



LITURGY

First reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

Response to the Psalm: I rejoiced when I heard them say: 'Let us go to God's house.'

Second reading: Romans 13:11-14

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 24:37-44



Dear Parishioners

The special Gospel during the coming liturgical year, of which today's is the first day, is St. Matthew. In today's passage Jesus is replying to the Apostles' insecurity. Without their understanding what he was talking about, he referred to his Second

Coming. Throughout Advent, our liturgy will refer frequently to that word "coming." The very word "Advent" means "coming." Jesus' comings are in history, mystery and majesty.

Historically, though Advent is a time of waiting for Jesus' coming it's not a time of make-believe. We don't pretend that Jesus hasn't already been born of Mary, preached a public life, dies and rose. In mystery, we recognise Jesus' presence among us in his Spirit, his Word, his Sacraments and one another. We also await his final coming among us at our death and in majesty in the last days of creation.

No matter which coming we refer to – Christmas, or any time during the days of our lives, or at our death, or at the end of the world – Jesus' message is that, rather than knowing the exact details of time, it's more important we be always vigilant and prepared.

That's where Isaiah, who provides today's first reading, comes in. Isaiah – and all the prophets – were much more concerned with *shaping* the future than *foretelling* it. They were courageous witnesses to God, even in the face of imprisonment and death. Isaiah, because he looked forward with joy to the coming of Jesus, has a prominent place in the liturgies of Advent and Christmas.

So, as we begin our preparations for the coming of Jesus, let's widen our sometimes narrow band of vision sort out our priorities and, with Jesus' help, shape our future in the right way.

**God Bless
Fr. Benedict OSB**

St Mary's Roman Catholic Church

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This parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham and served by the

Benedictine Monks of Douai Abbey

Parish Priest: Fr. Benedict Thompson O.S.B

Rev. Deacon Peter Griffiths



1st Sunday of Advent Year(A)

Week commencing Sunday 27th November 2022

Parish Safeguarding: Mrs. Helen Woodhouse
Contact in confidence sg.stmary.studley@rcaob.org.uk

Masses

Sat 26 th Nov	5.00pm	1 st Week of Advent Year A	Holy Souls
Sun 27 th Nov	10.30am	1 st Week of Advent Year A	Deacon Peter
Mon 28 th Nov			
Tues 29 th Nov			
Wed 30 th Nov	9.45am		School Mass in Church
Thur 1 st Dec			Wellbeing of the EBC
Fri 2 nd Dec			
Sat 3 rd Dec	5.00pm	2 nd Week of Advent Year A	Alan Clatworthy
Sun 4 th Dec	10.30am	2 nd Week of Advent Year A	People of the Parish

Mass is celebrated privately daily except on Monday.

If you would like a mass offered for a particular intention, please email the parish or put a note through the door of the presbytery, *please do not place it in the collection bag*. Thank you.

Those Who Have Asked for Prayers:

Derek Sollis, , Georgette Cowell, Dolores Flynn, Fred Chadfield. Alan Clatworthy, Chanel Mullings, Clive Rickhards,, Jill Spurrell,

Those who have recently died: .

Richard Flynn, Denis Charlton, Mary Gardner, Charles Maries, Sheila Hall, Donald Newell, Helen Meaney Bridget Clarke, Sylvia Flanagan, Robert McCarthy, Pamela Young, Norah O'Neill-Thomas, Susanna Westmeath, Nell Bridge. Doleen Evans, Jean Monica Tucker, Fr. John Fallon, Judy Husband Graham Janes, Elizabeth Watton, Maurice Andrews, Max Stoddart. Tony Lyons, Michael Russell, Mary Cross, Agnes McIlravey, Helen McCarthy, Patricia O'Brien, Pauline Burton, Mary Judith Smith (nee Hewitt), Wyn Varley, Raimondo Gemeli, Anthony Woodhouse.

Information

.Second Collection

The weekly second collection will normally be for help towards the payment of the diocesan levy and the upkeep of the house and church buildings. Both the church and the house are Grade II listed so any work done has to be to a high standard as set by the requisite authority. Here are a few of the expenses for the coming year:

- Diocesan Levy £5,500 p.a.
- Building's upkeep £36,000.00
- Insurance £3,744.77 p.a.

At times the second collection will be for other charities and the details of these will be placed in the bulletin.

Christmas Fayre – Bottle Tombola

A big thank you to everyone who has donated bottles for the tombola. We now have sufficient bottles so please don't bring anymore! Please go along to the school on Saturday 10th December from 12 noon & support St Mary's school & Church in this annual fundraising event.

Coffee, Cake & Christmas Gifts

Join us after 10.30 Mass on Sunday 4th December.
There will be a 'bring & buy' table with some new **Christmas gift sets for sale. All items will be individually priced.**
Come & join us for & catch up with friends over a cuppa & do some last-minute Christmas shopping.
Cash only on the day.

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

The Douai Abbey Parishes Trust is responsible for our Parish and is committed to ensuring high standards of information security, privacy and transparency. Check our website, address above, for full details