ST WULSTAN'S PARISH NEWSLETTER 16th/17th Dec 2023

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3rd Week in Advent, Yr B/II

Saturday – 16th December – Advent feria
10.00-1050am – Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with confessions
11.00am – Holy Mass Ints: For the monks of the Belmont Community
Saturday –16th December – THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, Yr B (Gaudete Sunday)
5.00pm – Holy Mass (Mass of Sunday) Ints: For the sick & housebound of the parish
Sunday – 17th December – THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, Yr B (Gaudete Sunday)
10.30am – Holy Mass Ints: Pro populo
Monday – 18th December – Advent feria
10.00am – Holy Mass nts: For the McClellan family (T McClellan)
Tuesday – 19th December – Advent feria – No Mass
7.00pm – Journey through Advent in the Parish Meeting room (See below)
Wednesday – 20th December – No Mass
Thursday - 21st December – Advent feria
10.00am – Holy Mass Ints: For Vocations to the priesthood and Religious life
Friday - 22nd December – Advent feria
10.00am – Holy Mass Ints: For peace in Israel & Gaza
Saturday – 23rd December – Advent feria (Please note: No morning Mass)
10.00-11.00am – Confessions
Saturday –23rd December – FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT, Yr B
5.00pm – Holy Mass (Evening Mass of the Sunday) Ints: Parish sick & housebound 24th December – FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT, Yr B
10.30am – Holy Mass Ints: Pro populo
Sunday – 24th December – CHRISTMAS EVE (<i>NIGHT MASS OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD, SOLEMNITY</i>) 8.30pm - Carol singing before Mass

9.00pm - Holy Mass of Christmas night Ints: The destitute and homeless in Malvern and Worcester Monday - 25th December – CHRISTMAS DAY (SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD)

10.00am – Holy Mass of Christmas day Ints: For peace and unity among our families at Christmas *(For Christmas Week Services please refer to "Christmas 2023" at the back of the church)*

PRAYING FOR OUR SICK AND LOVED ONES

We pray for the repose of the souls of all our relatives and friends especially for Andy Cooper who died recently & those of our parish...*May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed...rest in peace.* Please also pray for all the sick including John Bilsborough, John Crowe, Rosemarie Kay, Peter Onions, Mike Harriss, Raymond Turner, Lea Maloney, Fr Christopher Calascione, and all who are unwell or housebound.

THE 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.

A JOURNEY THROUGH ADVENT- Tuesday 19th December at 7pm.

Journey through Advent 3&4 this Tuesday 19th December. This week: what do we believe about God and the Trinity and the Mother of Jesus

Do join us for our third Advent film and social evening. We will share some cheese and wine as we watch Bishop Robert Barron's third film in his excellent series "Catholicism"

We meet at **7pm in the parish room.** This will be one way that we can respond, as a parish, to Pope Francis' call for us to be a synodal church. Keep the date free in your diaries!

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE - 15TH DECEMBER

I wish to thank all the members of our parish, and especially the Choir who worked tirelessly in the background sacrificing their evenings to make our Christmas Carol service a resounding success. The wealth of talent we have in St Wulstan's speaks volumes...I also wish to thank all those those who donated mince pies and refreshments and contributed in some way towards a joyful and memorable evening. May God bestow countless blessings upon you and fill you with every joy and hope this Christmas. The Mass on Christmas morning will be offered for your intentions.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - UPCOMING PENITENTIAL AND CAROL SERVICES

- Sunday, 17th Dec at 3.00pm...Confessions at Our Lady & St Alphonsus, Blackmore Park
- Sunday, 17th Dec at 4.00pm...Carol Service at St Joseph's, Malvern

PRAYER FOR PEACE

Heavenly Father, hear our prayers especially for the people of Israel and Gaza, Ukraine and Sudan. Lord we ask for peace for those who desperately need peace, reconciliation for those who cry out for reconciliation and comfort for all who don't know what tomorrow will bring. We ask this through Jesus Christ, Our Lord, **Amen**.

Prayers for peace in Gaza and Israel ord God of compassion will is for peace built on ighteousness, in Gaza & Israel: pray for peace an end to hostilities, OF comfort and help for iffer, and for reconcili een Palestine - 1 through Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace

PRAYER AND FASTING FOR PEACE

Pope Francis has called for prayer and fasting for peace in the Middle East: 'War cancels the future and breeds hatred and revenge'. Let us pray that both sides in the conflict will 'Cast weapons aside, listen to the voice of the poor, the people and children.' (*Pope Francis*)

ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CRISIS APPEAL

We have all been shocked and saddened by the devastating conflict in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory. Our local partners are actively responding and providing urgent humanitarian aid to those in need. Your donation today will make a massive difference to those caught up in the conflict. To donate please visit: <u>https://cafod.org.uk/</u>. See poster at back of the church.

THIS YEAR'S CRIB COLLECTION

The collection will go to a Malvern based children's charity called 'What Makes You Different Makes You Beautiful'.

This is a special needs Charity which offers a wide range of projects and services. The charity provides a family-centred care approach, supporting parents, carers, friends and siblings and children with disabilities aged 0-19 years. Please be generous to those less fortunate than ourselves.

CAFOD ADVENT CALENDAR

CAFOD's online Advent calendar of daily prayer and reflection will offer an opportunity to pause, reflect, pray and take action, in solidarity with our global family, as we prepare for Christmas. You can sign up to receive the reflections each day by email or view the calendar here: <u>https://cafod.org.uk/pray/advent-calendar</u>

SUNDAY COFFEE

There will be coffee after Mass this Sunday.

MASS INTENTIONS

Would you like to have a birthday or special occasion celebrated for a friend or family member? Sympathy for the loss of a cherished person? You can have a Mass said for a person on these special occasions or for any other special intention. Grab a Mass Intention envelope and enter the name and date of the Mass required. Envelopes are available at the rear of the church. You can call or email the parish office at the Priest's House. This is a beautiful and special way to pay tribute to our loved ones. There is no greater gift than the Sacrifice of the Holy Mass.

MINI CHRISTMAS BAZAAR_17th DECEMBER

Following on from 15th December there will be a Mini Bazar after Mass this Sunday during coffee in the Parish Meeting Room. Here you will find delicious jam, marmalade, candles, cards and small gifts for Christmas. Friends and family are welcome. Donations will go to the St Wulstan's restoration fund, so do bring some pocket money!

PARISH MAGAZINE

Copies of the Parish Magazine will be available at the back of church from Sunday, 17th December. One copy per family. Donations towards printing costs would be much appreciated. Mike Seales

FOR NEWS AND EVENTS FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM

Link to see what is going on in the archdiocese: https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk

ST WULSTAN'S - DONATION BY CARD

If you would like to make a donation to St Wulstan's church by card, please ask a member of the Welcome Team to activate the Card reader and proceed from there. It is really quite simple once you get the hang of it. It is in giving that we receive God's abundant blessings. Thank you

PARISH BOOK EXCHANGE

A book exchange has been started in the parish room (there was an empty bookshelf waiting to be used). Anyone is welcome to donate books they think might interest other parishioners. If you borrow a book, please return it when you have finished with it. The parish room is open every first and third Sunday after Mass for coffee (check the newsletter)

BOOKING OF PARISH MEETING ROOM

It is indeed encouraging to see our Parish Hall being kept busy with the recent activities and forthcoming Film sessions. I would like to see it's continued use but to keep everything in order with maintenance, cleaning, other bookings and to comply with insurances and health & safety requirements, it will be necessary in future to make formal booking arrangements.

Mary Pillon has volunteered to record these, so please contact her to make any reservations required on 01684 576213, 07960732491 or <u>marypillon121@btinternet.com</u>. Your co-operation is appreciated. Fr Patrick

CHRISTMAS CARDS SUPPORT ST WULSTAN'S AT LITTLE MALVERN:

Local artist Charlotte Carver has been busy designing and printing her own selection of cards to suit everyone. Among her recent work is "Snowfall and Sunset at St Wulstan's in Little Malvern" and a card based on the popular song "A Partridge in a Pear Tree".

These new cards sell at £5 per pack of ten alongside "The Annunciation" cards (£4) featuring part of a beautiful stained-glass window in the Lady Chapel. So, if you are looking for Christmas cards with a difference this year, pop along to the dedicated website:<u>www.christmascardsi-naidofstwulstanschurch.com</u>





