

Parish of Saint Joseph, Malvern, Worcestershire

125 Newtown Road, Malvern, Worcestershire WR14 1PF

www.stjosephsmalvern.org

Archdiocese of Birmingham Registered Charity 234216



Parish Priest: Fr. Nazarius Mgunge
E-mail: priest.stjoseph.malvern@gmail.com
Tel: 01684 574 250

Parish Administrators:
Anne Lewis & Edyta Mills
E-mail: office.stjoseph.malvern@gmail.com
Tel: 01684 574 250

Chair of the PAC: Christopher Burger
Tel: 01886 832 729
Parish Safeguarding Rep: Kevin Douglas
Tel: 01886 832 468

Parish Site Manager: Sue Stubbings
Tel: 01684 541 716

St Joseph's School:
Headteacher: Thérèse Langford -
(Headteacher of the Year 2019 – Worcester)
School Secretary: Lindsey Latimer
Tel: 01684 573 016

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SEASON Year A 21– 22 December 2019

'Let the Lord enter! He is the King of Glory.'

Mass book page 90

CHRISTMAS REFLECTION

At this special time of year we celebrate the coming of our Saviour, who came into our world in the humblest of circumstances and was welcomed in the first place by poor shepherds who were the first to be told the good news that faithful Jews had longed for for centuries – *"Today in the town of Bethlehem a Saviour is born to you, who is Christ the Lord"* Luke 2:11

In the first preface of the Christmas Mass, we pray: "In the wonder of the Incarnation your eternal word has brought to the eyes of faith a new and radiant vision of your glory. In him we see our God made visible and so are caught up in love of the God we cannot see: God became man so that man could become one with God again." Such is the profound mystery we celebrate annually in Christian Churches of all denominations.

With so much going on in the world today, the story of Christmas enables us to see that Jesus himself became, for a time, a migrant child. He and his family fled to a foreign country because their lives were at risk. The plight of so many hundreds of thousands of displaced people in the world today gives us all cause for thought. If our concern with our own identity allows us to think of others as less worthy of God's love or less in his heart of love than we are, then we are both deluded and dangerous. But Christmas, with its message of joy and hope, is a celebration of the real identity we all share in the love of Jesus Christ for us. Let us bring that joy and hope into our Christmas festivities and into the coming year. Merry Christmas!



PRAYER BEFORE THE ADVENT WREATH

Father in heaven, Our hearts desire the warmth of your love and our minds are searching for the light of your Word. Increase our longing for Christ our Saviour and give us the strength to grow in love, that the dawn of his coming may find us rejoicing in his presence and welcoming the light of his truth; Our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you, for ever and ever, **Amen**

Confessions will be at 4.30 before Mass on Christmas Eve and during the carol service prior to the Midnight Mass.

Fr Naz will be travelling to East Timor from Thursday 26 December until Wednesday 8 January. This trip has been organised and funded by a Timorese family from Oxford. We wish Fr Naz a wonderful, restful and safe time away and we look forward to his return on the 8 January.

Thursday 26 December please note there will be no exposition on that day as it is Boxing Day.

Parish Administrator: We are very pleased to announce that **Sam Craig** will be our new parish administrator as of January 2020. Sam has a wealth of administrative experience and skills and will be a wonderful addition to the parish team. Many of you will know Sam and her family as they are our parishioners.

Sam will be working together with Anne Lewis this role is shared. She will be replacing Edyta Mills who will be leaving at the end of January. Throughout January Edyta and Anne will be inducting Sam into the role and Edyta will be handing over her duties. Please join us in warmly welcoming Sam, we send her many congratulations and good luck!

Mass Times and Intentions for 21 December 2019 to 05 January 2020

Saturday	21	St Peter Canisius	10.00 am	Holy Mass	Alice Tagart † (H O'Connor)
Saturday	22	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT	6.00 pm	Holy Mass	People of the Parish
Sunday	22	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT	10.00 am	Holy Mass	Members of the Murphy Family † (L Harper)
Monday	23	St John, Kanty, Priest	12 noon	Holy Mass	Thanksgiving (T & B Jennymon)
Tuesday	24	CHRISTMAS EVE NATIVITY OF THE LORD	5.00 pm 11.30 pm 12 Midnight	Children's Christmas Mass Carol singing Christmas Mass	Tina Ternullo † People of the Parish
Wednesday	25	CHRISTMAS DAY NATIVITY OF THE LORD	10.00 am	Christmas Mass	Avenue care Home (A-M Elder)
Thursday	26	St Stephen, the first Martyr	10.00 am	Holy Mass	Paulina Ximenes †
Friday	27	St John, Apostle, Evangelist		No Service	
Saturday	28	FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY	6.00 pm	Holy Mass	People of the Parish
Sunday	29	FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY	10.00 am	Holy Mass	Roger & Wendy Eckersley (Eckersley Family)
Monday	30	Sixth Day in Octave of Christmas	12.00 Noon	Eucharistic Service	
Tuesday	31	Saint Sylvester I, Pope		No service	
Wednesday	01	THE MOTHER OF GOD	10.00 am	Holy Mass	
Thursday	02	St Basil the Great & St Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops	7.00 pm	Eucharistic Service	
Friday	03	Most Holy Name of Jesus		No Service	
Saturday	04	EPIPHANY OF THE LORD	6.00 pm	Holy Mass	People of the Parish
Sunday	05	EPIPHANY OF THE LORD	10.00 am	Holy Mass	Thanksgiving (T & B Jennymon)

Parish Office Opening hours

Monday 23 Dec	09.00 – 12.00
Mon 24 – Fri 27 Dec	Closed
Monday 30 Dec	Closed
Tuesday 31 Dec	09.00 – 11.00
Wednesday 01 Jan	Closed
Thursday 02 Jan	08.30 – 12.30
Friday 03 Jan	Closed

100+Club Draw Results 15th December £100 Clare Gray; £50 Mary-Rose Hughes; £50 Brenda Howard; £25 Pauline Smith; £25 Margaret & David Rank Congratulations to the winners. The next draw will be on **Sunday 19th January. Thank you.**

The **Diocesan Education Service** are offering a one-day course on Saturday 11 January 2020 at Don Bosco House in Coleshill for aspiring and existing school leaders presently working outside the faith sector, who are interested in applying for a leadership post in a Catholic School. Please contact Charlotte Kirby c.kirby@bdes.org.uk to book a place.



Current shortages at Malvern Hills

Food Bank: jars of coffee, pasta sauce, tinned meat, tinned custard, tinned potatoes, tinned peas and carrots, size 5 and size six nappies, baby wipes, men's and ladies toiletries, men's shaving cream, men's razors.

The **Archdiocese of Birmingham** is looking to recruit a Strengthening Cluster Communities Officer in

Wolverhampton. Part-time (30 hours per week) Fixed-term 12 months (with possible extension, funding dependant) £18,500 - £21,200 pa. pro rata. For the job description or to apply for this role, please email Human Resources: gerry.dryden@rc-birmingham.org
Closing Date: Friday 24 Jan 2020

The ecumenical intentions for the week of:

22 Dec - Voluntary Organisations of our town: Community Action, Citizens Advice, Age UK, Home-Start, Foodbank, Positive Thoughts (formerly Malvern MIND), Malvern Special Families

29 Dec - Children and Families in special need, and those who care for them, foster carers, social workers. The Sunshine Children's Centre; Women's Refuges; the local foster care agencies

PLEASE PRAY FOR: The sick and housebound of St Joseph's parish, including: Anne Wiseman, Martin Burger, Monika Hill, Barbara Innes, Raymond Bree, Nicholas Ratcliff, Ellen Verdul, Jonah Willis, Ann O'Donoghue, Anna Tyack, Anne-Marie Elder, Jessica. We include all those in hospitals, nursing homes and their own homes. Our Lady, Health of the sick, pray for them.