

ST WULSTAN'S PARISH NEWSLETTER 1st/2nd JANUARY 2022

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Scripture Readings for Second Sunday of Christmas

First Reading: Ecclesiasticus 24:1-2,8-12

From eternity, in the beginning, God created wisdom.

Psalm:

R./: The Word was made flesh, and lived among us.

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:3-6,15-18

Before the world was made, God chose us in Christ.

Gospel: John 1:1-18

The Word was made flesh, and lived among us.

Details for services for next week

Friday 31st Dec. – Seventh day in the Octave of Christmas

6.00pm – Mass followed by Benediction in thanksgiving

Ints: for the Holy Souls

Saturday, 1st January 2022 – Solemnity of Mary Mother of God

10.00am – Mass of the Solemnity

Ints: for a New Year filled with Hope and Peace

5.00pm – Vigil Mass (2nd Sunday after Christmas)

Ints: Private Intention (G Markham)

Sunday 2nd January 2022 - 2nd Sunday after Christmas

10.30am – Mass - Ints: Pro Populo

(Please note: only one Mass on Sunday, 2nd Jan.)

Monday 3rd January 2022 – The Most Holy Name of Jesus

10.00am – Mass - Ints: for Jacinta Lobo (ill)

Wednesday, 5th January 2022 – Vigil Mass of the Epiphany

6.00pm – Mass – Ints: Private Intention (S Adey)

Thursday, 6th January 2022 – The Epiphany of the Lord

(Solemnity & Holy Day of Obligation)

10.00am – Mass – Ints: For all persecuted Christians

Friday 7th January 2022 – Christmas weekday (1st Friday)

10.00am- Mass - Ints: For the Holy Souls

Saturday 8th January 2022 – Christmas weekday

10.00 – 11.00am – Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

with Rosary

& Benediction

11.00am – Mass – Ints: For the deceased of the parish

PLEASE PRAY for Andy McGowan, Anthony Kilroy and Mark Ranasinghe who have died recently; for John Bilsborough, Andy Cooper, John Crowe, Pat Higgins, Rosemarie Kay, Pauline Mills, Jacinta Lobo, Peter Onions, Nicholas Ratcliff and Raymond Turner who are unwell or housebound.

Blessings for the New Year 2022

Abbot Paul and Fr Patrick wish you and all your loved ones a Happy and Holy New Year, 2022 filled with Hope, good health and Peace. Let us pray that "All will be well and all manner of things shall be well" (Julian of Norwich)

A special 'Thank You' to all our parishioners, near and far, for your good wishes, cards and gifts. A Holy Mass will be offered for your intentions.

Confirmation Course

For all the younger and not so young members of St Wulstan's who would wish to be confirmed in the New Year, 2022, please see Fr Patrick. It is anticipated that the Confirmation course for those candidates will commence in Feb-March 2022 for the sacrament of Confirmation to be held in June of 2022.

Mass Intentions

If you would like to request a Mass Intention, please fill in a Mass Intention Request Envelope at the back of the church and hand the envelope to Fr Patrick or one of the stewards at the Sunday Mass. Spare envelopes are available in the Sacristy.

St Wulstan's needs you!

Appeals have already been made for coffee and cleaning volunteers, and now we have a further role that needs to be filled - that of compiler of the Readers' Rota.

If you feel able to make that little extra effort to help your fellow parishioners please contact Eileen Spencer for coffee 561604 (eileeninmalvern@hotmail.com), Margaret Seales for cleaning (01684 572461 or margaretseales@hotmail.co.uk) and June Stallard for Readers' Rota (01684 540357 or june@junestallard.plus.com)

Death Announcement

Richard E H Coghlan RIP (1942 to 22/12/2021). Formerly headmaster of St Richard's School, Bredenbury Court, which was originally next door to St Wulstan's in Little Malvern. Private family funeral followed by a Thanksgiving Service at Belmont Abbey in 2022. Please remember him and his family in your prayers.

Sunday Coffee

There will be coffee after Mass this Sunday.

Synodal Pathway

We still need two members of our parish to join and represent the Synodal pathways process for St Wulstan's parish. Please speak to Fr. Patrick if you are interested. These meetings will be held at St Joseph's Church as part of a Malvern cluster comprising St Joseph's, St Wulstan's and Our Lady & St Alphonsus (Blackmore Park) which will help to kickstart our own parish meetings on the way forward for the Church. Please place your completed Synodal Questionnaire in any box at the back of the Church on the collections table.

Altar Servers

An appeal for some younger members of our parish to come forward and serve at the altar or to return to serving at the altar at Sunday Mass. Training will be given. This, of course, is a special appeal to parents/grandparents to encourage the younger members of your families to attend Holy Mass on Sundays, especially as we approach Advent and Christmas.

Christmas Flowers

Please contribute to the cost of the Christmas flowers by putting an offering into the box at the back of the church.

The Crib Collection

Malvern Special Families is a local charity helping disadvantaged children and their families. This charity's income in the last year has plummeted. If you wish to help there will be a collection plate beside the crib in order to enable you to assist them. Please be generous.

Many thanks to Bill and June for such a wonderful Christmas Crib to help us in our devotions.

Covid restrictions in church

It is a statutory requirement that all members of a congregation attending a place of worship must wear a face mask unless medically exempt. There are certain exceptions such as choir members when singing, readers, those leading services and those who are medically exempt. Please adhere to this rule to protect others. Masks must continue to be worn while singing. All other measures remain in place such as sanitizing hands and maintaining social distance in the church. People who are displaying any symptoms of Covid-19 should stay at home and not travel to church or participate in person. Thank you.

Diocesan directive relating to COVID19

Anyone who has come to Mass/Church Service and falls into either of the categories below would they please inform Claire Bailey (clairebailey001@aol.com or 07831 864599)

been in contact with someone who has now tested positive for COVID19.

have themselves tested positive for COVID19.

Covid Update from the Archdiocese of Birmingham

Further to my recent email giving the latest COVID update, I have received an additional communication from the Bishops' Conference asking priests, over the next few weeks, to emphasise to their congregations the importance of receiving the booster vaccine where this is possible.

There is overwhelming evidence showing the effectiveness of vaccination in preventing serious illness, the further spread of the virus and ultimately death. The vaccination programme, therefore, serves the common good by protecting the population, especially the most vulnerable. Pope Francis has spoken of the 'moral obligation to be vaccinated' and referred to vaccination as an 'act of love'. Given that, at the present time, the numbers of people being infected is rising quickly, a collective effort is needed to combat this virus.

As you might have heard the UK Government have amended the self-isolation regulations for those who have tested positive for Covid to self-isolate for seven days instead of 10, in most cases.

Two lateral flow tests are needed - the first no earlier than day six of isolation and a second 24 hours later. If the first tests are positive, further tests can be taken on other days.

If both tests are negative, you can stop self-isolating. People are asked to register their lateral flow results but do not have to do so.

The guidance applies whatever your vaccination status and can now be followed. It applies whether you have tested positive for Omicron or another variant.

However, anyone leaving self-isolation after seven days is "strongly advised to limit close contact with other people in crowded or poorly-ventilated spaces".

They should work from home and minimise contact with anyone who is at higher risk of severe illness.

If you are fully vaccinated (two doses) and come into contact with someone who tested positive for Covid, you do not have to self-isolate but should do daily lateral flow tests (LFTs) for seven days.

If one of the lateral flow tests is positive, you'll need to self-isolate and take a PCR test to verify the result.

However, those who are not double-jabbed will still have to isolate for the full 10 days if they are a close contact of a positive case.