



LITURGY

First reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

Response to the Psalm: Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Second reading: Romans 13:11-14a

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia. Sho us, O Lord, your mercy, and grant us your salvation. 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 the 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 Week of Advent Year A

Week commencing Sunday 30th November 2025

Parish Safeguarding: Mrs. Helen Woodhouse

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese policies & procedures at all times. Our

Parish Safeguarding Representative is Helen Woodhouse. She can be contacted at: sg.stmarys.studley@rcaob.org.uk or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concerns.

Masses

Sat 29 th Nov.	5.00pm	1 st Week of Advent Year A	Hall, Allan & Averill Families RIP
Sun 30 th Nov	10.30am	1 st Week of Advent Year A	Hilda & Pat Tenten RIP
Mon 1 st Dec.			
Tues 2 nd Dec.			
Wed 3 rd Dec.		St. Francis Xavier (mem)	Private Intention
Thur 4 th Dec.			
Fri 5 th Dec.			
Sat 6 th Dec.	5.00pm	2 nd Week of Advent Year A	Jan & Genowefa Jurczyk RIP
Sun 7 th Dec.	10.30am	2 nd Week of Advent Year A	Mary Scally 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, Dolores Flynn, Fred Chadfield, Chanel Mullings, Clive Rickhards,, Jill Spurrell, Judith Baylis, Jackie Gannon, Mick Sollis, Agnes Wilkins, Alma Finnerty, Bud Sollis, Agnes Finn, Anne Hazlewood, Michael Howell.

Those who have recently died:

Mary Judith Smith (nee Hewitt), Wyn Varley, Raimondo Gemeli, Anthony Woodhouse, Barbara Woodhouse, Kathleen McLoughlin, Peter McGoldrick, Anthony Roache, Lionel Quigley. Keith John Francis Cotterell, Anna Rose McGoldrick, Mary Baker, Georgette Cowell, Anthony Mathew, John Knox, Bill McCarthy, Bernadette Mary Parker, Mary Phipps, Alan Clatworthy, Abbot Finbar Kealy OSB, Katherine McCallion, Fr. Boniface Moran OSB, Richard Thornton-Pett, Mary Scally, Fr. Anthony Rohan, James Joseph Flynn, Stan Phipps, Sheila Eastham and all those for whom we have been asked to pray.

INFORMATION

Sunday Coffee

Please come and join us for coffee and biscuits.

The next coffee morning will be on Sunday

21st December. Thank you to Lin and Agnes for volunteering.

A new list, for volunteers to sign up, is now available at the back of church. Please do help and try to sign up for a couple of times a year. Thank you.

Second Collection.

The second weekly collection will normally be for help towards 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.

Because of the age of the buildings the work is continuous and ongoing.

On occasion there will be other second collections and these will be noted above.

Unwanted Gifts

So that we can keep the bric-a-brac table stocked, we are appealing for any unwanted gifts and any contemporary paperback fiction please.

Thank you to everyone who has donated items for the Bring & Buy table, your support is really appreciated.

Please leave any donations for the table in the black box at the back of the church and not directly on the table in the conservatory.

Thank you for your help.

Recently Dead

Over the next few weeks, we will need to remove the names of those who died over twelve months ago from the list of the 'Recently Dead.' This is so that room can be made for more recent deaths. Please be assured that all the dead of the parish are constantly in our prayers.