

Blessed Robert Grissold Catholic Church, Balsall Common

In the Archdiocese of Birmingham. Mass Time Sunday 9.30am.

10th December 2017 – Second Sunday of Advent – Year B

" Make straight the paths of the Lord"

Pope's Prayer Intention: "That the elderly, sustained by families and Christian communities, may apply their wisdom and experience to spreading the faith and forming the new generations."

Father Frank: *The invitation to welcome the God who comes to us in Christ and to cast away empty living is repeated in the liturgy of the Second Sunday of Advent. The Opening Prayer of the Mass asks that no earthly undertaking hinder those who set out in haste to meet Christ. And today we hear the lonely voice of John the Baptist who exhorts us to prepare a way for the Lord. May our faithfulness to the spirit of Advent create a space so that the Lord can come to us.*

Saints and Feast Days of the Week: St Damasus I (11th), Our Lady of Guadeloupe (12th), St Lucy (13th), St John of the Cross (14th).

Talks and Discussions on the Faith continue on **Tuesday (12th)** after the 6.30pm Mass.

Quiet reflection on the miracle of the Eucharist. Mass on Tuesday will be followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, with meditations on the Holy Eucharist and silent prayer until Benediction at 8.00 p.m. In our busy lives it is essential to come apart with Christ from time to time - to be with him, to wait upon him and to listen for his voice speaking in the depths of our hearts. All welcome.

Advent and Christmas Meditations. You are invited to share in these Wednesday evening meditations which will focus on the last things heralded by the coming of Christ at the end of time. In the Eucharist we have a foretaste of the future gathering of all things in unity in Christ. Why not use the Wednesdays of Advent and Christmastide to reflect on the mystery of our crucified, risen and ascended Lord who comes to us in the most holy Sacrament of the Altar? This will also help us to "stay awake" and be more watchful and aware of the ways in which Our Lord comes to us always and everywhere in the sacrament of each present moment. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, meditations and silent prayer will take place after the 7.00pm Wednesday Mass and will finish with Benediction at 8.00pm. All welcome.

Collection 3rd December: Loose plate £64.40, Envelopes £98.00, Standing Orders £370.00, Total **£.532.40** The collection for Catholic Youth Service raised £96.10. Today there will be a Second Collection for Poor Parishes of the Diocese.

Christmas Goodies Sale. Thank you all for supporting this venture. We collected over £230 for Parish Funds. Also, HCPT benefitted by £55 from the sale of cards and calendars. Many thanks.

HCPT: Christmas Cards and Advent Calendars are on sale until **24th December**. All proceeds will go towards the expenses of Group 83.

Migrants Day. Last week's appeal raised £237.79. *Thank you for your generosity, the Centre will be delighted-* Ian Lester.

Advent Parish Giving Tree. The tree is now up at the back of church. The gifts we collect will be given to those who are struggling this Christmas either through illness or difficult social situations. Many of the children's gifts will be distributed via "Hudsons care" Birmingham. Please take one or more tags and leave your present with the tag under the tree on or before next Sunday, **17th December**.

Carol Service – Sunday, 17th December. at 6.30pm. – please note the change of time. It is always followed by refreshments including mince pies. If you are able and willing to contribute. please put your name on the paper at the back of the church today.

Raffle Tickets. Available at the back of the Church today. The tickets are £1.00 each or £5.00 for a book. There are great prizes. Please collect your tickets today and sell as many as you can. The stubs and money

can be returned each week after Mass. Please return any unsold tickets in order that they might be sold - Time is short for us to make a success of this - hopefully this will serve to concentrate our efforts. Thank you for your efforts. The draw will take place after mass next Sunday.

Your prayers are asked for those who are sick and their carers: Monica Pillow, Lily Mae Carr, Mary Keane, Consuelo Ramon, Denise Hamilton, Sister Maria Goretti, Joseph Lockington, Brian Kenny, Canon Peter Taylor, Kevin Lambert, John Aitken, Helen Hopkins, Heather O’Connell, Vincent Webb, Dave & Ian, Teresa Petropoulos, Ian Gibbs, Frances Carroll, Sarah & Martin Dunne, Cat Patton-Kennedy, Father Pat Sayles, Jonathan Ridler, Sister Teresa Moore, Mary Murray, Andy Rudd, Marjorie Lee, Anne Santos, Louis Loughran, Linda Hatton, Leonardo Byrne, Lucy Knifton, Jim Slattery, Bernard Hammond, Terry Fairbrother, Katya O’Donnell .

Anniversaries: Sarah Coss, Mary Hayhurst, Cyril Howse, Austin Ruddy, David Scannell, Bernard White,

This Week’s Liturgy and Rota Arrangements

Date & Time:	10 th December	17 th December
Day:	Second Sunday of Advent	Third Sunday of Advent
Celebrant:	Father Frank	Father Frank
Intention:	Mary Slattery RIP	Dr Ken Stone RIP
Altar Servers:	tba	tba
Wardens:	Chris Burleigh Christine Horner & Christina Plater	Ian & Fran Lester Alan Devoy
Readers:	Chris Burleigh & Andrew Chesshire-Ramon	Nigel Parker & Ian Lester
Eucharistic Ministers:	Maureen Carroll Joe Martin & Eileen Selby	Mike Fairbrother Stefan Hunka & Charles Keane
Counting:	Alan & Jane Devoy	Dave & Aislinn Cant
Tea & Coffee:	Chris Lynn & Mary Sharp	Madeleine Peat & Nuala Fulham
Cleaning:	Christina Plater & Nuala Fulham	Louise Perry & Monica Green
Flowers:	Advent Wreath Pam Martin	Advent Wreath Pam Martin
Children’s Liturgy:	Celine Burley & Kathryn Driffield	Kathryn Driffield & & Jane Devoy
Music:	Instrumental Group	Linda Chesshire

This week’s services

Date:	Tuesday 12 th December	Wednesday 13 th December	Thursday, 14 th December
Time:	6.30pm Mass	7.00pm Mass	10.00am Mass
	Our Lady of Guadalupe Followed by Talks & Discussions on the faith	St Lucy Followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Meditations & Benediction at 8.00 pm	St John of the Cross
Intention:	Those preparing for Confirmation	Veronica Murphy RIP	Alan Cronin RIP

Parish Room: *MUST be booked with Louise Perry – Tel 01676 533357.*

Contributions for the Bulletin: Please send items to Godfrey Chesshire at godfreycheshire@btinternet.com or call on 01676 532352 by 7.00pm on Wednesday.

Priest: *Revd Father Frank Smith* Tel: 07512 100908 Email: frankj.smith55@yahoo.co.uk

The parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham, Registered Charity No. 234216. Parish website: www.brgparish.org.uk

Warwick Catholic Deanery Website www.warwick-catholicdeanery.org.uk