

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 Father Joseph Narikuzhi Deacon Kevin O'Connor

Fourth Sunday in Advent Year A 21st December 2025

Father Dominic writes: 'God-is-with-us! God sent his only Son on earth to be born of human stock. His name is Jesus and his mother's name is Mary. He is the Saviour of all the world, and through him we are called to real holiness of life.' (Pope Saint John Sunday Missal.)

Dear Parishioners: Father Joseph, Deacon Kevin and I, wish our Parents, Teachers and pupils a very joyful and refreshing Christmas.

We thank you for the beautiful Nativity Play and Carol Concert and for the dedicated work you have undertaken throughout this term and for the growth of our young people in wisdom, age and grace.

Father Joseph is having a period of convalescence at St Joseph's Care Home in Coleshill. I know how grateful he will be for your prayers and good wishes.

Please pray for Annie Christine and Gigi Caroline Daly who are to be baptised into the family of the Church this Sunday. The next baptismal preparation evening will take place on Thursday 15th January between 7.30-9pm in the Presbytery. If you would like to attend, please let Mary Clark or one of the Clergy know. All are welcome.

Welcome to Monsignor Danny McHugh who will celebrate the 4.00pm Christmas Eve Mass.

We still require some Readers for the 8pm Carols and Readings on Christmas Eve. There is a list in the Sacristy for you to sign.

The Altar Servers celebrate the Feast Day of their Patron Saint, Stephen, on Friday December 26th at the 10am Mass. We look forward to enrolling Emily Cox into the Guild of St Stephen during this Mass.

Please note that on Friday 26th December there will only be the 10am Mass. There **will not be** a Holy Hour or evening Mass.

We would like to offer our sincere thanks for the many ways you have supported the recent Parish events and have given so generously of your time, gifts and enthusiasm, especially for our Christmas Fayre and other fund-raising events and special collections. Our thanks also for the S.V.P. comfort lunches and the St Augustine's Community Café social events. They are so greatly appreciated by all who participate.

The collection at the Christmas Masses is your traditional Christmas Offering to the Clergy, for which we are very grateful.

Parish Groups: SVP - The basis of our work is prayer and action. Our meetings are the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month at 7 pm. We visit the sick, elderly and lonely. We also get involved in appeal work currently the Socks and Chocs. The bucket collection last week raised £840. We are truly grateful to all who contributed. For those interested in learning more about the SVP we will see you on Thursday 8th January at 7pm in the Parish Hall.

Offertory Collection last weekend: Gift Aid: £175 loose £1,123.08 Total: £1,298:08 Bucket Collection last week for SVP £840:87

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THE SICK OF THE PARISH

Roberto Cordora	Kevin Fahy	Sandy Simia	Adam Cole	Anne Deary	Lali Ratnaraja
Daniel Meadows	Kevin McDaid	Jonathan Williams	Michael	Juliana Benjamin	Nora Shearin
Patricia Mann	Cornelius Callanan	John Kavanagh	Damian Poole	Kathryn Farmer	Sandra Evans
Catherine Walton	Harry Conlon	Eileen Nolan	Paulina Samathar	Rita Titchmarsh	Helen Brookes
James Brown	John McCarthy	Mary Johnson	Savio Baretto	Roger Cox	Fr Gerard Kelly
Christopher Edmund Poole		Liam Lewis	Joseph Wong	Briege Williams	Angela Hyland
Nicole Plummer	Pat Brogan	Molly Saunders	Mike Sassano	Mary & Amanda	Aoife Cook
Rosemary Knowles	Tony & Eilish Duffy	Breda Fleming	Lilian	Andrea Cadman	Mary Philpott
Father Michael White	Benjamin Wort	Callum Graham	Michael Leyland	Wilson Cotton	Angela Keating
Bridget McNamara	Ellen Gilmore	Ian Sanchez	Chris Docker	Eve	
Michael, Patrick, Aidan and Anne O'Donnell	Mrs. Bernie McCann	Bethany Tidyman	Jeanette and Robert Walton		

READERS	EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS	EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS
Sat 20 th Dec 12.30pm T Cund	Saturday 20 th December	Sunday 21 st December 9am
Sat 27 th Dec 12.30pm Bernard	12.30pm Ginny/ J Wong	M Hallissey/ J Sica
Sunday 21 st Dec 9am M Coburn	Saturday 27 th December	Sunday 21 st Dec 11am J Hickey
Sunday 21 st Dec 11am C Hodrien	12.30pm R Wong/ J Wong	Sunday 28 th Dec 9am
Sunday 28 th Dec 9am T Choi		J Powers/G Sica
Sunday 28 th Dec 11am Emanuelle		Sunday 28 th Dec 11am B Ngala

Bereavement Group - Upcoming dates-Sacred Heart & Holy Souls Meeting Room. Wednesdays 10:45am **2026:** Wed 14th January 11th February 11th March; 8th April 13th May 10th June 8th July Supporting you in 'Bereavement'.

Meditation Group - Upcoming dates" Sacred Heart & Holy Souls Parish Meeting Room. Mondays 1pm; 12th & 26th January; 9th & 23rd February; 9th & 23rd March; 13th & 27th April; 11th & 25th May; 8th & 22nd June; 6th July A Guide to 'Meditation'

For news and events around the Archdiocese please visit the diocesan website: www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk

Fr Andrew is hoping to organise a pilgrimage to Fatima next year, 11th to 15th September 2026. Fatima is a place where many have found comfort, healing and renewed faith, and we would love to see whether there is interest in forming a group. The estimated cost is around £1000 per person. We need a minimum of 20 to make it viable, the more we get, the more the price reduces. If this is something you may feel drawn to, please email foxvinedesigns@gmail.com to express your interest.

Raffle Ticket Numbers: 5; 314; 384 please collect your prizes from the Sacristy.

THE CHOSEN- Monday 22nd December 3pm; Conference Room St George & St Teresa Church Hall. All welcome; Refreshments served.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES ROTA WEDNESDAY 24TH DECEMBER MASSES

12.30pm Reader Eucharistic Minister 1. A Kelly 2.

4.00pm Reader Eucharistic Minister 1. 2.

8.00pm Readers 1. M. Watts 2. C Hodrien 3.

4. 5. C. Cotter

Eucharistic Ministers 1. A Kelly 2.

THURSDAY 25TH DECEMBER MASSES

9.00am Reader C Ramsey Eucharistic Minister 1. M. Coburn/ G Sica

11.00am Reader H Cettler/C Hodrien Eucharistic Minister Eilish

20th December Saturday O Clavis David Key of David	Isaiah 7:10-14 Romans 1:1-7 Matthew 1:18-24 Public & Live streamed Mass 12.30pm Rose & Tommie Carberry-65 th Wedding Anniversary Peter Tickell-Intention	Holy Hour 11am-12.00pm Confessions 11am-12.00pm Tea/Coffee available after Mass
21st December FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT O Oriens Day Spring Day of Prayer for Expectant Mothers	Isaiah 7:10-14 Romans 1:1-7 Matthew 1:18-24 Public & Live streamed Masses 9.00am All People of the Parish 11.00am Valeska Albuquerque-Thanksgiving Mary Clarke-RIP	Tea/Coffee available after both Masses 
22nd December Monday Advent Feria O Rex Gentium/ King of Nations	1 Samuel 1:24-28 Luke 1:46-56 Public and Live streamed Mass 10.00am Kitty More-Intention	
23rd December Tuesday Advent Feria O Emmanuel God-With-Us St John of Kanty	Malachi 3:1-4,4:5-6 Luke 1:57-66 Public and Live streamed Mass 10.00am Zygfird & Wanda Cettler-RIP Tony & Mary Quinn-RIP	Toddlers' Group 9.30am-11.30am
24th December Wednesday	Page 95 Parish Mass Book 12.30pm All People of the Parish Page 95 Parish Mass Book 4.00pm Thomas, Catherine, Frances Ann Kelly & Kinnard Family-RIP Page 98 Parish Mass Book 8.00pm Carols/Reading 8.30pm Danny & Rory O'Grady-RIP	Confession 11.15am-11.45am Public and Live streamed Masses
25th December Thursday SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD	Public & Live streamed Masses Page 101 Parish Mass Book 9.00am Ellen Shinton-RIP Page 103 Parish Mass Book 11.00am Bernadette O'Donnell-Birthday	
26th December Friday FEAST St Stephen	Acts 6:8-10,7:54-59 Matthew 10:17-22 10.00am Joseph Naughton-RIP	Public & Live streamed Mass No Evening Mass or Exposition
27th December Saturday FEAST St John	Sirach 3:2-6,12-14 Colossians 3:12-21 Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23 Public & Live streamed Mass 12.30pm Holy Souls (Richard) Bernadette Cawley	Holy Hour 11am-12.00pm Confessions 11am-12.00pm Tea/Coffee available after Mass
28th December FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS MARY AND JOSEPH	Sirach 3:2-6,12-14 Colossians 3:12-21 Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23 9.00am Nicholas Gibson-Intention 11.00am Seamus Manley-RIP All People of the Parish	Public & Live streamed Masses Tea/Coffee available after both Masses



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from "A Christmas Poem", by John Betjeman

Is it true? Is it true?
This most tremendous tale of all,
Seen in a stained-glass window's hue,
A Baby in an ox's stall?
The Maker of the stars and sea
Become a Child on earth for me?

Is it true? For if it is,
No loving fingers tying strings
Around those tissue fripperies,
The sweet and silly Christmas things,
Bath salts and inexpensive scent
And hideous tie so kindly meant,

No love that in a family dwells,
Nor carolling in frosty air,
Nor all the steeple-shaking bells
Can with this single Truth compare
That God was Man in Palestine
And lives today in Bread and Wine.

Please pray for: Margaret Byrne, Barbara Bolton, Joy Smith, Sister Stanislaus S.D., Anthony Herron, Mary Rita Johnston, Antonio Albini, Mary Nicholls, Seamus Manley, Sheila Griffin, Phillip Austin Walsh, Robin Easterby, John Pears, Donald Platt and Anne Weir who died recently.

Also, Elizabeth Morgan, Damien Peter Crow, John Groark, Dymphna McDermott, Ronald William Manton, Mary Bernadette Therese Turner, Norman Lawrence Hart, Tonino Polidori, Joseph 'Joe' Naughton, Kathleen Ewart, Joan Handley, Baby Eve Fox, Joseph Ruhan, Doreen Delaney, Lilian Josephine Roe, Doreen Mary Esses, Gerard McVeigh, Laurence Anthony Hoefkens, Gerald Reddington, Mary Jo Byrne, and all with anniversaries at this time.

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese's policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are Anne Ryder and Susan Wakeham. They can be contacted at sg.staugustine.solihull@rcaob.org.uk or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concerns.

This Church live streams Mass and other events. Please see notices in Church for more details.