

Pope's prayer intention for December: *Let us pray for catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.*

Gaudete Sunday

Gaudete Sunday signifies the nearness of the Lord's coming. In the Mass throughout Advent continual reference is made to our Lord's second coming, and this is emphasized on the third Sunday. Gaudete Sunday is further marked by a new Invitatory, the Church no longer inviting the faithful to adore merely "The Lord who is to come", but calling upon them to worship and hail with joy "The Lord who is now nigh and close at hand". The Epistle incites us to rejoicing, and bids us prepare to meet the coming Saviour with prayers and supplication and thanksgiving, whilst the Gospel, the words of St. John Baptist, warns us that the Lamb of God is even now in our midst, though we appear to know Him not. The spirit of the Liturgy all through Advent is one of expectation and preparation for the Christmas feast as well as for the second coming of Christ, and Gaudete Sunday symbolizes that joy and gladness in the Promised Redemption which should never be absent from the heart of the faithful. (*Catholic Encyclopaedia*).

Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve

5.30pm Carols 6pm Mass Kingswinford (*Fr Shanju*)
5.30pm Carols 6pm Mass Brierley Hill (*Fr Chris Marshall*)

Christmas Day

9.30am Mass Brierley Hill (*Fr Shanju*)
10.30am Mass Kingswinford (*Fr John Greatbatch*)
10.30am Mass Old Hill (*Fr Shanju*)

Sunday 26th December

9.45am Mass Brierley Hill (*Fr Shanju*)
10am Mass Kingswinford (*Fr Brendan Carrick*)
11.30am Mass Old Hill (*Fr Shanju*)



Catholic Parishes of St Mary, Lady of Lourdes

St. Mary's Brierley Hill,
Our Lady of Lourdes, Kingswinford and
Our Lady of Lourdes, Cradley Heath.
Fr Shanju John
The Presbytery, Summerhill,
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THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

12TH DECEMBER 2021

PSALM RESPONSE

Sing and shout for joy
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
The spirit of the Lord has been given to me.
He has sent me to bring good news to the poor.
Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear.
Behold our God will come, and he will save us.

Rejoice in the Lord always;

again I say, rejoice.

Indeed, the Lord is near.

(*Entrance antiphon*)



Advent (C2)	Psalter week 3	Intention/Info
Sunday 11th/12th Third Sunday of Advent	Sat 5pm Mass KF 9.45am Mass BH 11.30am Mass OH	Colum Keating Mabel and Francis Clarence People of the Parish
Monday 13th St Lucy	10am Mass BH 10.30am-11am BH	Joseph Dao Adoration and Confessions
Tuesday 14th St John of the Cross	10am Mass OH 10.30am-11am OH 4pm KF	Paul Bac Adoration and Confessions Reception of Patricia Gray
Wednesday 15th	11am Funeral KF	Patricia Gray
Thursday 16th	9am Mass School	School intention
Friday 17th	10.30am -11am KF 11am Mass KF	Adoration and Confessions Roger Richards
Saturday 18th		
Sunday 18th/19th Fourth Sunday of Advent	Sat 5pm Mass KF 9.45am Mass BH 11.30am Mass OH	People of the Parish Nell and Bert Bridge Fr Stephen

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

Collections KF 28/11 GA £51.95 Loose £117.87 5/12 GA £81.00 Loose £163.21 Poor Parishes £78.30OH GA £132.00, Loose £62.35, Poor parishes £4.21, Hall hire £705.00 Parish debt £33.50, Catholic Youth £11.80, Christmas fayre £582.33

BRIERLEY HILL: Craft Group Mon 6th December 2pm to 4pm in Parish Centre
OLD HILL FOODSHARE Tuesday mornings 11am -1pm
KINGSWINFORD: Friday 9.30 - 11.30am Foodbank .

Please pray for all those who are sick including Pauline Bant, Jeanette Amphlett, Dorothy West, Margaret Gilroy, Harold Shackley, Michael Rose, Jill Rowe, James Kearney, Barbara Masterman, Margaret Shipley, Tess Barnsley, Steve Dunn, Lynsey Cooper, Alec Huffer, Kath Emery, Patricia Smith, Roy Davies, Chris and Tony Rylands, Margaret List, Ken Lowe, Peggy Tromans, Rob and Ilona Bryan, Betty Storey, Connie Birch, Stella Jones, Margaret Marlowe, Don Neale, Anne Peters, Jackie Spittle, David Barnsley and Dawn Russon. May the Lord grant them hope and healing.

FOODBANKS - If you are able to donate to them they will be happy to accept your donations. The need is growing so donations are much needed and gratefully received.

SECOND COLLECTIONS - This week for the Sisters

NB Please see change of Mass times this week.

Christmas Raffle - BH Christmas raffle . The raffle will be drawn after Mass today and winners announced in next week's newsletter.

Christmas fayre OH raised £582.33. Well done to all those involved and thank you for all their hard work.

Gaudete Sunday Today at BH we will be welcoming into our Church Gary and Angelina who are preparing to be received in to the Church at Easter. There are free mince pies after Mass with tea and coffee as the raffle is drawn. Please join us if you can and lets celebrate and "Rejoice"!

Church cleaning -Kingswinford - on Tuesday 14th December at 9.30am to prepare the Church for Christmas. All volunteers will be very welcome. Please contact Sylvia Roden on 01384 280434.

Christmas flowers if anyone would like to make a donation towards the cost of lowers at Christmas in any of the Churches, please put it in an envelope clearly marked and give it to Theresa at KF, Stephanie at BH or Nadine at OH. Otherwise please give it to Fr Shanju. Thank you

St Mary's School Admissions Policy consultation is taking place on amending the Admissions policy for our Primary school to include Baptised children from Our Lady of Lourdes, OH. You can go online to view the proposed arrangements and contact the school to make any comments. If anyone wants a hard copy please let the office know.

Confessions Fr Shanju will hear confessions this week on Monday at 10.30 at BH, Tuesday at 10.30am at Old Hill and Friday at 10.30am at Kingswinford. There will also be Confessions at 7pm on Thursday 23rd December at Kingswinford.

Epiphany meal OH are hosting an Epiphany share-a-meal with entertainment on Saturday 8th January 2022. You are invited to bring a plate of food to share. Entertainers are also needed please let Liz Haney or Fr Shanju know if you are able to help. Thanks.

Social Welfare advisor £22,500 Job vacancy with the Diocese advising retired Priests please see poster at back of Church for details.

Poppy appeal at KF raised £13.65 many thanks to all who bought poppies