

Sacred Heart Parish Weekly Newsletter.

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Dear Parishioners,

A number of parishioners borrowed tables and chairs from the Hall to use at home on Christmas Day. **If there are any which haven't yet been returned, please return them IMMEDIATELY – we urgently need them back in the Hall.**

January can bring with it many worries. Christmas is beginning to fade, financial worries can start to arrive and tensions can rise. So, it's a good time to reflect on Reconciliation. The late Cardinal Martini pointed out that Reconciliation is **Gradual** and it is so essential to grasp this: it can take time, it's a process. The great temptation is to theorise about our faith: *Jesus tells us to forgive, I find that hard, so I'll never be a saint. I'll just make do as I am.* And the great lie in this is that we've completely dodged

the issue, we're standing still and going nowhere. It's like saying: *because I can't run a mile in under 4 minutes, I won't even try walking to the end of the road!*

We need to constantly pray for the wisdom to recognise that reconciliation is God's gift and we need the willingness to make a start, now, not tomorrow. And that can be praying for the person who we feel has hurt us, a simple short prayer asking God to bless them (NOT asking God to make them apologise, for that's never going to work, it will only keep our sense of hurt simmering on the boil and make us feel self-righteous)

Now we may well say: *what's the point of saying that prayer (and saying it every day) if I don't fully mean it?* But that's like saying that I'll study a book on how to swim and only after I've read it from cover to cover will I then get into the water! We can never learn to swim that way, can we? Reconciliation is gradual – it's a process, but it requires action – we need to get into the swimming pool! And if we say that prayer every day then, gradually we will change, reconciliation can come and the resentment will fade. It's all about willingness, and we can pray for that, too. Yes, Jesus did say we must forgive but he never said it must happen in the next 2 seconds. It's a process, but we must put one foot in front of the other and move forwards. *Fr. Tony.*
God bless,

6th JANUARY, 2019. SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD (C)	
Parish Mass Book page 48. Preface of the Epiphany. Eucharistic Prayer 3.	
Saturday 5.00pm	Josie Dwyer, R.I.P.
Sunday 10.30am	For all the people of the Parish.
Monday 9.00am	Christmas feria Mary Fensom (Norie)
Tuesday 6.00pm	Reception of Helen Rouse' body into Church
Wednesday 10.00am 5.45pm 6.30pm	Christmas feria Requiem for Helen Rouse Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Kathleen Maher – Spec Int. (Austin & Peggy O'Malley)
Thursday 9.00am	Christmas feria Jim, Teresa & Doreen Meehan (The McDevitt family)
Friday 9.00am	Christmas feria Pat Kirkwood (Ann O'Neill)
Saturday 8.15am 9.00am	Christmas feria Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Winnie Lythall
Confessions:	Saturday 9.30am - 10.00am and 4.30pm - 4.50pm
13th JANUARY, 2019. FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD (C)	
Parish Mass Book page 50. Preface of the Baptism. Eucharistic Prayer 3.	
Saturday 5.00pm	Ernie & Veronica Mills, R.I.P. (John, Elizabeth & Veronica)
Sunday 10.30am	For all the people of the Parish



If you hear the fire alarm leave by the nearest exit following the instructions of the fire marshals. The Assembly Point is in the car park

The Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham. Registered Charity No. 234216
www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk





An Induction Loop system is provided. Please switch Hearing-Aid to 'T'



BABY CHANGING UNIT
Provided in the disabled toilet.



Please switch off mobile phones when in Church. Thank you.

Last week's Offertory: £947.37 (Gift-Aid: £169.50 non Gift-Aid: £475.87 Bank Credits: £302.00.). Thank you very much. The Christmas Stall brought in a further £170.00

500 Club: 1st Prize £95.00 No. 786 Mrs Berry; 2nd Prize £40.00 No. 276 J. Warrington; 3rd Prize £20.00 No. 1007 Carmel Palmer.

Thank you so much for your wonderfully kind and generous Christmas Offerings and all the many cards and gifts. May God bless you all,

Fr. Tony.

Counters this week Team D. COUNTING TEAMS – PLEASE COLLECT A 2019 ROTA FROM THE SACRISTY.

NEW READERS' ROTAS. Copies are available in the sacristy for those who don't receive their copy by email.

7-Day Candles: 29th December – 5th January.

Sacred Heart:

Our Lady: Catriona Murphy, R.I.P.; Special Intention LO

By the small Crucifix:

Week of prayer for Christian Unity. Saturday 19th January 1.00pm in the Chapel of Unity at Coventry Cathedral. Please see poster for details. Since the cathedral no longer charges for admission you can combine attending the service with a visit to see the whole cathedral.

If you would like your name or the name of a friend or relative to be printed in the newsletter in the prayers for those who are sick, **please complete a consent form, available from the sacristy, as we now need consent.**

Please remember in your prayers Fr George Bennett, Benny and Bridie McAndrew, Eunan MacIntyre, Jane Malone, Matt Moten, Joan O'Keefe, Billy Heffernan, Rosie Hallett, Maria Scott,

Winnie Coleman, and all who are sick and for the repose of the souls of Chakkuny Ouseph, Ann O'Meara, Helen Rouse and all who have died.

PRAYER VIGILS On the first Friday of every month. from 6.00pm - 8.00pm. The next one will be on Friday 1st February

Prayer Group meets every Tuesday in the Parish Hall at 7.30pm. All are welcome.

AND STILL increasing! There are now 135 of you receiving the weekly newsletter by email! Please send me an email to request the Newsletter.

parish@sacredheart-coventry.org

Over 50's meet on Mondays in the Hall. Please see noticeboard for date of next meeting. New members welcome.

Evening Rosary. The Rosary continues each Tuesday evening at 7.30pm. The group come together to pray for their families in good as well as difficult times and for special intentions for the children in particular need. All are warmly invited to come and join us, as and when you may be able to make it.

A group of young adult Catholics (20-30s) are looking to set up a network around the Coventry, Kenilworth, Leamington, and Warwick Parishes that will provide an opportunity to share faith, and promote fellowship and spiritual growth. If you're interested please join the "West Midlands Catholic Young Adults" group on FB, or email WestMidlandsCYA@gmail.com to get on a mailing list.

PLEASE NOTE: WE ARE NO LONGER COLLECTING Clothes, Shoes, Handbags, Belts, Towels, Bedding, Soft Toys, Costume Jewellery, (and CDs/DVDs - in a separate bag) Proceeds to roof repairs.

LiveSimply Prayer

Compassionate and loving God, you created the world for us all to share, a world of beauty and plenty. Create in us a desire to live simply, so that our lives may reflect your generosity. Creator God, you gave us responsibility for the earth, a world of riches and delight. Create in us a desire to live sustainably, so that those who follow after us may enjoy the fruits of your creation. God of peace and justice, you give us the capacity to change, to bring about a world that mirrors your wisdom. Create in us a desire to act in solidarity, so that the pillars of injustice crumble and those now crushed are set free. Amen.