

***SAINT AUGUSTINE  
OF ENGLAND  
CATHOLIC CHURCH***

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This Parish is part of Archdiocese of Birmingham  
Registered charity No. 234216



**Fr Dominic Kavanagh    Fr Paul Devaney    Deacon Kevin O'Connor**

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT 1<sup>st</sup> December 2019**

**Dear Parishioners,**

**'Be prepared!** During Advent we prepare ourselves for the birth of Christ! We make ourselves ready as the new homes into which He will come. The long hours of waiting are nearly over and the dawn of our salvation is about to break. Soon we will walk in the light of the Lord.' (Pope Saint John Sunday Missal.)

**Please pray for** Joseph Lunham and James Cottle who are to be baptized into the family of the Church this Sunday afternoon. The next baptismal preparation evenings will take place on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December at 8pm in the Presbytery. All are welcome.

**This Year has** been dedicated by Pope Francis as a year to deepen our love for the scriptures, for God's Word. To launch the Year Archbishop Bernard will celebrate Mass at 4.30pm in St Chad's Cathedral on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November. All are welcome to attend.

**A Holy Hour by** Candle-light will take place on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December from 6.15pm-7.15pm. this will be followed by a Meeting on Evangelisation. All are welcome.

**A Penance Service** will take place at St Thomas More's Church on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm; and a Penance Service will take place here at St Augustine's on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm (immediately following the 6.30pm Mass).

**Thank you for your very generous** response to last week's appeal for Kenelm trust. The young members of the Trust spoke very well and the collection was almost £1,000.. 'Bambinelli Sunday'. The tradition follows that the third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday) is Bambinelli Sunday and this is when all the children bring their figure of baby Jesus (known in Italy as Bambinelli) from their Nativity scenes to be blessed in Church.

**Pope Francis said of Bambinelli Sunday:** 'When you gather in your homes before the manger, looking at the Child Jesus, you will feel amazement at the great mystery of God made man, and the Holy Spirit will give your heart the humility, tenderness and goodness of Jesus. This is the true Christmas! May this be so for you and for your families.'

**The Solemnity of the** Immaculate Conception has been transferred from Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December to Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December.



Offertory Collection last week: £1,122:21 (Gift Aid £306:60 Loose £815:61)

2<sup>nd</sup> Collection last weekend for; Catholic Youth Service- £55:95

Appeal this weekend for: Lepra

**MEMORY CAFÉ-** meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> December in Parish Hall. 2pm-4pm. All welcome

**CHRISTMAS FAYRE-** 7<sup>th</sup> December 2019 1pm-3.30pm. Donations needed-Cakes, Tombola Prizes, Raffle Prizes, Books, Toys, Bottles. No Bric-a-Brac. Help needed to set up on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December after 4pm. Also help needed with Christmas decorations in Parish Hall 29<sup>th</sup> November 3.30pm

**BLESSING OF CRIB SERVICE-**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2019 3.00pm Mell Square. The Service will last for about half an hour.

**HEARTLANDS HOSPITAL CHRISTMAS CAROLS-** Ecumenical Carols round the wards. December 16<sup>th</sup> 6.30pm-8.00pm Meet at Café One in main entrance at 6.30pm Refreshments afterwards at 8pm City of Birmingham Brass Band to support. Please let Chaplains know if you are coming. [ChaplaincyHGS@heartofengland.nhs.uk](mailto:ChaplaincyHGS@heartofengland.nhs.uk) or telephone Fr Roger Raven 0121 424 1369

**With the cold nights setting in, Tabor House** night shelter is providing a safe place for people experiencing homelessness in Birmingham. To support their work, you can buy a beautiful 2020 calendar online at <http://bit.ly/WASPSCalendar2020>. At £10 each, the calendars make excellent Christmas gifts and all proceeds go to the project

**Friends of the Holy Land** would like to thank the parishioners for their generosity following the collection in your parish, raising £432.13. Your kind donations will help FHL to support families and individuals who are struggling with education, employment and health issues and provide ongoing family support to those who desperately need it. With your help we can continue to provide financial support and hope to the Christians in the Holy Land, showing them that they are not forgotten.

**CAFOD-WORLD OF GIFTS CATALOGUE**-available in both porches. Inspiring gifts; free delivery if ordered by 16<sup>th</sup> December.

**Readers this week**

**SUNDAY**

**9.00am** Pam Davies  
*SCHOOL YEAR 6*

**11.00am** Mary Clark  
*Juliana Benjamin*

**Cleaning Rota: for week beginning December 2nd for Services December 7th/8th December-E**

Mary Congdon, Geraldine Saunders, Philip Saunders, Bob Ashman

**Flowers Rota: – for week beginning December 2nd –No Flowers in Advent**

**Eucharistic Ministers this week**

**SUNDAY**

**9.00am** Joan & Dan Doyle  
*Joan & Dan Doyle*

**11.00am** Beatrice Ngala  
*Beatrice Ngala*

Please remember in your prayers the sick of the Parish:

Keith Frettsome	Martin Yates	Virginia Gregory,	Angela, Eilish, Tony Duffy
Margaret Kelly	Joan Kennedy	Roberto Cordora	Kevin Fahy Sandy Simia
June Elspeth Hoefkens		Bridget Bishop	
Trevor Windle	Colette Hickey	Danny Meadows	Kathleen Beale

## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

‘You must stand ready because the Son of man is coming at an hour you do not expect.’ Matthew 24:44

Eternal God. You will come when we do not

Expect you.

Help us to welcome you now in one another

To reach out to our sisters and brothers

In need of care and support.

And in this way

May we be found ready,

When you come again in glory. Amen.



**Please pray for:** Audrey Trench, Patrick McManus and Susan Scott who died recently. Also Margaret French, Kevin William Geary, Gertrude Ann Horsburgh, John Alfred Peace, Patricia Bridget Banks, Catherine Newman, David Barrett, Joseph Marshall, Westley John Taylor, Alexander John McGarry, Dorothy Phillips, and Kathleen Hurdman and all with anniversaries at this time.

**Safe Guarding Representatives are: Anne Ryder 0121 705 3067**

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**Teresa Cund 0121 733 2143**