

PARISH CLERGY:

PARISH PRIEST
Fr. Ramesh Echu
PARISH DEACON
Rev. Peter Crosby

ST. MARY OF THE ANGELS

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Parish Website:

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Parish Email:

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Fr. Ramesh's Email:

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Rev. Peter Crosby

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This Parish is part
of the
Archdiocese of
Birmingham.

**Registered
Charity
Nº:234216**



PARISH REPS:

SAFEGUARDING:

Mr Gerry Wintrip

sg.smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk

HEALTH & SAFETY:

Mr Phil Probert

hs.smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk

DATE

**Sunday 8th December
2024**

SUNDAY

**Second Sunday of Advent
Year C**

DIVINE OFFICE

Week 2

Live-stream: All of our services are now Live-streamed.

Saturday 7 th December 1 st Mass of Sunday	6:00pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 8 th December 2 nd Sunday in Advent	9:30am	Bert Margetts RIP ^(EM)
Monday 9 th December Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary ^{Solemnity}		<i>No Mass Today</i>
Tuesday 10 th December Advent Feria	9:15am	Tome & Juliet ^(AB)
Wednesday 11 th December Advent Feria	9:15am 6:00pm	Lila McHugh RIP ^(BG) <i>Rosary Devotion Group</i>
Thursday 12 th December Our Lady of Guadeloupe ^{Feast}	6:30pm 7:00pm	<i>Rosary for the Unborn</i> Private Intention
Friday 13 th December St Lucy Virgin, Martyr ^{Memorial}	9:15am	Nigel Rainer RIP ^(SVP)
Saturday 14 th December St John of the Cross ^{Priest, Memorial, Doctor of the Church} (1 st Mass of Sunday)	9:30am 10:00-10:30am 6:00pm	Mark Rainer RIP ^(JR&AS) <i>Exposition, Confessions & Benediction</i> People of the Parish
Sunday 15 th December 3 rd Sunday in Advent Gaudete Sunday	9:30am	Catherine Connolly RIP

Pope Francis

May we joyfully and humbly cultivate the little seed entrusted to us. We need the patience of those who sow without expecting anything, knowing how to wait for God's surprises.

Penitential Service

(With 6 priests): On **Friday 20th December** at **7pm**. This service of penance is meant to make us ready in mind and heart for the coming of Christ, which we celebrate in the Mass of Christmas. Kindly make use this of opportunity to make a good confession and welcome Christ into your hearts and homes.

The Cafod Prayer



Second Sunday of Advent

Come, Lord Jesus, to save the nations. Let the glory of your voice, the marvel of your message, be heard in the hearts of all throughout the world.

Walsall Life

Wishes to thank **everyone** who **helped with, donated to, baked for** and **supported** our fundraiser last Sunday. You raised the magnificent sum of **£728.13** to support our Help Station in Glebe Street. Thank You and May God Bless All.

Rosary for the Unborn

This **Thursday, 12th November** at **6.30pm**, we pray the Holy Rosary before the Blessed Sacrament for the protection of all babies in the womb and for their families. This month's intention is: **'For those facing a crisis in pregnancy at this time'**.

St Francis of Assisi Catholic College

Our College would like to invite you to their Carol Service here at St Mary of the Angels on **Monday 16th December** at **7 o'clock** for an evening of **Carols** and **Readings** telling the **Christmas Story**. All are welcome.

Pope's Prayer Intention

The Pope's prayer intention for December is:- **For pilgrims of hope**. We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognise the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

Whetstone Over 50's Group

The Annual Christmas Party is on December 9th at 1pm. Don't forget your food for table and your 'Secret Santa' gift to the value of £5.

Sick in the Parish

Pray for the sick in the parish, remembering especially:

Jackie Poyner, Freddie Evans, Nuala & George Partridge, Hilary Fernandes, Eoghain Devine, John Bradley, Jean Watson, Marian Mathews, Marie Wilson, Ian Phipps, Oscar Wordsworth, Nichola Woodhall, Paul Corbett, Carmel Fekete, Lynn Stanley, John Green, Janet Chambers, Jo Hawker, Alison Welton, Louise Morgan, Margaret Davis, Joe Bannister, Margaret Healy, Juliet Woodhall, Luke Smith, Catherine Shepherd, Jim Smith, David Goodwin, Antonio Bigongiari, Olivia ^(Dotty) Cutler, Ann & Keith Allford, Anna Morgan ^{nee Meehan}, Holly Brady, Jo Cooke, Anne Humphreys, Theresa Chandler, Fr. Paul Chamberlain, Cath Breen, Max Lewis, David & Sheila Piggott, Clare Cooksey & Aine McDonagh.

Please remember also in your prayers those who carry the burden of their illnesses privately and those who care for them.

Recently Deceased

Of your charity, please pray for the repose of the souls of **James Donnelly, John Hutchcocks, & John Hurley** on whose souls Sweet Jesus have mercy. May they rest in peace. **John Hutchcocks'** funeral will be at **1:00pm on Monday 16th December** at Streetly Crematorium.

Safeguarding Notice

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Mr. Gerry Wintrip. Gerry can be contacted at: sg.smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk or the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted at safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk or on 0121 230 6240 if you have any concerns.

The Assisted Suicide Bill

The Assisted Suicide Bill sadly passed its first reading. It has still to pass the second reading and go before the House of Lords. Further action can still be taken. Please continue to contact your MPs. For Aldridge, you can email: wendy.morton.mp@parliament.uk

The Big Clean



The big Christmas clean up for the church will be on **Monday 23rd December at 9:30**
All teams are invited to this.

Eucharistic Ministers

We will be resuming the distribution of **Holy Communion under both kinds** from the Christmas Masses, and so we are looking for volunteers to administer the **Precious Blood** to the congregation. We will need **4 ministers per Mass**, on a rota basis. No experience is required and training will be provided. There is no age limit, and our youth are particularly encouraged to share in this ministry. If you are willing to volunteer, please see Deacon Peter after the Masses this weekend

Craft and Natter

Craft and Natter will be having a Christmas stall at the back of church this Saturday evening and Sunday morning **7th & 8th December**. Do please come along and have a look at what we have got for sale, get your exclusive gifts for family and friends; at the same time raising funds for the church. All money goes to the church and everything on the stall has been hand made by our 'crafters'. Thank you for your support.

Food Bank Christmas Gifts

As last year we are supporting the Food Bank in providing **Christmas Gifts** for **children** and **adults** in need. The Food Bank has asked that we don't wrap the gifts, so they are able to give the gifts appropriately. However if you wish you could put them in an open Christmas gift bag unsealed.

There is a box on the **Sanctuary** for all Christmas donations (not food offerings, which should be left in the usual place in the porch). The **last date for bringing gifts** is next **Sunday 15th December**. Thank you once again for your generous support.

Christmas Cards – Jesuit Refugee Service

The Jesuit Refugee Service encourages us to send a Christmas Card to a refugee this Christmas. Refugees can find Christmas a lonely time, receiving a Christmas Card can remind them that they are being thought of. If you would like to send a card, please see the box in the porch for further details.

Adult Catechesis – RCIA Course

Our series of talks are now running, aimed at anyone considering becoming Catholic, or (Catholic or not) interested in knowing more about the faith and the Catholic Church's Teaching and Tradition. We meet every Friday evening at 6:30 - 8pm in the parish meeting room.

Parish Census

If you are a new member/family in the parish please complete the census form in the church porch. Return the form by posting it through the Presbytery door in an envelope marked Census.

Sacrament of the Sick

Please remember to inform **Fr. Ramesh directly** in case of sickness, especially if it requires hospital treatment or a prolonged absence from Mass. If you cannot inform the clergy yourself it is then your family who should take on this responsibility.

Collections:

Weekly Standing Orders:	£920.00
Last Weekend's Offertory:	£198.80
Life Fundraising:	£728.13

Baptism Enquiries

If you would like to have your child Baptised here at St. Mary of the Angels, please visit the 'Baptismal Enquiry' page of the parish website using the following link: <https://www.catholicaldridge.co.uk/baptismal-enquiries.html> Here you can complete a '**Baptism Enquiry Form**'. The next available dates for Baptism Preparation are:

7pm Tuesday 14th January 2025

Retiring Collection This Weekend.

There will be a retiring collection at both of our Masses **this weekend**, **7th/8th December** in aid of the **Poor Parishes Fund**.

PARISH DUTIES THIS WEEKEND: 7TH – 8TH DECEMBER 2024

6:00PM VIGIL MASS	READERS:	Gerry W & Cathy S
	MUSIC:	Choir
9:30AM SUNG MASS	READERS:	Christine L & Helen C

Duties During the Week: 9TH – 14TH DECEMBER 2024

CLEANERS:	Team B
FLOWERS:	No flowers until Christmas

PARISH DUTIES NEXT WEEKEND: 14TH – 15TH DECEMBER 2024

6:00PM VIGIL MASS	WELCOMERS:	John & Ann T
	WARDENS:	Peter H
	READERS:	John H & Pat H
9:30AM SUNG MASS	MUSIC:	Folk Group
	WELCOMERS:	Jonathan & Jenson G
	WARDENS:	John O'N & Elaine A
	READERS:	Catherine A & Mark H
COFFEE:	Shelagh G, Cath W, Deidra & Mary McC	

 **The new Tea and Coffee Rota will be available this weekend in the porch** 

And Finally: - The Advent season challenges us to prepare for the celebration of Jesus' first coming. We are also to prepare for Christ's present "coming" to us in God's Word, in the Eucharist, in our neighbours, in the Christian community, and in the abiding presence of the Holy Trinity in our souls. Finally, we are asked to be ready to meet Christ as our Judge both at the end of our lives, and at the end of the world. Then Jesus will come with power and great glory on the clouds of Heaven as our Judge, bringing our waiting to its everlasting completion. The readings today invite us to recall God's saving deeds in the history of Israel, culminating in the coming of the promised Messiah.

May God bless you all.