

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

ST. MARY OF THE ANGELS

39 Whetstone Lane
 Aldridge
 Walsall
 WS9 0JD
 Tel:01922 452316

This Parish is part
 of the
 Archdiocese of
 Birmingham.
**Registered
 Charity
 N^o:234216**

PARISH REPS:
 SAFEGUARDING:
Mr Gerry Wintrip
sg.smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk
 HEALTH & SAFETY:
Mr Phil Probert
hs.smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk

Parish Website:
www.catholicaldridge.co.uk

Parish Email:
smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk

Fr. Ramesh's Email:
fr.ramesh.echu@rcaob.org.uk

Rev. Peter Crosby
dcn.peter.crosby@rcaob.org.uk



DATE
**Sunday 15th December
 2024**

SUNDAY
**Third Sunday of Advent
 Year C**

DIVINE OFFICE
Week 3

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

Saturday 14 th December 1st Mass of Sunday	6:00pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 15 th December 3rd Sunday of Advent	9:30am	Catherine Connolly ^{RIP} Gaudete Sunday
Monday 16 th December Advent Feria	7:00pm	Carol Service by SFA School (in Our Church)
Tuesday 17 th December Advent Feria	9:15am	Jacob & Ide Almeida ^{RIP} (A&OA)
Wednesday 18 th December Advent Feria	9:15am 7:30pm	David Quigley ^{RIP} (AH) Carol Service by Aldridge School (in Our Church)
Thursday 19 th December Advent Feria	9:15am 6:30pm	↔ NB Private Intention Carol Service by SMA School (in Our Church)
Friday 20 th December Advent Feria	9:15am 7:00pm	↔ In School Chrissie Everett Hickson ^{RIP} (SVP) <i>Penitential Service</i> In Church
Saturday 21 st December St Peter Canisius ^{Priest,} Doctor of the Church ^{Memorial.} (1 st Mass of Sunday)	9:30am 10:00- 10:30am 6:00pm	Sick in the Parish <i>Exposition, Confessions & Benediction</i> Int. of Payne Family ^(SH)
Sunday 22 nd December 4th Sunday in Advent	9:30am	People of the Parish

Pope Francis

The Holy Spirit is the source that fans the flame of hope. His presence in our lives helps us to both have hope and radiate it for humanity, which greatly needs it.

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.



It is time now to rejoice because the coming of our Saviour is drawing near.

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'**.

Recently Deceased

Of your charity, please pray for the repose of the souls of **Beryl Treadwell, Edith Elizabeth Roberts, Nora Pears, 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. **Edith Elizabeth Roberts's** Funeral Service is on Wednesday 8th January at 11:30am followed by Burial at Streetly Cemetery at 12:30pm.

Coffee Morning Rota

The latest rota is available to collect from the porch.

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.

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 ^{née Meehan}, Holly Brady, Jo Cooke, Anne Humphreys, Theresa Chandler, Fr. Paul Chamberlain, Cath Breen, Max Lewis, David & Sheila Piggott, Clare Cooksey & Áine McDonagh.

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

The Big Clean



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

Rosary Devotion Group

The Rosary Devotion Group has broken up for Christmas and will return on **Wednesday the 8th January 2025**. More details will follow after Christmas.

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.

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

Timings for the Christmas Masses:



Christmas Eve: (Tuesday 24th December

Carol service at 4:30pm

Followed by Family Mass at 5.00pm.



Carol service at 11:30pm

Followed by Christmas Midnight Mass



Christmas Day (Wednesday 25th December)

Mass: 9:30am.

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 **THIS Sunday 15th December**. Thank you once again for your generous support.

Craft and Natter

After the Christmas Fayre and stalls at the back of church we are able to give Fr Ramesh **£350** for church funds, we would like to thank the parish for supporting us all in our endeavours; those who made, helped set up, take down, sold or bought. We started on the 10th September 2013 with a handful of ladies, we are now 20, and **to date we have donated £6,278** to church funds, thanks to your generosity; everything on the stall was hand made by us. **A very happy Christmas to you all, Christine and the crafters.**

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.

Retiring Collection This Weekend.

There will be a retiring collection at both of our Masses **this weekend**, the **14th/15th December** in aid of **Aldridge SVP**.

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:	£188.05
Poor Parishes:	£418.92
Craft Sales	£350.00

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

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

6:00PM VIGIL MASS	READERS:	John H & Pat H
9:30AM SUNG MASS	MUSIC:	Folk Group
	READERS:	Catherine A & Mark H

Duties During the Week: 16TH – 21ST DECEMBER 2024

CLEANERS:	Team C
FLOWERS:	No flowers until Christmas

PARISH DUTIES NEXT WEEKEND: 21ST – 22ND DECEMBER 2024

6:00PM VIGIL MASS	WELCOMERS:	Shelagh G & Anne H
	WARDENS:	Tony M
	READERS:	Gerry W & Brian L
9:30AM SUNG MASS	MUSIC:	Choir
	WELCOMERS:	Rosella B & Helen C
	WARDENS:	Pat & Sally S
	READERS:	Will B & Helen C
COFFEE:	The A Family	

And Finally: - In the Gospel today, John the Baptist explains the secret of Christian joy as a wholehearted commitment to God's Way lived out by doing His will. A 'sad Christian' is a contradiction in terms. According to the Baptiser, happiness comes from doing our duties faithfully, doing good for others, and sharing our blessings with those in need. John challenges people to develop generosity and a sense of fairness and to use these to give others a reason to rejoice. John's call to repentance is a call to joy and restoration. *Repentance* means a change in the purpose and direction of our lives. Filled with joyful expectation that the Messiah is coming near, the people ask John, "What should we do?" He tells them to act with *justice, charity, and honesty*, letting their lives reflect their transformation. For us, that transformation occurs when we recognise that Christ has already entered our lives at Baptism, and that His Presence is to be reflected in our living in the ways Jesus teaches and John suggests. We must care for others and share our blessings with others if we are to live out our Faith.

May God bless you all