

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

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

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



3rd November 2024

Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Parish Mass Book page 152

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

Collect

Almighty and merciful God, by whose gift your faithful offer you right and praiseworthy service, grant, we pray, that we may hasten without stumbling to receive the things you have promised. Amen.

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

Exceptions to Scheduled Masses:

Friday 8th Nov. Mass will be at 10:30am at Our Lady's Primary school, parishioners are welcome, there will be no Mass in church on Friday 8th November.

Weekday Mass 10:00am Monday

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

Feast Days and Saints' Days this week:

- Mon: Saint Charles Borromeo
- Tue: Deceased relatives of the English Benedictine Congregation
- Sat: Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

**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.

The Food Bank collection is today. 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.

The Latest Bulletin is normally available on the Parish Website www.catholicchurchalcester.org.uk from Thursday evenings for the following Sunday along with a copy of the current week's. If you wish to read it in advance or can't collect one from Church please use the website version which you can also print at home if needed.

Parish Development Fund

Thank you for your donations into the second collection. You may wonder how we are developing the parish. It doesn't always look as though we are doing anything. Our parish financial year started in September with major electrical work. It was the time to achieve our 5 year certificate. Ours is a big site to cover. One thing you may have noticed is we have all the lights in the Church working. We are now rid of the gremlins that have been around for some time. Unfortunately, over £3000 was necessary to ensure that we have all our electrics working correctly on the whole site and achieve the 5 year certificate. So within 6 months we have church heating that works and electrics in good order but now we are back to square one before our next project. Thank you for your continued support.

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.



Poppies are now on sale at the back of church

Please pray for the soul of Pat Gill who died on Monday 28th October.

Parishioner options for the new Lectionary from Advent

- The current mass books will still be available but the wording of the readings will be slightly different.
- It is recommended that you either buy your own personal Sunday Missal or use the Universalis App on your mobile phone.
 - **Universalis App:** This is a one off purchase from the app store for £9.99. As well as the Mass and readings, it also has the Divine Office, spiritual reading, The Rosary, Angelus, various books, information about the day and a weekly podcast about the saints of the week.
 - **CTS Sunday Missal:** (available to order from Rosalind Marie at the piety stall or 07789 282 689) Red hardback £20. White or burgundy 'presentation' copy in a slip cover £30. Annual paperback £9.95/year. (If there are 6 orders, shipping will be free, and with even more orders the price may reduce).

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

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.

Catholic Young Mothers Group Stay and Play Light Party

What a superb Light party for Mums, babies and toddlers was held in the Hall on Thursday. There were toys, games and many activities. The weather was such that activities and treasure hunts could be held in the grounds. Thank you to Lizzie for the tremendous planning, organisation and food so much linked to the theme of the feast of All Saints. Thank you too to Jenny for her help during the morning.

2025 Diaries are now available from the Piety Stall.

Place are still available at the Town Council's Hawaiian evening, detail at the back of the church and from administration@alcester-tc.gov.uk