



**LITURGY**

**First reading:** Isaiah 11:1-10

**Response to the Psalm:** In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails.

**Second reading:** Romans 15:4-9

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and all mankind shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!

**Gospel:** Matthew 3:1-12



**Dear Parishioners**

This week, in the Gospel, John the Baptist appears announcing God's impending arrival to purify the world. While the Baptiser stresses the need for conversion and warns of the fate of those who do not reform, the first reading, from Isaiah gives us a magnificent vision of the peace, justice and right that will come about through the coming Messiah. The poor will have justice; there will be universal knowledge and prosperity and an end to violence and fear. But while this vision is heart-moving, one wonders whether we can or do still believe it. Most modern people seem to have abandoned the hope for an imminent divine coming; and we are suspicious of utopian visions and prophetic warnings.

But what happens then to our sense of expectation, our Advent hope for God's coming? Is it reduced to a fiction, a cynical commemoration of a **past** expectation that was fulfilled at Christ's birth. Is there anything for **us** to hope for and await? We should remember that we would not be seeking God 'in the Kingdom' unless

God were already present in our hearts; it is precisely because of this divine presence of God 'within' that we can seek and long for God. For the Christian, the peace of God is both a present reality and a promise; and because a promise, also a task and a challenge. The cleansing fire is already here, are willing to allow ourselves to be burned, sifted, transformed, as a sign to the world of the secret presence that is also present within it, waiting to be discovered.

**.God Bless  
Fr. Benedict OSB**

# St Mary's Roman Catholic Church

103 Alcester Road Studley Warwickshire B80 7NW

Telephone 01527 852524

Email: [stmarysstudley@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysstudley@gmail.com)

WEBSITE: [stmaryscatholicchurchstudley.org.uk](http://stmaryscatholicchurchstudley.org.uk)

Registered Charity Number 1063237

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



**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent Year(A)**

**Week commencing Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2022**

**Parish Safeguarding: Mrs. Helen Woodhouse**  
Contact in confidence [sg.stmary.studley@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.stmary.studley@rcaob.org.uk)

Masses			
Sat 3 <sup>rd</sup> Dec	5.00pm	2 <sup>nd</sup> Week of Advent Year A	Alan Clatworthy
Sun 4 <sup>th</sup> Dec	10.30am	2 <sup>nd</sup> Week of Advent Year A	People of the Parish
Mon 5 <sup>th</sup> Dec			
Tues 6 <sup>th</sup> Dec			
Wed 7 <sup>th</sup>			
Thur 8 <sup>th</sup> Dec		<b>Immaculate Conception (S)</b>	Wellbeing of the EBC
Fri 9 <sup>th</sup> Dec			
Sat 10 <sup>th</sup> Dec	5.00pm	3 <sup>rd</sup> Week of Advent Year A	People of the Parish
Sun 11 <sup>th</sup> Dec	10.30am	3 <sup>rd</sup> Week of Advent Year A	Hannah & Stanley Williams RIP

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 10<sup>th</sup> 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 This Weekend

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