

**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**

First Sunday in Advent Year A 30th November 2025

**Father Dominic writes:** '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.)

**Father Joseph, Deacon Kevin and I**, use the words of the prophet Isaiah in today's first reading to guide us through this season of Advent 'Come let us go up to the mountain of the Lord-that He may teach us His ways and that we may walk in His paths.'

**Please pray for** Cody Aquino who is to be baptised into the family of the Church this weekend. The next baptismal preparation evening will take place on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December from 7.30pm, -9.00pm in the Presbytery. If you wish to attend, please speak with Mrs Mary Clark or one of the Clergy. All are welcome. Your prayers are asked for Francis Po Fung Wong and Su Li Goh who are to be married here at St Augustine's on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December 12.00 midday.

Please also pray for the pupils of Year 3 of St Augustine's who are to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December at 5.30pm in Church. Free car parking has been requested in the lower level of the Dominion Car Park.

We remember in our prayers our Parishioners from Hong Kong and their families in the aftermath of the devastating fire at an apartment complex in the city's Tai Po district.

**Archbishop Bernard** invites you to a Mass of Thanksgiving for this Jubilee Year on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December at 12.15pm at St Chad's Cathedral in Birmingham. If you would like to attend, please let Mr Paul Northam know via email: [paul.notham@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:paul.notham@rcaob.org.uk) If you are unable to attend please consider attending the Diocesan closing Mass for the Jubilee Year on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> December at 11.30am with Bishop David Evans, again at St Chad's Cathedral.

**This Sunday afternoon, November 30<sup>th</sup>, we have the Blessing of the Crib** in Mell Square at 3pm, opposite Boots the Pharmacists. all are welcome. **The Christmas Fayre** will take place on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December from 1.30pm until 4pm and will continue after the Sunday morning Masses. Help required in setting up the Hall on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 3pm and Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> at 10.00am and tidying up after the 11am Mass on the Sunday. Please help with donations of bottles, cakes, prizes, books, plants. Raffle Tickets now available. A **Service of Carols and Readings** will take place on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December from 7pm in Church. Please do come along. I will be away for a few days this week in the Shropshire hills. For emergency sick calls please contact the Parish Olton Friary -0121 706 0505 or Our Lady of the Wayside- 0121 744 1967

Each Wednesday evening 'Lectio Divine' (the prayerful reflection on Scripture) takes place by zoom between 7.30pm-8.15pm. You are very welcome to participate. Email [staugustine.solihull@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:staugustine.solihull@rcaob.org.uk) and we will provide you with a link. Each Thursday evening a prayer Meeting in the blue room of the Parish Hall 7pm-8pm. You are welcome to come along.

On Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December, we have an **Advent Penance Service** here in St Augustine's Church at 7pm. We will request free car parking in the lower level of the Dominion Car Park for the duration of the Service.

Offertory Collection last weekend: Gift Aid: £181:20 loose £1,119:54 Total: £1,300:74 Second Collection last Weekend: Catholic Youth Service -£442:33. Next weekend Second Collection Poor Parishes of the Diocese

**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	Julia. a 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	Barbara Bolton
Michael, Patrick, Aidan and Anne O'Donnell	Mrs. Bernie McCann	Bethany Tidyman	Jeanette and Robert Walton		

READERS	EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS	EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS
Sat 29 <sup>th</sup> Nov 12.30pm T Cund	Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup> November 12.30pm R Wong/Ginny	Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup> November 9am J Sica/J Powers
Sat 6 <sup>th</sup> Dec 12.30pm Bernard	Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup> December 12.30pm R&J Wong	Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup> November 11am A Kelly
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup> Nov 9am MC Barbour		Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> December 9am M Hallissey/ J Sica
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup> Nov 11am E Young		Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> December 11am B Ngala
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> Dec 9am C Ramsey		
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> Dec 11am H Cettler		

SVP REQUESTS: Thank you so much to all who have donated items requested for men in need- they have been gratefully received. Still required: tee-shirts, jogging bottoms and hoodies(sizes S,M,L only) Brand-new underwear/socks. Also, trainers sizes 8-11(41-44). Toiletries for male and females and nonperishable food. Please note WE ARE UNABLE TO ACCEPT ITEMS OTHER THAN THOSE ABOVE. With our appreciation-SVP St Augustine's: 07568 508271 **CHRISTMAS COMFORT LUNCH 11th DECEMBER, 12- 2pm**

Would you like to join us at St Augustine's Comfort Lunch, with a delicious hot succulent roast, Christmas desserts and bottomless hot drinks? Would you like to meet new friends and enjoy some warm, happy company? We would love to see you! To book your place, ring the SVP via Libby on: 07568 508271

**'Bereavement Group** - Upcoming dates-'Sacred Heart & Holy Souls Meeting Room. Wednesdays 10:45am 2025: 10th December; **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; 8th December; 12<sup>th</sup> &26<sup>th</sup> January; 9<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> February; 9<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> March; 13<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> April; 11<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> May; 8<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> June; 6<sup>th</sup> July A Guide to 'Meditation' 'Meditation' is a way of 'being' rather than a way of 'thinking'. It is about becoming still. It helps us to become more loving people in our relationships. It takes our mind off ourselves. & we see people as God sees them. Do come along and see for yourself.

**Sock and Choc Appeal:** We are extremely grateful for the donations to date. They have been passed on to those in need, who are delighted. We continue our appeal throughout Advent. The SVP in conjunction with Be Kind are asking for donations of new socks and chocolate treats (mostly for men) for Birmingham Christmas Shelter and our local homeless outreach team. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

**AADVENT ROSARY RALLY IN THE CITY FOR ALL FAMILIES Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December - Chamberlain Square - 12.00** To start Advent, we are calling on ALL MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN to publicly pray and witness to our faith in Birmingham city centre We will pray for the conversion of our city, the nation, the protection and blessing of family life, and a culture that values all life from conception. For more info contact Ben: 07885505116

**For news and events** around the Archdiocese please visit the diocesan website: [www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk](http://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk)

**Could you be a friend to a refugee?** Befriending with Restore is a flexible role which involves meeting with an asylum seeker or refugee to provide friendship and time to practice English, as well as sharing information on relevant services, college courses or volunteering opportunities. Full training is provided, as well as regular support and input from Restore for the duration of the befriending. A training course at St Johns Church, Harborne on 7th February 2026 at 9.45am to 4pm. This is for anyone interested in befriending. The course is free, and there is no obligation for participants to volunteer with Restore. For further information, you can email: [jasmine@restore-uk.org](mailto:jasmine@restore-uk.org) or sign up to course: [Restore Training Course Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2026 Registration Form](#)

<p>29th November Saturday</p>	<p>Isaiah 2:1-5 Romans 13:11-14 Matthew 24:37-44 Public and Live streamed Mass 12.30pm Denning Family Living &amp; Deceased Margaret McSweeney-RIP</p>	<p>Holy Hour 11am-12.00pm Confessions 11am-12.00pm Tea/Coffee available after Mass</p>
<p>30th November FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT</p> 	<p>Isaiah 2:1-5 Romans 13:11-14 Matthew 24:37-44 Public and Live streamed Masses</p> <p>9.00am All People of the Parish</p> <p>11.00am Chris &amp; Sue Hodrien-Intention Mary Ryan-RIP</p>	<p>Tea/Coffee available after both Masses</p> <p>Blessing of the Crib 3pm Mell Square</p>
<p>1st December Monday FEAST St Edmund Campion</p>	<p>1 Corinthians 4:9-13 Luke 9:23-26 Public and Live streamed Mass 9.30am Thanksgiving-Dominic Savio Noronha</p>	
<p>2nd December Tuesday Advent Feria</p>	<p>Isaiah 11:1-10 Luke 10:21-24 Public and Live streamed Mass 10.00am Eamonn Priestley-RIP Holy Souls Novena of Masses</p>	<p>Toddlers' Group 9.30am-11.30am</p>
<p>3rd December Wednesday St Francis Xavier Migrants' Day</p>	<p>Isaiah 25:6-10 Matthew 15:29-37 Public and Live streamed Mass 12.00pm Tony Graham-RIP Kathleen McHale-RIP</p>	<p>Confession 11.30am Lectio Divina 7.30pm-8.15pm <a href="mailto:staugustine.solihull@rcaob.org.uk">staugustine.solihull@rcaob.org.uk</a></p>
<p>4th December Thursday Advent Feria St John Damascene</p>	<p>Isaiah 26:1-6 Matthew 7:21,24-27 Public &amp; Live streamed Mass 12.00pm Mary-Intention Agnes Ash-RIP</p>	<p>Prayer Meeting -blue room of the Parish Hall, between 7.00pm-8.00pm All are welcome</p>
<p>5th December Friday FEAST St Birinus</p>	<p>1 Corinthians 9:16-19,22-23 Matthew 9:35-38 Public &amp; Live streamed Masses 10.00am CWL Founder's Day</p> <p>6.30pm Deceased members of Healy &amp; Paulger Families</p>	<p>Holy Hour &amp; Exposition 5.15pm-6.15pm Followed by Mass 6.30pm</p>
<p>6th December Saturday St Nicholas</p>	<p>Isaiah 11:1-10 Romans 15:4-9 Matthew 3:1-12 Public &amp; Live streamed Mass 12.30pm John Noone-RIP Holy Souls-Novena of Masses</p>	<p>Holy Hour 11am-12.00pm Confessions 11am-12.00pm Tea/Coffee available after Mass Christmas Fayre 1,30pm-4.00pm</p>
<p>7th December Second Sunday of Advent</p> 	<p>Isaiah 11:1-10 Romans 15:4-9 Matthew 3:1-12 Public &amp; Live streamed Masses</p> <p>9.00am All People of the Parish</p> <p>11.00am Father Ron Coslett-RIP John Feeney-RIP</p>	<p>Tea/Coffee available after both Masses</p> <p>Christmas Fayre-Continues after both Masses</p>

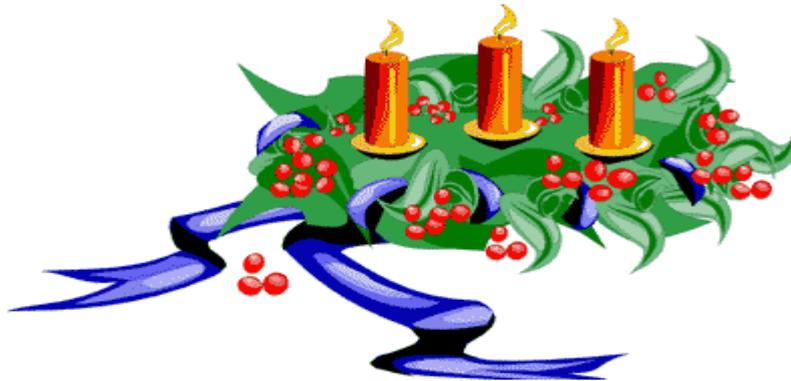
## **Prayer for the Advent Wreath**

Lord, our God, we praise You for Your Son, Jesus Christ, for He is Emmanuel, the Hope of all people. He is the Wisdom that teaches and guides us. He is the Savior of us all. O Lord, let your blessing come upon us as we light the first and second (purple) candles of this wreath. May the wreath and its light be a sign of Christ's promise of salvation. May He come quickly and not delay. We ask this in His holy name. Amen.

## **Waiting**

We light a candle today, a small dim light against a world that often seems forbidding and dark. But we light it because we are a people of hope, a people whose faith is marked by an expectation that we should always be ready for the coming of the Master. The joy and anticipation of this season is captured beautifully in the antiphons of hope from the monastic liturgies:

See! The ruler of the earth shall come, the Lord who will take from us the heavy burden of our exile  
The Lord will come soon, will not delay. The Lord will make the darkest places bright.  
We must capture that urgency today in the small flame of our candle. We light the candle because we know that the coming of Christ is tied to our building of the kingdom. Lighting the flame, feeding the hungry, comforting the sick, reconciling the divided, praying for the repentant, greeting the lonely and forgotten – doing all these works hastens His coming.



Please pray for: Joy Smith, Sister Stanislaus S.D. ,Anthony Herron, Antonio Albini ,Mary Nichol , Seamus Manley , Sheila Griffin , Phillip Austin Walsh ( Requiem Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 12.00pm;Reception Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 6pm), Peter John Bates, Michael Donnelly, Alan Gorman ,Baby Martin Joseph Smith, Robin Easterby, John Pears, Gilbert Anderson, Delia Finnegan, Donald Platt and Anne Weir who died recently.

Also, Bridget Mary Cronin, Eileen Marie Kenny, Terence Patrick Wright, Margaret French, Kevin William Geary, Gertrude Ann Horsburgh, John Alfred Peace, Kath Clark, Mary Ryan, Patricia Bridget Banks, Michael Murphy, Zofia Lozinski, Catherine Newman, David Barrett, John Marshall, Westley John Taylor, Alexander Joseph McGarry, Ellen Teresa Farrelly, 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](mailto:sg.staugustine.solihull@rcaob.org.uk) or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto: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.**

**BLESSING OF GRAVES NOVEMBER 2025- 2.00pm 30th November Yardley**

**The Advent Walk With Me** booklets and Calendars are available in both porches.

