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Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
and
SOLEMNITY OF MARY MOTHER OF GOD – 1st January 2024

First Reading: Genesis 15:1-6,21:1-3

Your heir shall be your own flesh and blood.

Psalm: 104(105):1-6,8-9

R.: He, the Lord, is our God. He remembers his covenant for ever.

Second Reading: Hebrews 11:8,11-12,17-19

The faith of Abraham and Sarah

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

My eyes have seen your salvation.

Saturday – 30th December – 6th Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord
(Please note: No morning Mass)

Saturday – 30th December – THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH (Feast)
5.00pm – Holy Mass (Evening Mass of the Sunday) Ints: Suni Perera, *Special Intention (Jules)*

Sunday – 31st December – THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH (Feast)

10.30am – Holy Mass Ints: *Special Intention (Sue Adey)*

Monday - 1st JANUARY 2024 – SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD
10.30am – Holy Mass of Thanksgiving Ints: For the Friends, Benefactors and donors of St Wulstans

Tuesday – 2nd JANUARY 2024 – Ss Basil & Gregory Nazianzen (memoria)
(Please note: No morning Mass)

Wednesday – 3rd JANUARY 2024 – Christmas feria
(Please note: No morning Mass)

Thursday - 4th JANUARY 2024 – Christmas feria

10.00am – Holy Mass Ints: For Bill Coles, *sick (Jules)*

Friday - 5th JANUARY 2024 – Christmas feria (1st Friday)

10.00am – Holy Mass Ints: *Pro Populo*

Saturday – 6th JANUARY 2024 – Christmas feria

10.00 – 11.00 am – Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Benediction
11.00am - Holy Mass Ints: For a cessation to the conflict in Gaza and Israel

Saturday –6th JANUARY 2024 – Christmas feria

5.00pm – Holy Mass (Evening Mass of the Sunday) Ints: For the sick and housebound of the parish

Sunday – 7th JANUARY 2024 – SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

10.30am – Holy Mass Ints: Grazyna Richmond (Jules)

Monday - 8th JANUARY 2024 – THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD (Feast)

(Christmas Season ends after Vespers)

10.00am – Holy Mass Ints: Pro populo

A SPECIAL WORD OF THANKS TO ALL OUR PARISHIONERS

I wish to take this opportunity to thank you for your commitment and continued support to our parish of St Wulstan's over the past year. As we stand on the threshold of a New Year 2024, let us strive to further build up our parish community in unity, prayer and joy.

On behalf of the Abbot and the Belmont Monastic community, may I wish you and your family, Joy over the Christmas season and every blessing for a New Year filled with hope. Pax, D Patrick.

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.

THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JANUARY 2024

For the gift of Diversity in the Church

We pray that the Holy Spirit may help us to recognise the gift of different charisms within the Christian Community and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions within the Catholic Church.

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.**

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: <https://cafod.org.uk/> . See poster at back of the church.

Prayers for peace in Gaza and Israel

Lord God of compassion,
whose will is for peace built on
righteousness,
we pray for peace in Gaza & Israel:
for an end to hostilities,
for comfort and help for all who
suffer, and for reconciliation
between Palestine and Israel,
through Jesus Christ,
the Prince of Peace.
Amen.



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.

COFFEE MAKERS

A big thank you to all of you for your commitment and hard work manning the coffee mornings over the past year. Next Coffee Morning will be 7th January.

Warm Regards
Eileen Spencer

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.

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 marypillon121@btinternet.com. Your co-operation is appreciated. Fr Patrick