

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

In those days Judah will be saved and Israel dwell in confidence

There are many prophecies in the Old Testament. They were all fulfilled in a more immediate way, but also pointed to Christ as their ultimate end. Israel needed saving from many things along the way - not least the Egyptians, Philistines and Babylonians, as well as famine, drought and disease. But gradually, they understood that what they most needed freeing from was their own tendency to self-destruct. And only a very different kind of Saviour could achieve that - who could change their very nature. So what do you most need saving from? If Christ appeared to you now and offered you salvation from whatever you wanted, what would you say? If your answer is external, then your journey in faith is very incomplete: if your answer is connected with your own contradictions, then you are at least on the way. Advent is here for us to understand the answer to that question more deeply, and to deepen our trust that Jesus will save us from this. *(Online - Catholic source)*

Prayer for Advent

Come, long-expected Jesus. Excite in me a wonder at the wisdom and power of Your Father and ours. Receive my prayer as part of my service of the Lord who enlists me in God's own work for justice.

Come, long-expected Jesus. Excite in me a hunger for peace: peace in the world, peace in my home, peace in myself.

Come, long-expected Jesus. Excite in me a joy responsive to the Father's joy. I seek His will so I can serve with gladness, singing and love.

Come, long-expected Jesus. Excite in me the joy and love and peace it is right to bring to the manger of my Lord.

Raise in me, too, sober reverence for the God who acted there, hearty gratitude for the life begun there, and spirited resolution to serve the Father and Son. I pray in the name of Jesus Christ, whose advent I hail. Amen.



Catholic Parishes of St Mary's and Our Lady of Lourdes

St. Mary's Brierley Hill and
Our Lady of Lourdes, Kingswinford
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St Mary's Primary School 01384 985005

Part of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham: Reg. Charity No. 234216

SAFEGUARDING - The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies and procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are Mrs Epi Pfunde and Mrs Lilli Brice-Bateman. They can be contacted at sg.olol.kingswinford@racob.org.uk or sg.stmary.brierleyhill@rcaob.org.uk or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 / safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concern.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR C

1ST DECEMBER 2024

PSALM RESPONSE

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Show us, O Lord, your mercy,
and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia, alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Lord will bestow his bounty,
and our earth shall yield its increase.

Ordinary B1	Ordinary	Intention/Info
Sunday 30th /1st 1st Sunday of Ad- vent	5pm Mass KF 9.45am Mass BH	Nadim Bitar People of the Parish
Monday 2nd	10am Mass KF	Margaret and Dennis Hutchins
Tuesday 3rd	7pm KF	Novena
Wednesday 4th	10am Mass BH 10.30am-11am BH	Aby George Adoration and Confessions
Thursday 5th	9am Mass School	
Friday 6th	10am Mass KF 10.30am-11am KF 6.30pm BH 7pm Keralan Mass BH	Geoff and Sheila Smart and Felicity Libre Adoration and Confessions Adoration and Confessions
Saturday 7th	5pm Mass KF	Kathleen Madigan
Sunday 7th 8th 2nd Sunday of Ad- vent	5pm Mass KF 9.45am Mass BH	Kathleen Madigan Joseph and Delores Camilleri

Please pray for all those whose have died recently especially those on our December deceased lists and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they all rest in peace.

Please pray for all those who are sick including Sheila Jelf, Beryl Backler, Ed Benedict, Melina Simpson, Joyce Southall, Fr Cecil, Irene Brown, Christine Holding, Christine, Marlene and Tony Lyons, Ian Manley, Noel O'Reilly, Georgina Czuk, Martha Jones, Mavis Geach, Sheila Rowley, Roger Ward, Pauline Bant, Dorothy West, Kath Emery, Patricia Smith, Chris and Tony Rylands, Margaret List, Ken Lowe, Rob Bryan, Betty Storey and Connie Birch May the Lord grant them hope and healing.

SECOND COLLECTIONS - This week for Church Maintenance, next week for Poor Parishes.

Collections Not available at time of printing

BRIERLEY HILL: Craft Group Mon 2nd December 2pm to 4pm in Parish Centre
KINGSWINFORD: Friday 9.30 - 11.30am **Foodbank** .

FOODBANKS - If you are able to donate to them they will be happy to accept your donations as the need is growing.

Today Saturday, we welcome Fr Stephen to offer Mass at KF we are grateful for his continued support.

NEW SUNDAY MISSALS

These have been ordered and should be available for you to collect after Mass today. If you ordered one please see Fr Shanju to collect your copy. Thank you.

Novena this Tuesday at 7pm at KF. All welcome to join in the prayers.

Tea/coffee after Mass - Please join Fr Shanju and stay for tea and coffee after Mass on Sunday morning at BH for a chat and a catch up.

Today (Sunday) we welcome the children from our school to read at Mass. Please make them and their families welcome.

Walk with me books and calendars are now available at the back of Church. If your child is in a Catholic School they will be given a calendar at school.

Christmas fayre and raffle thank you to all those who supported our raffle and fayre. We raised over £1300.00 to pay for our roof repairs and mould removal. The raffle winners were Fr Shanju, Sue Beardsmore, Margaret Gilroy, Catherine Sutton, Mary Saunders and Margaret and Elaine. Even storm Bert couldn't dampen the spirits and a good time was had by all. Fr Christmas made an appearance too!

Quiz and social evening at St Mary's Saturday 7th December at 7pm. Everyone very welcome. Teams of up to four people. Tea and coffee available bring your own drinks and some food for a shared table. There will be a raffle and some carol singing and hopefully lots of fun!

Christmas Cards Once again we would like to have a Parish Christmas card instead of sending cards to each other. This cuts down on waste and raises money for charity. If you would like your name to go in the card please put it in an envelope with your donation to charity and give it to Father before December 8th. Thank you.

Advent reflection - Sunday 1st December 2pm, at St Josephs Catholic Church, Willenhall with Fr Craig Fullard. And Fr Frank Johnson of the Foclare Community. All welcome , see poster for more details.

Pope's prayer intention for December For pilgrims of hope. We pray that this Jubilee year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope. Amen .