

Our Lady and St Joseph Catholic Church
Priory Road, Alcester. B49 5DY

Parish priest: The Rt Reverend Geoffrey Scott, Abbot of Lindisfarne

Phone: 01789 762573

email: olasj.alcester@rcaob.org.uk

Website: www.catholicchurchalcester.org.uk

Masses are held in the Church, for exceptions see below.



24th November 2024
National Youth Sunday

Solemnity of Christ the King

Parish Mass Book page 160

Unless otherwise stated the second collection is for the Parish Development Fund (PDF)

Collect Almighty ever-living God, whose will is to restore all things in your beloved Son, the King of the universe, grant, we pray, that the whole creation, set free from slavery, may render your majesty service and ceaselessly proclaim your praise. Amen.

Sunday Masses are at 08:30am and 10:30am

Weekday Mass 10:00am Monday and Friday

Saturday Mass at 10:00am is followed by Exposition and Confession.

The funeral of Pat Gill will take place on Tuesday 26th November at 11:00am

Feast Days and Saints' Days this week:

- Mon: Saint Catherine of Alexandria
- Tue: Saint Sylvester
- Sat: Saint Andrew, Apostle

**The Pope's Prayer Intention for November:
For Those Who Have Lost A Child**

Let us pray that all parents who mourn the loss of a son or daughter find support in their community, and may receive peace of heart from the Spirit of Consolation.

Tea & coffee will be served after 10:30 Mass today. Rota: AD / JA. **The Limited Edition Parish Honey** will also be on sale in the Parish Hall, £6 per 1lb. jar, by cash or card. Our Parish Bees delivered a remarkably good yield which will raise £252 for the parish development fund.

The Food Bank collection is next week (Sunday 1st December). Particularly needed are tinned fruit, tinned vegetables, tinned custard, tinned rice pudding, Breakfast cereals, they would also welcome minced pies and sweets. Last month's weight was 82.2 kg, thank you for your continued generosity.

Thank you gardeners

Thank you to the band of workers who turned up with their gardening tools last Saturday and worked so hard in the gardens sorting them out for the winter. You have done a wonderful job-- thank you.

A basket is at the back of church for **Donations Towards Christmas Flowers** (and to top up the general flower fund). Please be generous. Thank you.

Advent talks—a spiritual preparation for Christmas

These take place in the Meeting Room of the Hall each Tuesday 7pm-8pm, the next talk is on 26th November, then 3rd, 10th and 17th December. It was great to see so many folk who turned out on such a cold evening to take part in such an enjoyable and inspirational talk and the Meeting Room was lovely and warm. Please park around the grass in front of the presbytery and church as there is a meeting in the Hall.

Piety Stall: Advent calendars and Christmas cards are now available. Have you and your families got your crib yet? They are also available along with other gifts. All profits go to Aid to the Church in need and the parish Development Fund. Thank you for your continued support.



Coffee Morning in memory of Lianne Abbott Sat. 7th December 10:00am – 2:00pm

Celebrate 25 years of the Shakespeare Hospice at Our Lady & St. Joseph Church Hall, Alcester, B49 5DY Hot drink and slice of cake for suggested donation of £5.

Contact Joan Abbott 07919 621208



Church Offertory Ways to contribute are as follows:

- Standing Order is our preferred method using the following details: Account name: Our Lady & St Joseph's RC Parish Alcester, Sort code: 40-43-54 Account: 11068687 Reference: your name.
- You can give cash at the collections in Mass, or use the Dona card reader machine in church.
- Our new Dona machine is being installed at church from Sunday 24th November. Unfortunately Donors will need to re-enter their gift aid declarations, but the advantages of the change is that we incur lower credit card fees and if there are any further internet problems the machine will store donation details for the next time it is online.

Guild of St Stephen

This Sunday – Christ the King we welcome last year's Altar Server recruits into the Guild of St Stephen.

New Altar Servers

We still need new Altar Servers to join our team at both Masses. Training is available to anyone that has received their First Holy Communion. We are also happy to welcome servers that have previously been trained in other parishes. Please speak to Mike the parish MC after the Sunday 10:30 Mass or e-mail mike@catholicchurchalcester.org.uk

The new Lectionary translation starts next Sunday! After 10:30 Mass today the blue Mass Books will be replaced with the purple Year C Volume 1 books ready for Advent – feel free to help with the transfer from the Presbytery. The new translation means our legacy Parish Mass books may now have different English wording from the updated Lectionary in use on the Altar, although the original content & spirit of the scripture doesn't change. You can access the latest translation by doing one of the following:

- **CTS Sunday Missal:** (available to order from Rosalind Marie at the piety stall or 07789 282 689) Red hardback £20. Presentation copy in a slip cover £30. Annual paperback £9.95/year
- **Universalis Website** free access on the day of Mass to the readings, responses, Gospel Acclamation: why not try it today? <https://universalis.com/europe.english/mass.htm>
- The **Universalis app.:** one off purchase from the app store for £9.99. This works off-line and the readings etc. for any Mass date can be accessed at any time.

Our Lady's Catholic Primary School Christmas Fayre takes place Friday 29th November 4 – 6 PM

St Nicholas Night – Friday 6th December 5.00 – 8.00pm



Alcester Churches Together (of which Fr Geoffrey is the current Chair) traditionally have a presence at the St Nicholas Night Celebrations on 6th December. Thanks to Sara we now have a Christmas Tree for the ACT stall, we would also benefit if someone could lend us a gazebo for the evening. We also need volunteers to help us with a variety of tasks on the night. If you could help with any of these please contact Mike Bennett via mhsbennett@aol.com.

- 4.00 – 5.00 pm** Help with setting up the gazebo, furniture and Christmas tree.
- 8.00 – 8.30 pm** Help with taking down the gazebo and tree and returning furniture.

At least two volunteers to staff the stall during these shifts:

5.00 – 5.45 pm	5.45 – 6.30 pm	6.30 – 7.15 pm	7.15 – 8.00 pm
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The 'duties' of the volunteers will be to offer a smiling, welcoming face to passers-by and to encourage children (of all ages!) to write a short prayer on a star and hang it on the Christmas tree. Stars and pens provided. At the end of the evening the stars will be collected and sent to the 4 churches over the Christmas period. We'll also have a few spare chairs if any of the passers-by look in need of a rest! Volunteers are advised to wrap up warm and bring a hot flask! Obviously the other three member Churches of ACT (Anglicans, Baptists and Methodists) are also asking their congregations for help but it would be good to have a strong parish presence on St Nicholas Night as Fr Geoffrey is the current Chair. Many thanks for your kind help, Mike Bennett ACT parish rep.

The Parish Hall and Meeting Room are available for hire and bookings.

For enquiries email hallbookings@catholicchurchalcester.org.uk or phone 07876 796 277