



Parish of Saint Joseph

Malvern

Worcestershire

Archdiocese of Birmingham
Registered Charity 234216



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First Sunday of Advent

28 November – 29 November 2020

REFLECTION ON THE SEASON OF ADVENT

Advent begins with the Sunday that falls closest to November 30th. The season of Advent has a twofold character. It is a time of preparation for Christmas when the first coming of God's son to humanity is recalled. It is also a season when minds are directed by this memorial to Christ's second coming at the end of time. It is thus a time of joyful and spiritual expectation. The origin of Advent dates back to the 5th century and is influenced by the Eastern Church. The primary focus of this liturgy was expectation of the Lord's birth at Christmas. The first evidence of the Roman observance of the season occurred around the 6th century. There was little emphasis placed on the second coming. The focus was on preparation for the celebration of Christ's birth. At the same time other shifts took place concerning the final judgement of humanity which saw Advent take on penitential overtones. The First Sunday of Advent begins a new liturgical year and liturgical cycle: CYCLE B. During this year we encounter Jesus through the eyes of Mark, the evangelists. Advent prepares us for the coming of the Saviour. We must ask ourselves **"From what do we need saving?"**

Masses and Intentions for This Week

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|------|----|--|--------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Sat | 28 | Our Lady on Saturday | 9.15 am | Holy Mass Livestream only | People of the Parish |
| Sun | 29 | FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT | 10.00 am | Holy Mass Livestream only | Deceased Clergy † (Archdiocese) |
| Mon | 30 | Feast of St Andrew, Apostle | 12 noon | Holy Mass Livestream only | Thanksgiving (T & B Jennymon) |
| Tue | 01 | Feast of St Edmund Campion, Priest, Martyr | 12 noon | Holy Mass Livestream only | Madrine Najjuma Ssjombwe † |
| Wed | 02 | Advent Feria | | Private Mass | Delia Simmons |
| Thur | 02 | Exposition | 9:30am- 6:45 pm | Aldwin Room | |
| Thur | 03 | Memorial of St Francis Xavier, Priest Migrants' Day | 7.00 pm | Holy Mass | Patricia Mgungwe † |
| Fri | 04 | Advent Feria | 9.00 am | Holy Mass | Intention of the Priest |
| Sat | 05 | Feast of St Brinius, Bishop | 10.00 am | Holy Mass | People of the Parish |
| Sat | 05 | SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT | 6.00 pm | Holy Mass | Stan Williams † (L Harper) |
| Sun | 06 | SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT | 10.00 am | Holy Mass | Jim Harper † (L Harper) |

HOLY MASS FROM ST JOSEPH'S

Is livestreamed via YouTube except for Wednesday, Saturday pm and School Masses on Friday
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCq9QGYz7CmmPDRxzmT ttow>



@CatholicMalvern



St Josephs Catholic Parish, Malvern UK

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**

MAKE AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

If you cannot attend Mass, you may make an Act of Spiritual Communion by saying:

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You. AMEN.

Whole Day Exposition will resume on Thursday. We need parishioners to take charge of an hour or so from 9:30am until 6:45pm. Please contact Emily Vaughan-Spruce on tel: 07858048095. Those in charge of a specific hour will be responsible for cleaning. If you would like to drop in for a few minutes, please knock on the main door of the church and the person in charge for that hour will open the door for you. A maximum of three people may pray before the Blessed Sacrament at any one time.

Christmas Services

Christmas Masses are planned as follows:

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| Christmas Eve | 4.30 pm | Outdoor Children's Mass |
| Christmas Eve | 8.30 pm | Christmas Vigil Mass |
| Christmas Day | 8:00am | Christmas Day Mass |
| Christmas Day | 10.00 am | Christmas Day Mass |

Carol Service Sunday 20 Dec We are planning a carol service this year which will be a livestream only event (other than for those with a role in it). If you would like to take part by reading, singing, or playing an instrument, contact Edd (edd.hogan@marsh.com) or Carol Ann (carolann2711@gmail.com).

There will not be an **Advent Penitential Service** this year. However, Fr Naz will hear confessions in the Aldwin Room on Saturdays from 10:30 to 11am.

We have received a message from Sister Silvia in Bolivia, who sends love and regards to all in the Parish and One World Group. She writes: "We are still living the uncertainty of a second wave of infection. Rumours have it that Dec and Jan will be the highest rate of infections – hopefully not too severe. Is it true that a vaccine will soon be on the way...hopefully? We are serving meals three times a week to the needy children as the schools are closed. We do not have permission to open the children's home, some people take the quarantine seriously, others not. United in a spirit of prayer and friendship in the One Mission, Love and thanks, Sr Silvia"

Prayer for the End of the Pandemic

Almighty and merciful Father, You show your love to all your creation.
We come before You asking for an end to the pandemic currently ravaging our world.
Hear graciously the prayers we make for those affected by the virus.
Grant healing to the sick, eternal life to the dead and consolation to bereaved families.
We thank You for the recent vaccine developments and pray that vaccines may be delivered safely, effectively and ethically to all who need it.
We pray for governments and health authorities to take appropriate steps for the good of all their people.
Look upon us in your mercy and forgive us our failings.
Amen.

Please pray for **Edmund Butcher**, son of **Michael Butcher**, **John Cole**, father to **Susan van Ling**, and **Ellen Verdult**, mother to **Mary and John**. Ellen's funeral will be held at St Joseph's on Monday 7th December at 12 noon.

PLEASE PRAY FOR the sick & housebound of St Joseph's parish: *Anne Wiseman, Martin Burger, Raymond Bree, Nicholas Ratcliff, Jonah Willis, Anne-Marie Elder, and Jessica. We include all those in hospitals, nursing homes & their own homes. Our Lady, Health of the sick, pray for them. Amen*

There are two vacancies at St Joseph's School: a LUNCHTIME SUPERVISOR is required for January 2021 for 5 hours per week – 12 noon to 1pm Scale 1 Living Wage and a **CLEANER** is required for January 2021 for 12.5 hours per week – 3.30 to 6.00 pm (plus a bank of hours in the school holidays) Scale 1 Living Wage. Closing Date for both posts: **Wednesday 9th December at 12 Noon**. If you are interested in joining our friendly team please contact the school for further details and an application on 01684 573016 or email office@stjoesmalvern.worcs.sch.uk.

The Bridge School Malvern is a small special needs school run by local Christians primarily from St Andrews' Church (www.bridgeschoolmalvern.org). Currently it requires a Horticulture and Animal Care Tutor to work with Key Stage 3 & 4 children with SEN, near Hanley Swan. For more information, go to <https://www.indeed.co.uk/Special-Needs-School-jobs-in-Worcester>.

CAFOD World Gifts is a range of virtual gifts which make a real difference to families living in poverty across the world. The Keep Clean Kit gift for £6 and the Vegetable Garden gift for £10 are just two gifts that will help vulnerable families affected by the pandemic to protect and feed themselves. Let's spread joy and hope around the world this Christmas. Visit <https://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk/collections/frontpage>

Next Sunday there will be a Second Collection for the Poor Parishes of the Diocese.

The Parish's Annual Christmas Appeal organized by One World Group will take place during Advent. More information will follow soon.