Tea & Talk** – what a fantastic time everyone had at the Christmas Lunch on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December. It was a great success and thank you to everyone who came along and joined in the fun. The group will meet again Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 12.00 – 2.00.

*Please note that there will be no Mass here on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> December.*

Message from Father Tim .....

*Dear Parishioners and Friends,*

*As this Calendar year draws to a close, I would like to express my gratitude to you for your support for our parish over the past year.*

*For those who attend Mass week by week and who are so generous in your financial contribution to the life of our parish and to extra appeals that are made. Thank you to those who work as volunteers, often behind the scenes, for the good of our parish and to build community.*

*Thank you to our altar servers and readers, musicians and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, and to those who exercise a ministry of welcome and catechesis in our parish.*

*May God bless every home, family and individual in our parish with peace this Christmas, and may the world be a more peaceful place in the coming year.*

*Best wishes and prayers,*

*Fr Tim*

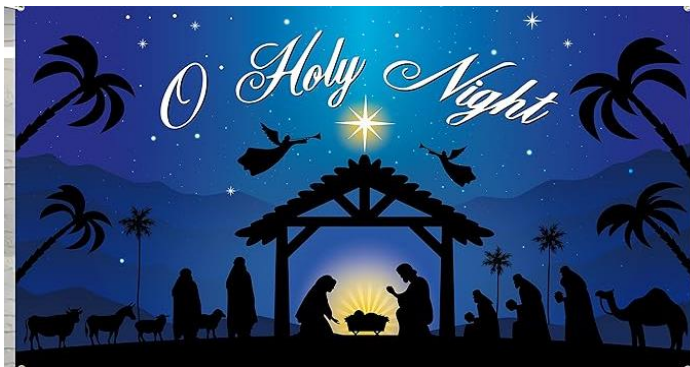
### **Receiving Holy Communion**

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.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a blessed and peaceful Christmas.



#### **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](mailto:sg.sacredheart.bham@rcaob.org.uk) or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/ [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto: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

*Please take this newsletter home with you*

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