

Sacred Heart Catholic Church

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Tel: [01491] 573 258



Parish Priest: Fr Paul Fitzpatrick MA. STL
Permanent Deacon: Rev Michael Walker
Safeguarding Rep: Jill Allen
Parish Secretary: Gail Barlow *Weds am & Thurs am.*
Website: www.sacredhearthenley.co.uk  @catholichenley
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Newsletter no: 2544

This parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham.
Registered as a Charity. No 234216.

1st Sunday of Advent Yr C



1st December 2018

Mass Book Page 82 Psalter Week 1

Readings:

Jeremiah 33:14-16
Psalm 24:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14 *resp v1*
1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2
Luke 21: 25-28, 34-36

Mass Times

PARISH HALL				
Saturday	1 st Dec	6:00 pm	Mass	Berigno & Rosalina Lacey
Sunday	2 nd Dec	8:30 am	Mass	People of the Parish
		10:30 am	Mass	

Monday	3 rd Dec		NO MASS	
Tuesday	4 th Dec		NO MASS	
Wednesday	5 th Dec	9:15 am	<i>Morning Prayer</i>	Crypt Chapel
		9:30 am	Mass	
Thursday	6 th Dec	9:15 am	<i>Morning Prayer</i>	Crypt Chapel
		9:30 am	Mass	
Friday	7 th Dec	9:15 am	<i>Morning Prayer</i>	Crypt Chapel
		9:30 am	Mass	
Saturday	8 th Dec	11:00am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
		6:00 pm	Mass	Dec'd May Family
Sunday	9 th Dec	8:30 am	Mass	People of the Parish
		10:30 am	Mass	Jack & Ita Harper

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 5.00-5.45pm

Offertory Collection: *Thank you for your generous support.*

Envelopes (Gift Aid) £57.00 (NGA) £ 10.00

Loose £ 254.00 **Contactless £120.00**

R&R Appeal (GA) £129.50 (NGA) £ 10.00

Second Collection: Catholic Youth Service £204.28

Contactless Payments: You can now use your Debit/Credit Card. *Just ask!*

Second Collection: Next week Poor Parishes of the Archdiocese.

Please pray for: *The Sick & Housebound of our Parish Community:*

Barbara Brogan, Melene Clifford, Rosemary Daniel, Jean Marie D'Souza, John Farrell, Gill Harrison, Gill Lane, Evelyn Lochrin, Tom Mannion, Caroline Mieczkowska, Diana Newbury, Halina Seligman, Jackie Tidbury, Carl Veys, and Carol Willis.

If you know of anyone who is sick, do let us know.

Those who have died:

Anniversaries that occur at this time:

Primrose Gordon, Colin Burgess

May they rest in peace

✠ Please remember in your prayers **John Farrell** who died recently. ✠
Lord, grant to our brother peace and joy in your kingdom.

Advent: Today we begin the season of Advent ... there are lots of opportunities to celebrate Advent in our Parish:

- **Holy Hour and Exposition:** Saturday 11 – 12:00 Noon.
- The **Sacrament of Reconciliation** will be available at the same time.
- **“Walk with Me” Booklets and Calendars** are in the Church Narthex.
- **Advent Social Project:** support the Christians of the Holy Land

Church Cleaning: *let's blitz the Church!*

I'm sure there will be plenty of dust in the Church. I am asking for any volunteers who will be free on **Thursday evening** to give the Church a really good clean. This will set us up nicely for Christmas. **Just turn up when you can.**

Eucharistic Ministers - Recollection and Training Day – Saturday 8 December

On Saturday 8 December from 11:00 am–3:00 pm there is a day for all our current and new Eucharistic Ministers, led by Deacon Mike. We begin at 11:00am

Mass of Enrolment for First Holy Communion is next Sunday 9 December.

At the 10.30am Mass we enrol those children of the Parish who will be making their journey closer to Jesus, by making their First Holy Communion.

Housekeeping Vacancy – Cleaning, Ironing, Cooking occasionally.

Working in the Presbytery, three days a week, 10am – 2 pm.

Please see me for more details.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation – Saturday 11 - 12 noon.

This year there will NOT be a penitential service, rather the opportunity for individual confessions. Therefore, I have asked a **priest of the deanery** to celebrate the Sacrament on Saturday morning. I will be available in the evening.

All our Altar wine is sourced from the Holy Land. This is because last year supported my Advent appeal to support the Christian families of the Holy Land whose income comes from the winery and the religious orders who run the estates. This year, I would like to make the same appeal once more. Details of the wine are on a certification from the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem – which is on the notice board. I would like to invite you to make a donation of £10 to pay for a bottle of Altar wine.

Altar Wine from the Holy Land

Fr Paul – I would like to donate £10 to buy a bottle of Altar Wine and support the Christians of the Holy Land as part of my preparation for Christmas.

Your Name

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Mary Mother of God

As we prepare for Christmas, we reflect upon the role of the Virgin Mary.

Mary has a special place in the teaching and spirituality of the Church. We honour her and see in her an example of discipleship. It is important to remember that our contemplation upon Mary helps us to understand our position in relation to God, our final destiny of heaven and the nature of the Incarnation. This is because Mary is the symbol of the Church.

At the heart of our devotion to Mary is the recognition of her special role as 'Mother of God.' She has declared to be Mother of God (*theotokos*) at the Council of Ephesus in 431. This followed a dispute where the full humanity of Jesus had been denied. Nestorus and his followers stressed the divinity of Jesus to the point where his humanity was almost a veneer or a mask. This implied that Jesus was in fact 'two persons', the man to whom Mary was mother, and the divinity that she could not influence. By declaring Mary to be '*Mother of God*', the Council defended that true doctrine of the Incarnation: that Jesus is true God and true man and it emphasised the mystery of the Incarnation that '*the word was made flesh and dwelt amongst us.*' It is important to realise that at the heart of this crisis was the Christian understanding of Jesus. Reflecting upon Mary's role as Mother of God helped the Council to understand better who Jesus is.

During Advent we are encouraged to reflect upon the role of Mary so that we can come to a deeper understanding of her son. By reflecting upon Mary's openness to God's will, her role as Mother of God and Mother of the church, we may be more sensitive to God's presence amongst us and prepare our hearts for his coming this Christmas.



The Advent Wreath dates back to ancient celebrations of the winter solstice. That time in the year when the sun reaches its southernmost point in the heavens, and the days are the darkest and gloomiest. Because they longed for the return of the sun's light and life, the ancients stopped all usual activity, sacrificed the use of their wagon wheels and hung them up, festooned with candles and greens in their festive halls.

As Christians we use the same meaningful custom to anticipate the feast of light and life: the birth of Jesus our saviour. We light one candle on the wreath for each Sunday of Advent. We share the hopes and expectation of the generations who waited in darkness for the light of Christ. We watch with growing hope and light as the Prophets and the Virgin Mary help us to prepare for this saving birth.