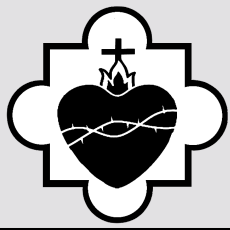


PARISH OF SACRED HEART AND HOLY SOULS

1151 WARWICK ROAD, ACOCKS GREEN, BIRMINGHAM, B27 6RG

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PARISH PRIEST
CANON JONATHAN VEASEY

ASSISTANT PRIEST
FR ALEX TAYLOR

PARISH SECRETARY
JOHANNE LEEMING

SAFEGUARDING
ALDORA JOHNSON

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SATURDAY 18TH O LORD	4.00-4.30pm 5.00pm	Confessions Vigil Mass	Ida & Angelo Lombardi
SUNDAY 19TH O ROOT OF JESSE	8.30am 10.00am 12 noon 5.00pm 6.00pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass Evening Prayer Reception	Kenneth Wells Richardson & Rebecca Lines Wells Richardson Patrick McGann Michael Reilly Mary Lynch
MONDAY 20TH O KEY OF DAVID	10.00am 11.30am 6.00pm 7.00pm	Holy Mass Requiem Reception Penance Service	Tom, Michael & Brian Stankard Mary Lynch Catherine Francis
TUESDAY 21ST "O DAY SPRING"	9.30am 10.45am	Holy Mass Requiem	Wiggin Family Catherine Francis
WEDNESDAY 22ND O KING OF THE NATIONS	10.00am	Holy Mass	Sean & Mary Newell
THURSDAY 23RD ADVENT FERIA "O EMMANUEL"	9.00am 9.00-10.00am 10.00am	Adoration Confessions Holy Mass	Kim Johnson (Nee McNamee) & Mary & Pat Plunkett
FRIDAY 24TH ADVENT FERIA	9.00am	Holy Mass	Rose Varghese

THE SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

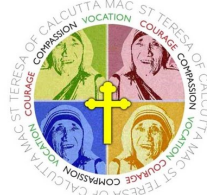
FRIDAY 24TH CHRISTMAS EVE	5.00pm 7.00pm 11.30pm Midnight	Vigil Mass Vigil Mass Carols & Readings Solemn Mass	People of the Parish Mary Connaughton Patrick & Mollie Mulrey & Mgr Tom Gavin
SATURDAY 25TH CHRISTMAS DAY	8.30am 10.00am 12 noon	Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	Anthony & Marie Keegan Mary Teresa Carroll Wallis Family

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

SUNDAY 26TH	8.30am 10.00am 12 noon	Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	Fr Tom Williams Rose Thompson Bond & Connor Families
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THE CATHOLIC SCHOOLS IN OUR PARISH

HOLY SOULS PRIMARY SCHOOL
Mallard Close, B27 6BN
Headteacher: Mrs. R. Girling
Tel: 0121 272 1776
Website: www.holysoul.bham.sch.uk
Email: enquiry@holysoul.bham.sch.uk



ARCHBISHOP ILSLEY CATHOLIC SCHOOL
Victoria Road, B27 7XY
Headteacher: Miss H. Burrows
Tel: 0121 706 4200
Website: www.ilsley.bham.sch.uk
Email: enquiry@ilsley@bham.org.uk

Both schools are part of the St Teresa of Calcutta Multi-Academy
Tel: 0121 706 4200 | **Website:** www.saintteresaofcalcutta.o.r.g.uk | **Email:** info@saintteresaofcalcutta.org.uk

STAYING CONNECTED

TWITTER: HolySoulsAG | **FACEBOOK:** holysoulschurch | **YOUTUBE CHANNEL:** Sacred Heart and Holy Souls, Acocks Green

Dear Parishioners

Today we begin the final week of our Advent journey. The focus changes to a more intense spiritual preparation for the Nativity of Our Lord. We prepare to celebrate that moment in time when Jesus came to share in our frail human nature and to raise it to a new and glorious life. In the midst of family preparations for Christmas and the concerns of our world, make a space in your life to welcome the Lord who is coming with some time for quiet prayer each day bringing your needs and simply welcoming his presence in your life.

Evening Prayer and Benediction - This evening at 5pm we gather for a special time of prayer before Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament as we long for the coming of the Lord and prepare for Christmas. After the Service we will have the draw for the Grand Christmas Raffle in the Parish Meeting Room.

Parish Penance Service - Monday evening at 7pm with a number of priests from the deanery available to hear Confessions. If you have been unable to go to Confession during the Pandemic months, this service provides a wonderful opportunity.

Parish Christmas Raffle - Please return counterfoils and raffle money today. The Christmas raffle draw takes place after Evening Prayer and Benediction in the Parish Meeting Room. Thank you for all the prizes that have been donated. We will contact the winners directly and a list will be available next weekend.

Christmas Music - Music is going to play a very important part in our celebration of Christmas this year. The Sunday 10am music group will be leading music and singing at the 5pm Vigil Mass on Christmas Eve and the 10am Mass on Christmas Day. any additional singers and instrumentalists would be welcome.

Music at Midnight Mass - We are in need of a good group of singers to lead the music at Midnight Mass. Any instrumentalists available and even an organist would be of huge help. We are having a rehearsal on Tuesday evening in church 7pm-8pm. Please consider offering your help for this once in a year celebration that makes such a difference.

Blessing of Cribs - At the end of each Mass today we will bless family cribs that will have a place of honour in your homes at Christmas.

Poinsettias for Christmas - As in previous years we would invite you to bring to church a red poinsettia which can be placed around the Christmas Crib in memory of a loved one who has died and who will be missed at the celebration of Christmas this year. If the poinsettias could start arriving over the next few days and can be left in the church by the Lady altar or brought to the presbytery. We hope to have everything in place by the morning of Christmas Eve.

Christmas Flowers - There will be a voluntary collection outside the church to defray the cost of our Christmas trees and flowers that will adorn the church for the coming feasts.

Cleaning and Waxing Benches in Church - Can you give an hour after 10am Mass on Wednesday? we want to polish the benches with furniture wax. All help gratefully appreciated.

Stewards for Christmas - Can we ask stewards to sign up for duties to cover the Christmas Masses please? Many thanks.

Christmas Offerings for the Clergy - The offerings on Christmas Eve and Christmas day are traditionally for the parish clergy to support them in their expenses. There are Christmas offering envelopes available.

Holy Souls Social Club - Opening hours are Thursday to Sunday 8pm-11pm and also on Sunday after Mass until mid afternoon. The Club will also be open at lunchtime in Christmas Day.

New Years Eve Dance - Come to Holy Souls Social Club for an evening being entertained with Irene and Tom to see in the New Year. Tickets still available from the Club, but they are going quickly...

Book the Holy Souls Social Club - We are blessed with the gift of our social club It is a great venue For your private event, Baptism party and other family celebrations and gatherings. Contact the Social Club directly or the presbytery if you need to book a special occasion.

Thursday BINGO and TOTE draw at 8.30pm - Will somebody win the £2,000 Jackpot in time for Christmas? Come and join in the Bingo and Tote draw on Thursday evening.

The Tote- The winning numbers are **13, 17, 22, 23 - No Jackpot winner.** 3 People had 3 numbers Christine Evans, Ben Cleaver, Mary Gilligan and receive £60.00 each. **Jackpot next week is £2,000 and will be drawn on Thursday 23rd December, 2021 in the Social Club.** Please ensure you are up to date with your payments as you have got to be in it to win it. Please deposit your completed Tote envelope in the box which is located on departure from the church or alternatively post through Presbytery letterbox **no later than 12 noon on the day of the draw.**

St Vincent De Paul Society - The parish group has been busy delivering hampers and making visits to people across the parish who are isolated or in need. Thanks for the support you give.

Parish Finances - Many thanks for your on-going support of the parish through the collection and standing orders and gift aid.

St Teresa of Calcutta MAC - If you were unable to join the St Teresa of Calcutta Carol Service live on their website take a look at the recording. It is very beautiful. Visit the MAC website. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZwBl4nBPomA>

Schools - Our parish schools are now closed for the Christmas break. Thanks to the staff and governors for the work they undertake for our children and families. The schools are part of the St Teresa of Calcutta Multi Academy Company and we wish to thank Mr Colin Crehan from our parish who has served as the accounting officer in recent times. He has done a wonderful job. In January, Professor Paul Ryan will become the Catholic Senior Leader of the MAC and we welcome Paul to our family of Catholic schools.

Christmas Masses - Christmas Eve: Vigil Mass of Christmas 5pm, Vigil Mass of Christmas 7pm, Solemn Mass of Christmas Night at Midnight (Carols from 11.30pm) **Christmas Day:** Mass of the Dawn 8.30am, Mass of Christmas Day 10am & 12 noon.

The decision was taken not to implement a booking system this Christmas. However, we do ask that you follow the instructions of the stewards who will provide you and your family with a seat. We aim to seat as many people safely and comfortably. The church will be ventilated during the services so remember to wrap up! Please remind your family members to bring a mask with them. It is mandatory that adults wear masks in places of worship at this time unless they have an exemption.

And finally... Please accept a Christmas card from us which comes with our prayers and good wishes as we prepare to celebrate Christmas with you. Have a blessed Sunday and a good week.

Fr Jonathan & Fr Alex.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Recently Deceased: Mary Lynch, Catherine Frances, Christine Cullen, Peter Raftrey

Anniversaries: James McTernan, Margaret McTernan, Delia Hennigan, James Devine, Patrick Sullivan, Mary Flaherty, John Durnion, Patricia Jagers, Tony Hazard, Ellen Finn, Rita McSherry, Hubert Holohan, James Harmon, John Keegan, Una Bolger, Fr. Peter Rogers, Michael Connaughton, Maureen Watchorn, Bridget Collins, Joseph Walker, Mark Holland, Jean Ryan, Mary Ellen Plunkett, Bartholomew Looby, Cedric Farrell, Anthony Fagan **Sick & Housebound:** Christopher Zajac, John Stenson, Dorothy & David Cross, Ann Carolan, Ann Wilson, Tom Foley, Maisie Meehan, Peter Fagan, Steven Somerville, Mary Doherty, Maureen Fox, Margaret Norris, William Moran, Patrick Collins, Sue Allen, Ken Evans, Eilish Crehan, Peggy McCrackean, Roy Cunningham and all those suffering from the Covid-19 Virus.