

**PARISH CLERGY:**

PARISH PRIEST  
**Fr. Craig Davies**

PARISH DEACON  
**Rev. Peter Crosby**

**PARISH REPS:**

SAFEGUARDING:  
**Mr Gerry Wintrip**  
[sg.smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk)

HEALTH & SAFETY:  
**Mr Phil Probert**  
[hs.smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:hs.smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk)

**ST. MARY OF THE ANGELS**

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

**Parish Website:**

[www.catholicaldridge.co.uk](http://www.catholicaldridge.co.uk)

**Parish Email:**

[smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk)

**Fr. Craig's Email:**

[fr.craig.davies@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:fr.craig.davies@rcaob.org.uk)

This Parish is part  
of the  
Archdiocese of  
Birmingham.  
**Registered  
Charity  
N<sup>o</sup>:234216**

**DATE**

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December  
2023**

**SUNDAY**

**Feast of the Holy Family  
Year B**

**DIVINE OFFICE**

**Week 1**

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

<b>Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> Dec</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Mass of Sunday	6:00pm	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December</b> Feast of the Holy Family	9:30am 6:15pm	Janet Reeves RIP <sup>(JR)</sup> <b><i>Holy Hour for Vocations</i></b>
<b>Monday 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2024</b> Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God	9:15am	Bernadette Burns RIP <sup>(A&amp;TB)</sup>
<b>Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan</b> Ss. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen Bishops, Doctors of the Church Memorial	9:15am	Melina Satariano RIP <sup>(YD)</sup>
<b>Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan</b> Christmas Feria		No Services Today
<b>Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> Jan</b> Christmas Feria	6:30pm 7:00pm	<b><i>Rosary for the Unborn</i></b> Private Intention
<b>Friday 5<sup>th</sup> Jan</b> Christmas Feria	10:00am 6:15pm	<b>Requiem Mass: Nigel Rainer</b> <b><i>Lectio Divina</i></b>
<b>Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> Jan</b> Christmas Feria (1 <sup>st</sup> Mass of Sunday)	9:30am 10-11am 6:00pm	Peter Haywood RIP <sup>(LC)</sup> <i>Exposition, Confessions &amp; Benediction</i> Int. of the Breen Family <sup>(KB)</sup>
<b>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January</b> Solemnity of the Epiphany	9:30am 6:15pm	People of the Parish <b><i>Holy Hour for Vocations</i></b>

## Pope Francis

We need to keep watch over our hearts. Much of the favourable outcome of every spiritual battle is determined at its outset – by consistently watching over our hearts.

### The CaFOD Prayer

# CAFOD

### Feast of the Holy Family

Lord, we pray that all families may be transformed by the model you have given us in your Holy Family.

### Recently Deceased

Of your charity please pray for the repose of the soul of **Nigel Rainer**, on whose soul Sweet Jesus have mercy. May he rest in peace.

**Nigel's Requiem Mass will be celebrated at 10:00am on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January prior to cremation at Streetly Crematorium.**

### Thank You

On behalf of the Parish I would like to say a huge “thank you” to everyone who helped prepare the church for the Christmas festivities, and those who ensured that all of the Masses went off without a hitch. As always the church cleaners, the flower arrangers, the choir, the folk group, the servers, the wardens & welcomers, the readers, and those who prepared the Christmas Nativity Scene did us proud. This year, for the first time after the Covid Pandemic, I would also like to say a special word of thanks to Mrs Hill, Mrs Hayes, the staff, and the children from our primary school who helped to lead the 5pm Family Mass on Christmas eve. I think everyone who attended would agree that the children read beautifully.

## Pope's Prayer Intention

The Pope's prayer intention for **January** is:- **For gift of diversity of in the Church.** We pray that the Holy Spirit may help us to recognise the gift of different charisms within the Christian community and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the Catholic Church.

### Sick in the Parish

Pray for the sick in the parish, remembering especially:

**Mark Rainer, Marian Mathews, Marie Wilson, Ian Phipps, Sister Ann-Marie, Carol Facer, Oscar Wordsworth, Nichola Woodhall, Paul Corbett, Carmel Fekete, Lynn Stanley, John Green, Roy Allsopp, Janet Chambers, Jo Hawker, Alison Welton, Louise Morgan, Margaret Davis, Mary Brough, Joe Bannister, Margaret Healy, Juliet Woodhall, Luke Smith, Catherine Shepherd, Jim Smith, David Goodwin, Antonio Bigongiari, Olivia (Dotty) Cutler, Ann & Keith Allford, Anna Morgan <sup>née Meehan</sup>, Holly Brady, Mike Mander, 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, that the Lord may grant them His healing and peace.

### Craft & Natter

We continue our Christmas Break, returning to the Parish Meeting Room on Tuesday, **9<sup>th</sup> January**, at our usual time of **11am – 3pm**. Everyone is welcome. For more information please call Christine W on 07900604902.

## 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](mailto:sg.smota.aldridge@rcaob.org.uk) or the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted at [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) or on 0121 230 6240 if you have any concerns.

## Cleaners Rota



The new cleaners rota is now available on our website at [www.catholicaldridge.co.uk/parish-duty-rotas](http://www.catholicaldridge.co.uk/parish-duty-rotas). Printed copies are at the back of church for those who have requested them.

## Message from Fr. Craig

Each year, at both Christmas and Easter I find myself overwhelmed by the level of warmth, and generosity, that you show to me as your Parish Priest. This year I would once again like to thank everyone for your kindness which you have shown through the many gifts, cards which I have received over the past several weeks, and for the generous Christmas Offering.

## Rosary for the Unborn



This Thursday, **4<sup>th</sup> January** 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 families, that they are supported and remain open to the gift of life.'**



Children's Liturgy takes place every Sunday at the 9:30am Mass. At the start of the Mass the children will be invited to go out to the Meeting Room for their Liturgy. All children are welcome to come along.

## Christmas Crib Collection

Over the past few months we have watched the devastating war unfold in the Holy Land. Many of those who are suffering in Gaza are our brothers and sisters in the faith! Many have lost homes, parents, children, and churches. Therefore, I have decided that it is only right that our **Crib Collection** should go to support the work of the **Friends of the Holy Land**. The box for this collection will be located next to the Nativity Scene, at the front of the church, and will remain there until 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2024.



## Are You Missing Anything?

Is any of your family missing a hat after our wonderful Family Mass last Sunday? We have gained two bobble hats. (See picture below). They will be in the porch to collect for a few weeks to enable you to retrieve them. After a few weeks they will be donated to charity.



### Sacrament of the Sick

Please remember to inform Fr. Craig **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.

### 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 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2024**

**7pm Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March**

**7pm Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June**

### Collections:

**Last Weekends Offertory: £147.88**

**Weekly Standing Orders: £870.00**

**Aldridge School Donation: £250.93**

### **PARISH DUTIES THIS WEEKEND: 30<sup>TH</sup> - 31<sup>ST</sup> December 2023**

<b>6:00PM VIGIL MASS</b>	<b>READERS:</b>	Hugh D & Cathy S
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<b>9:30AM SUNG MASS</b>	<b>MUSIC:</b>	Folk Group
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	<b>READERS:</b>	Christine L & Mark H
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### **Duties During the Week: 1<sup>ST</sup> - 6<sup>TH</sup> January 2024**

<b>CLEANERS:</b>	Team B
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<b>FLOWERS:</b>	Ann T
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### **PARISH DUTIES NEXT WEEKEND: 6<sup>TH</sup> - 7<sup>TH</sup> January 2024**

<b>6:00PM VIGIL MASS</b>	<b>WELCOMERS:</b>	Dawn M
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	<b>WARDENS:</b>	Peter H
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	<b>READERS:</b>	Gerry W & Brian L
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<b>9:30AM SUNG MASS</b>	<b>MUSIC:</b>	Choir
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	<b>WELCOMERS:</b>	Margaret L, Helen A & Elena S
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	<b>WARDENS:</b>	Pat & Sally S
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	<b>READERS:</b>	Helen C & Will B
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<b>COFFEE:</b>	Martin & Abbie B & Maureen A
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**And finally:-** One the first Sunday after Christmas, in the liturgy of the Church, we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. The conclusion of the Gospel of this Sunday reminds us of the 'normality' of the early years of the life of Jesus. How he "grew in maturity, and he was filled with wisdom" in the family home at Nazareth. This Sunday reminds us of the precious gift which is the everyday life of the family. Of that loving environment which affords each one of us the precious gifts of love, security, warmth, and support. A place where each of us has a part to play in bringing about the good of those closest to us. As we celebrate this Octave Day of the Christmas Season, let us take time to remember before God our own family members, those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith, and those still alive, all those who have helped mould and shape us into the people we are today.

*May God bless you all, Fr. Craig*