



LITURGY

First reading: Isaiah 7:10-14

Response to the Psalm: Let the Lord enter; he is the king of glory.

Second reading: Romans 1:1-7

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel – which means, God with us. Alleluia.

Gospel: Matthew 1:18-24



Dear Parishioners

What are your dreams? We are all supposed to realise our dreams. If you potter around the web, a lot of these seem to include going to Australia, bungy jumping, or becoming a celebrity. There is, of course, the American dream, that anyone can become very rich. No doubt Joseph the carpenter had his dreams. Perhaps of having lots of sons who would all be successful carpenters or furnishing Herod's palaces. But all these were dashed by his holy dream, in which he is commanded by an angel to take Mary, his pregnant fiancée, and marry her and raise her child as his own. This dream sunk all the little private dreams he might have had. There is nothing wrong with us wanting to realise our dreams. But these dreams are all rather small and petty compared with Joseph's dream, which is about being caught up in the infinite mystery of God's love for all of humanity. At Christmas we are invited to trust the Lord who only longs for our utter happiness, even if he seems to go about it in an odd way. This is the holy obedience that Paul talked about in the second reading. It is not just doing what you are told. It is being led into the mystery, step by step. But in God's holy dream, we are accepted as we are: limited, weak, foolish, mortal. In Jesus God has embraced us in our limitations and offers us everything.

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

WEBSITE: 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



4th Week of Advent Year A

Week commencing Sunday 21st December 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 20 th Dec.	5.00pm	4 th Week of Advent Year A	Keith Cotterell RIP
Sun 21 st Dec.	10.30am	4 th Week of Advent Year A	Geoffrey Abraham RIP
Mon 22 nd Dec.			
Tues 23 rd Dec.			
Wed 24 th Dec.	8.00pm	Christmas Eve	Robert & Sarah Lamb RIP. Lamb & Nugent Families
Thur 25 th Dec.	10.30am	Christmas Day	People of the Parish
Fri 26 th Dec.			
Sat 27 th Dec.	5.00pm	Holy Family	Max Stoddart RIP
Sun 28 th Dec.	10.30am	Holy Family	Stanley & Hannah 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, 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 hopefully be on Sunday the 31st January. Currently there is no one signed up for this Coffee Morning.

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.

Thursday 1st January

10.30 am Mass of The Most Holy Mother of God