

# *Blessed Robert Grissold Catholic Church, Balsall Common*

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

**1st December 2019 – First Sunday of Advent– Year A**

*“Stay awake so that you may be ready”*

**Pope’s Prayer Intention for November:** *“That every country takes the measures necessary to prioritize the future of the very young, especially those who are suffering.*

**Father Frank:** *As we begin Advent our thoughts are guided, through the liturgy, to the coming of Christ - his first coming to us in humility and weakness and his second coming in majesty and power. The description of the Second Coming of Christ should not fill us with fear, rather we should look forward to it and prepare for it through prayer and right living. So, let us resolve to stay close to Christ through our daily prayer. Perhaps praying the rosary daily - even if it is only offering up a decade - and meditating on what Christ wants to say to us in the Gospels. In this way we will learn to discern his voice - calling us to follow him in the way we must walk.*

**Advent** begins today. During Advent, the evening Mass on Thursdays will be followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament ending with Benediction. The meditations accompanying Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament during Advent and Christmas will reflect the themes of those holy seasons. In addition, there will be an opportunity to make your Confession prior to Christmas, after Mass on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December

**Collection:** 24<sup>th</sup> November: Loose plate £117.25, Envelopes £73.00, standing orders £430.00; **Total £620.25.**

**The collection for the Catholic Youth Service raised £81.50. Thank you.**

**There will be a collection for the Poor Parishes of the Diocese next Sunday.**

**Please pray for Liam Joseph Hunt**, who is to be baptised today after Mass. Also, pray for his parents, godparents, family and friends.

**Thursday Evening Mass** will begin at 6.00pm every week unless otherwise notified in the bulletin.

**Walk with Me Booklets for Advent** are available from today. Price £1.00 each. Please put money in the wall box.

**Saints and Feast Days this week:** St Francis Xavier (3<sup>rd</sup>), St Birinus (5<sup>th</sup>), St Nicholas (6<sup>th</sup>), St Ambrose (7<sup>th</sup>).

**Christmas Goodies Sale.** After mass today. Sale of mince pies, pickled onions, chutney, preserves, cakes and gifts. Proceeds for parish funds.

**Get together:** This Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> December. We are going to Wyndley Garden Centre. Meet in BRG car park at 10.30am in order to sort out transport.

**Christmas giving tree:** Every year we decorate our Christmas tree with tags for presents that we, as a parish donate to others. Some will be given to local parishioners and the rest are given to Fr Hudson’s charity. They have many projects (I have added their newsletter to the notice board) and our gifts will be given to those who use their projects. This year they are asking us to identify what is in the present to ensure it gets to the right person. They have said they find gift packs of toiletries and winter gifts (eg slippers) useful. Selection boxes, food hampers (see noticeboard) and tins of biscuits are also very welcome, they don’t need wrapping. Please give whatever you can, wrap it and place it back under the tree with the tag. Many thanks. *Charles and Claire Keane.*

**Christmas Raffle:** Raffle Tickets are available to sell at the back of the church. Please take away and sell to friends, colleagues and family. We have some fantastic prizes including £150 cash prize to cover the cost of Christmas Lunch! Christmas Hamper, Lunch for 2 at Mallory Court, Sunday Lunch for 4 at The Counting House Leamington Spa, Afternoon Tea for 2 at Whittles Restaurant, Binswood Hall, Vouchers, Bottles, Christmas Cake, Chocolates & much more.... Many thanks - Tracey

**Christmas Newsletter - Articles and Pictures Wanted:** It's that time of year again when work commences on the Christmas Newsletter. To mark the 25th anniversary of our church, this year's newsletter will be a bumper edition, but this is only possible if you provide pictures and articles about parish life over the last 12 months or so. Please send your words, poetry, pictures etc to Ian Clarke on [iehclarke@btinternet.com](mailto:iehclarke@btinternet.com) as soon as possible. If you have any questions or ideas for good articles, please talk to Ian after Mass.

**Christmas:** Christmas cards, calendars & candles are on sale. All proceed will go to HCPT Group 83.

**CHARITY CHRISTMAS FAYRE - held on SATURDAY, 23rd NOVEMBER:** I would like to thank all those who supported the Fayre on Saturday. It was an enjoyable day and a total of £1,548 was made, to be divided equally between Acorns and Save the Children. Your generosity is much appreciated. Thank you also to Father Frank for allowing the use of the Hall and to all those who helped make the day run smoothly. *Julia Greensall*

**General Election – Meet the Candidates:** This Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm in the Methodist Church. Questions in advance please to Godfrey at **01676 532352** or [godfreycheshire@btinternet.com](mailto:godfreycheshire@btinternet.com)

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

**Your prayers are asked for those who are sick and their carers:** Lily Mae Carr, Joseph Lockington, Katya O'Donnell, Consuelo Ramon, Anne Santos, Andrew Burton, Darragh Sheehan, Maureen Carroll, Rob Branson.

**Anniversaries:** Valerie Harris, Patricia Westerman, Mary Howell, Dennis Clifford, Johnnie Kelly, John Burke, Frederick Garnham, Teresa Arikat, John White, Baby Dixon, Bernard Freyne, James & Daisy Cone.

**Items for Weekly Bulletin:** Please note that *Godfrey Cheshire* has taken over the bulletin editorial. Please send items to [godfreycheshire@btinternet.com](mailto:godfreycheshire@btinternet.com) or call on **01676 532352** by **7.00pm on Wednesday**.

### This Week's Liturgy and Rota Arrangements

<b>Date &amp; Time:</b> <b>Day:</b> <b>Celebrant:</b> <b>Intention:</b>	Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> December – 9.30 am First Sunday of Advent (Year A) Father Frank Jack McLean (RIP) Baptism of Liam Joseph Hunt	Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> December – 9.30 am Second Sunday of Advent (Year A) Father Frank Peter Carroll (RIP)
<b>Altar Servers:</b>	Ethan & Laura	Joe & James
<b>Wardens:</b>	Godfrey Chesshire Monica Green & Ann Crossley	Kevin & Sue McGovern Madeleine Peat
<b>Readers:</b>	John McLellan & Aidir Parizzi	David Green & Greg Hobbs
<b>Eucharistic Ministers:</b>	Monica Green Stefan Hunka & Joe Martin	Carol Beck Joh McLellan & Teresa Green
<b>Counting:</b>	Dave & Aislinn Cant	Charles Keane & Mike Fairbrother
<b>Tea &amp; Coffee:</b>	Selby Family & Chris Mitchell	Margaret & Chris Burleigh
<b>Cleaning:</b>	Chris & Margaret Burleigh	Christina Plater & Nuala Fulham
<b>Flowers:</b>	Advent – no flowers	Advent – no flowers
<b>Children's Liturgy:</b>	Jane & Celine	Claire & Kathryn
<b>Music:</b>	Ian & Ellie Clarke	Instrumental Group

### Mass Times this week

<b>Date:</b> <b>Time:</b>  <b>Intention:</b>	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December 10.00am Mass Memorial of St Francis Xavier  Nuala Fulham & Family Intentions	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> December 10.00am Mass	Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> December 6.00pm Mass followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, meditations and silent prayer until Benediction at 7.00pm Mary Slattery (RIP)
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> December - 10.00am Votive Mass of the Sacred Heart			

**Priest: Revd. Father Frank Smith. Tel: 07512 100908 Email: [parishpriest@brgparish.org.uk](mailto:parishpriest@brgparish.org.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)**

**Archdiocese of Birmingham website: [www.birminghamdiocese](http://www.birminghamdiocese)**