


# Sacred Heart Catholic Church

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Newsletter no: 2602

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

## The Baptism of the Lord.



12<sup>th</sup> January 2020

Mass Book Page 118 Psalter Week 1

### Readings:

Isaiah 42: 1-4. 6-7

Psalm 28:1-4 *resp cf v 11*

Acts 10:34-38

Matthew 3:13-17

## Mass Times

Saturday	11 <sup>th</sup> Jan	6:00 pm	Mass	Gother & Hannah Hardman
Sunday	12 <sup>th</sup> Jan	8:30 am	Mass	People of the Parish
		10:30 am	Mass	Special Intention
Monday	13 <sup>th</sup> Jan	NO MASS		
Tuesday	14 <sup>th</sup> Jan	9:15 am	Morning Prayer	
		9:30 am	Mass	Cynthia Brown
Wednesday	15 <sup>th</sup> Jan	9:15 am	Morning Prayer	
		9:30 am	Mass	Dec'd Galloway Family
Thursday	16 <sup>th</sup> Jan	9:15 am	Morning Prayer	
		9:30 am	Mass	Dec'd Means & Buzetti Fam.
Friday	17 <sup>th</sup> Jan	9:15 am	Morning Prayer	
		9:30 am	Mass	Graham & Eijkenboam Families.
Saturday	18 <sup>th</sup> Jan	6:00 pm	Mass	June Holt
Sunday	19 <sup>th</sup> Jan	8:30 am	Mass	People of the Parish
		10:30 am	Mass	Anne Conway

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

Envelopes (Gift Aid) £ 27.00 (NGA) £ 25.00

Loose £ 259.24 **Contactless £ 10.00**

R&R Appeal (GA) £ 95.91 (NGA) £ 45.50 Loose £ 0.00

*If you would like to take out a standing order, it is very straightforward.*

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

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

Agnes Boggis, Melene Clifford, Rosemary Daniel, Jane de Souza, Jean Marie D'Souza, Margaret Evans, Rita Good, Gill Harrison, Evelyn Lochrin, Tom Mannion, Joan McDonald, Diana Newbury, Halina Seligman, Jackie Tidbury and Fr Antony Conlon.

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

*Those who have died:* **Peter Sherman, Caroline Mieczkowska**

*Anniversaries that occur at this time:*

Jonathan Evans, Paula Haberstich, Wilma Kench, Jack Mulhall, Bannie Robins.

*May they rest in peace*

## **First Holy Communion**

First Holy Communion sessions restarts today at 9:15am.

The next meeting for First Communion parents on Thursday 30 January at 7:45 pm.

## **Funeral Mass Details – Caroline Mieczkowska.**

Caroline Mieczkowska's funeral will take place on Monday 27 January at 11.30 am.

## **Children's Liturgy – 'Come & See' = Come and Be with Us.**

I would make an appeal for helpers with the Children's Liturgy. It is three years since we last asked for volunteers. It would be very good if we could enlarge the team. This is for those who would like to lead the Children's Liturgy at 10.30am Mass, *and for those who do not have to lead*, but to assist the leader. Both roles are important. Do 'pop down' and chat with the group. You would find this very rewarding, no expertise required.

## **Sacred Heart School Choir:**

will be leading the liturgy at 10.30am Mass next Sunday.

**Thank you** for your support and generosity for the Christians of the Holy Land, by supporting our Wine from the Holy Land appeal. This raised £255.00

**Cash ...** the old saying '*Cash is King*' no longer seems to be true; as the Bank doesn't seem to want it, and have just increased the bank charges up for handling coins. This is an opportunity to remind you about **Standing Orders or Contactless Payments.**

## **Christian Unity Week 17-25 January 2020**

Christian Unity Week begins during this week. Please keep each of the Churches in the area in your prayers. The next meeting of **Churches Together in Henley** is Tuesday January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020 at Holy Trinity Church.

### **Sunday of the Word of God. 25/26 January 2020**

Pope Francis has sought to highlight the importance of the Word of God for the whole Church, by declaring that the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time will be the *Sunday of the Word of God.*

I would ask **our readers** to put 25/26 January 2020 in your diary, and we will commission and pray for you over that weekend.

**If anyone would like to join the reading team, this is just the time to begin.**

Thank you, Fr Anthony for looking after us, while I'm on a post-Christmas break.

## 2019: A Review of the Parish Year.

*Today we reflect on the last year for the parish*

I was very pleased that Archbishop Bernard visited the Parish this year. This was the first time he has been here since I arrived. Talking of visitors, it was lovely to see Fr Steve from California, Fr Wojkek from Rome and Fr Colin from Australia. I still cannot fathom how Fr Colin got nine weeks holiday - or for that matter why he bothered going home! Needless-to-say, he has his flights already booked for this year.

Sacred Heart School continue to go from strength to strength. For me, last year was notable for the Yr 6, Pre-Confirmation Retreat at Stonor, which will become an annual pilgrimage. Also, for the training and reflection for Staff and Governors which I offered, entitled '*on the Virtues: Living a Virtuous Life*'. I'm hoping for a growth in holiness all round. This half term, the School is focusing on being *Compassionate and Loving*. It's clearly working already.

It is very heartening to see so many people taking an active role in the life of the Parish Community. Just two name two examples (but there could be many more) it is great that our readers represented by all ages of the parish family. Coffee after 10.30am has become such a feature, that we can almost forget how previously the period after Mass was very dull. Thank you to everyone who has helped in any way this year. It was also very joyful to welcome several new parishioners who have moved into the Parish during the year.

Christmas and Easter were wonderful celebrations of the central mysteries of our faith. I was shocked by the fire at Notre Dame at the beginning of Holy Week, and was fortunate to be able to visit Paris in September and see the restoration in full swing. Christmas was atmospheric because we could use our new lighting to the full.

2019 was a year when we spent a lot of time and effort looking after our beautiful Church. We had a Quinquennial Survey as well as an Electrical Report, Fire Safety Report, Lightening Survey, and Health & Safety Report. In turn, we upgraded the Electrical System, the Fire Alarm, the Lightening Conductor, fixed the leak in the roof, fixed the lift in the Meeting Room and painted = the Narthex, the Organ Loft, the Sacristy, the Lower Sacristy, the Utilities Room, the Hall Toilets, the Columbarium and replaced the Carpet; and put a new floor in the Lady Chapel.

You might be interested in our parish statistics for 2019 (2018): Baptisms 8 (11); First Communions 15 (27); Confirmations 18 (17); Marriages 7 (6); and average Mass attendance for the month of October: 215 (213).

Deaths are not numbers, but persons; please pray for those who died this year: Mary Burge, Pamela Jebb, Adrienne Pratt, Terence Dillon, Barbara Brogan, Corrol Legg, June Holt, Mary Belson, Baby Albert Summerell-Snead, Carol Willis, Gillian Lane, Heather Brennan, Carl Veys, Cynthia Brown, Sue Batty. *May they rest in peace.*

Fr Paul.