

# *Blessed Robert Grissold Catholic Church, Balsall Common*

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

## **17<sup>th</sup> December 2017 – Third Sunday of Advent – Year B**

*" There stands among you – unknown to you – the one who is coming"*

**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:** John the Baptist, who we hear about in today's Gospel, marks the end of the time of waiting and the beginning of the new age in Jesus. John is the last of the great prophets. For a long time, the people had been without a messenger from God but in John the Baptist the people discovered an end to God's silence. Through John they could hear the word of God. We are told that many went out from the towns and cities to see John - which is testimony to his charismatic power to attract people - such is the powerful attraction of the word of God alive and active in a person.

**Saints and Feast Days of the Week:** St Peter Canisius (21<sup>st</sup>), St John of Kanty (23<sup>rd</sup>).

**Quiet reflection on the miracle of the Eucharist.** Mass on Wednesday 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.

**Confession:** There will be an opportunity to make your confession this Wednesday evening after the 7.00 pm Mass. Mass will be followed by a short meditation then by silent prayer before the Blessed Sacrament whilst confessions are being heard in private.

**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 10<sup>th</sup>December:** Loose plate £22.85, Envelopes £25.00, Standing Orders £370.00, Total **£.417.85**. Today there will be a Second Collection for Poor Parishes of the Diocese.

**Raffle Tickets.** The draw will take place after Mass this morning. There are still a few tickets left. Please make sure you have put all of your ticket stubs and money in the box provided. Thank you.

**Carol Service – This evening at 6.30pm. – please note the change of time.** Followed by mince pies.

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

**Advent Parish Giving Tree.** The gifts we have collected 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.

**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:** Annie Chesshire, Ted Doyle, Beatrice Howse, Marjorie Mayer.

**This Week's Liturgy and Rota Arrangements**

<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	17 <sup>th</sup> December – 9.30am	24 <sup>th</sup> December – 9.30am
<b>Day:</b>	Third Sunday of Advent	Fourth Sunday of Advent
<b>Celebrant:</b>	Father Frank	Father Frank
<b>Intention:</b>	Dr Ken Stone RIP	Mary Slattery RIP
<b>Altar Servers:</b>	tba	tba
<b>Wardens:</b>	Ian & Fran Lester Alan Devoy	Christine Harris Dominic Green & Irene Gibbons
<b>Readers:</b>	Nigel Parker & Ian Lester	Dominic Green & Ciaran McSorley
<b>Eucharistic Ministers:</b>	Mike Fairbrother Stefan Hunka & Charles Keane	John McLellan John & Loise Perry
<b>Counting:</b>	Dave & Aislinn Cant	Charles Keane & Mike Fairbrother
<b>Tea &amp; Coffee:</b>	Madeleine Peat & Nuala Fulham	Louise Perry & Ann Dodd
<b>Cleaning:</b>	Louise Perry & Monica Green	Godfrey & Linda Chesshire Claire Keane
<b>Flowers:</b>	Advent Wreath Pam Martin	Advent Wreath Pam Martin
<b>Children's Liturgy:</b>	Kathryn Driffield & Jane Devoy	No Liturgy
<b>Music:</b>	Linda Chesshire	Instrumental Groupo
<p><i>Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> December - Mass during the Night of Christmas (Midnight Mass) – 7.30pm</i></p> <p><i>- People of the Parish</i></p> <p><i>Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> December – Mass of Christmas Day - Ian Stewart RIP</i></p>		

**This week's services**

<b>Date:</b>	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Thursday, 21 <sup>st</sup> December
<b>Time:</b>	10.00am Mass	7.00pm Mass	10.00am Mass
<b>Intention:</b>	Margaret Bixby RIP	Followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and Confessions Hanny Nyst RIP	Doherty Family - Intentions

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

**Contributions for the Bulletin:** Please send items to Godfrey Chesshire at [godfreychesshire@btinternet.com](mailto:godfreychesshire@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](mailto:frankj.smith55@yahoo.co.uk)

The parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham, Registered Charity No. 234216. Parish website: [www.brgparish.org.uk](http://www.brgparish.org.uk)  
Warwick Catholic Deanery Website [www.warwick-catholicdeanery.org.uk](http://www.warwick-catholicdeanery.org.uk)