

Gaudete Sunday

Rejoice

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. 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

Saturday 23rd Dec 5pm Mass - 4th Sunday of Advent KF

Sunday 24th December Mass 9.45am - 4th Sunday of Advent BH

Christmas Eve - First Mass of Christmas

5.30pm Carols KF

6pm Mass KF - Fr Shanju

6.30pm Carols BH

7pm Mass BH - Fr John Greatbatch

Christmas Day

10am Mass KF - Fr Brendan Carrick

9.45am Mass BH - Fr Shanju

26th December Feast of St Stephen

10am Mass BH for our Altar servers and readers



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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Deacon John Brindley (*Retired*)

Convent - Daughters of Divine Love 01384 380155

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 Miss Lilli Pace. 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.



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B

17TH DECEMBER 2023

PSALM RESPONSE

My soul rejoices in my God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The spirit has been given to me.

He has sent me to give the 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.



Advent B1	Psalter week 3	Intention/Info
Sunday 16th/17th 3rd Sunday of Advent	4.30pm KF 5pm Mass KF 9.30am BH 9.45am Mass BH	Confessions Nadim El Bitar Confessions People of the Parish
Monday 18th	10am Mass KF	John Callaghan
Tuesday 19th	NO MASS	—————
Wednesday 20th	10am Mass BH 10.30am-11am BH	Margaret and Tadeuz Wieckowski Adoration and Confessions
Thursday 21st	9am Mass School 7pm-7.30pm BH	School Intention Adoration and Confessions
Friday 22nd	10am Mass KF 10.30am-11am KF	Mura, Archie, Rollo Ruddock Adoration and Confessions
Saturday 23rd	5pm Mass KF	People of the Parish
Sunday 23rd/24th 4th Sunday of Advent	5pm Mass KF 9.45am Mass BH	People of the Parish Pat and David Horner
Christmas Eve Masses Sunday 24th	5.30pm KF 6pm Mass KF 6.30pm BH 7pm Mass BH	Carols In thanksgiving Carols Sr Edith
Christmas Day	9.45am Mass BH 10am Mass KF	Sr Margaret
Tuesday 26th St Stephen	10am Mass BH	Altar servers

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

Please pray for all those who are sick including Brian Saunders, Christine, Maureen Southall, Marlene and Tony Lyons, Deacon John Brindley, Ian Manley, Noel O'Reilly, Georgina Czuk, Martha Jones, Mavis Geach, Sheila Rowley, Roger Ward, Pauline Bant, Jeanette Amphlett, 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.

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

SECOND COLLECTIONS - This week for Sisters, none next week. Christmas Mass offerings are for your Parish Priest

Collections BH GA £48.00 Loose £144.40 Flowers £10.00 Poor Parishes £96.61 Teas £24.30
KF GA £110.00 Loose £102.71 Poor parishes £76.59 Hall hire £40.00

Confessions - Before both Masses this weekend, 10.30am on Wednesday at BH, 7pm - 7.30pm on Thursday at BH and 10.30am on Friday at KF.

Anyone wishing to receive Confession outside of these times, please see Fr Shanju.

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. No teas at KF until further notice.

Mince pies - Today at BH there will be free tea/coffee and mince pies at St Mary's after Mass as a thank you for all your support throughout the year. We will also draw our raffle.

Housebound Confessions and Communion - if you know any housebound person who wishes to receive Confession or Communion in preparation for Christmas, please let Fr Shanju know.

Church Cleaning KF Tues 19th Dec at 9.30am for Christmas. All volunteers very welcome and appreciated.

Poppy appeal at BH raised £28.22 and the craft group £220.00. Thank you to you all.

Christmas card donations raised £ 262.00 for Charity which will be split between OH foodshare, our Sisters and Life. A big thank to all those who donated instead of sending cards. Christmas wishes from Colleen and Malcolm Lloyd also who donated but are not on the card.

Altar servers Mass on Tuesday 26th December Feast of St Stephen we will have a Mass at BH for all the Altar servers and readers. Those Altar servers and readers who can participate please write your name on the list in the Sacristy for catering purposes. All are welcome to this Mass to encourage and support our Servers. If you wish to make a donation to offer a meal on the day it will be appreciated.

Pope's prayer intention for December - For persons with disabilities - We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programmes which value their active participation. Amen.