

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.



27th October 2024

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Parish Mass Book page 149

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

Collect

Almighty ever-living God, increase our faith, hope and charity, and make us love what you command, so that we may merit what you promise. Amen.

Holy Day of Obligation Friday 1st November, Solemnity of All Saints Mass at 7:00pm
There is no Mass on Monday 28th Sept. or Friday 1st Nov. at 10:00am

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

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

Feast Days and Saints' Days this week:

- Mon: Saints Simon and Jude, Apostles
- Fri: All Saints – **Holy Day of Obligation**
- Sat: All Souls (Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed)

**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 10:30am Mass today. Rota: MR/CR

The Food Bank collection is next week (Sunday 3rd November). Particularly needed are Tinned vegetables, Tinned fruit, Custard, Breakfast cereals, Packets of sweets for Christmas bags (nut free). Last month's weight was 85 kg, thank you for your continued generosity.

Children's Liturgy will next take place at 10:30am Mass on Sunday 17th November.

Advent –a spiritual preparation for Christmas

It is aimed to hold a series of five talks in our Hall on a Tuesday evening from 7pm-8pm starting on 19th November in preparation for Christmas. Do make a note in your diary.

First Communion Classes

Parents of children in year 3 and above who are not at a Catholic school, we will be starting First Communion Classes soon - normally the beginning of Advent. Jenny Fletcher and Sara Palmer will be running the classes. Please would you contact either of us via WhatsApp or SMS to indicate your interest. Once we have an idea of the number of children we will let you know further details. Please contact us by the end of October.

Many thanks Jenny - 07967385810 and Sara 07498446057

2025 Diaries are now available from the Piety Stall.

Light Party in the Church Hall

Come join us on Thursday October 31st at 9.45am for a special Light Party in the Church Hall.

Suitable for newborns to children up to 6 years of age, there will be an assortment of activities and toys with a focus on the Light of the Christian Kerygma and the examples of the Saints. We hope you can make it!



Catholic Young Mothers Group and Stay and Play

A group for community, sharing of faith and motherhood will be hosted in the church hall three Thursdays of the month. Suitable for newborns - preschoolers, with a host of toys and activities for the children to get stuck into whilst the Mums get to know each other and share faith! Pregnant mothers also welcome.

This is a FREE group thanks to Fr Geoffrey's generosity, but donations to the parish are of course welcome!

Come and join us Thursday 9.30-10.30am. Please contact Lizzie on 07957 670202 for more information.

Please note, the group does not run on the 4th Thursday of the month.

This is open to all mothers, those outside of the parish too, so please share with anyone you think might be interested.

"Escape To Hawaii" Evening Fundraiser

Our Mayor, Mike Bowe of Alcester, cordially invites you to join him on an *'Escape to Hawaii'* Tropical Extravaganza fundraising evening on Friday 22nd November 2024. The chosen charity is The Crafty Lunch Club based in Alcester, which is a weekly social group for adults with learning and/or physical disabilities, and their carers, to meet others and have fun.

Venue: The Eric Payne Community Centre, B49 6AG from 7pm, for a 7.30pm start. (Alcohol free Pina Colada on arrival and bring your own drinks.) Dress code: Smart casual or Tropical, price £22.50 per person. Menu: (Please advise of any dietary needs including gluten free).

Main: Steak & Ale pie, new potatoes, seasonal veg. or Italian roasted vegetable tart.

Dessert: Apple crumble, custard/cream. Vegan option of this is available.

To reserve your place please contact the Deputy Clerk either by phone on 01789 766084 (Wednesday - Friday 9am-3.30pm) or email: administration@alcester-tc.gov.uk

Please book and pay by 1st November 2024, Lloyds Bank plc, Name: Alcester Town Council
Sort Code: 30-98-26, Account: 00944603 Reference: Your name and 'Hawaii'

On 1st December 2024 (First Sunday of Advent), a new English version of the Lectionary for Mass comes into force in England, Wales and Scotland. Here is a summary of why this is happening. Between now and Advent we will explain how this affects our Mass books and what you can do to help.

Why a New Lectionary?

First we should clarify that the word "new" in this context means a new translation of the readings used in the Mass. We will still be using the same order of readings- just in a new English version. Like the 2011 translation of The Roman Missal, the new Lectionary is a fresh iteration of something we already know. Since 2001, encouraged by Rome, across the Catholic world there has been a second "wave" of translations of the liturgical books reformed after Vatican II. There has been a desire for greater fidelity to the original texts, and a growing preference for "formal equivalent" over "dynamic-equivalent" translations. Moreover, language does not stay still: translations that sounded fresh in the 1970s can now seem somewhat jaded and flat, and many new English versions of the Scriptures have proliferated, taking advantage of updated biblical scholarship. Various new feasts and memorials have been added to the liturgical calendar since the 1981 Lectionary based on the Jerusalem Bible and Grail Psalter. The need to replace old, worn books also presents an opportunity for change.

What is a Lectionary?

A Lectionary is the liturgical book which contains the biblical readings used at Mass and other occasions, such as at baptisms, marriages, and funerals. There is a long tradition of ordered biblical readings in the liturgy, and various arrangements are found in all the major liturgical families of the Church in East and West. The Sunday Lectionary contains three readings for each Mass, and follows a three-year cycle. It has become common to speak of the Years of Matthew (Year A), Mark (Year B) and Luke (Year C), with the Gospel of John featuring during Lent and Easter. The weekday Lectionary is spread over two years, and contains readings for every single day. This allows much more of the word of God to be heard by the faithful. The underlying structure of the Lectionary is based on the history of salvation, the all-encompassing story of God's loving relationship with the human race. As Saint Augustine expressed it. the New Testament lies hidden in the Old, and the Old Testament is fully revealed in the New. The Lectionary strives to link the Old and New Testaments - a principle called "harmonisation" - to show us the "today" of salvation.