



THE PARISH OF OUR LADY & ST. WULSTAN

WOOD STREET, SOUTHAM CV47 1PP

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The parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No 234216



01.11.2020 – Solemnity of All Saints

Welcome to guests visitors and parishioners.

Today we celebrate the feast of all the saints, known as well as unknown, who are now in heaven. The Church reminds us the sanctity is within everyone's reach. Through the 'Communion of Saints' we can help each other.

Masses & Intentions

| <i>Solemnity of All Saints</i> | | | |
|---|----|-------------------|---|
| Saturday | 31 | 5.00pm 5.30pm | Eucharistic Adoration Walter Hughes RIP (Anniversary) |
| Sunday | 01 | 10.00am | James Sweeney RIP (Anniversary) |
| <i>Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed</i> | | | |
| Monday | 02 | 10.00am 7.00pm | Holy Souls Holy Souls |
| Tuesday | 03 | | <i>St. Martin de Porres, (R), St. Winifride (V)</i> People of the Parish |
| Wednesday | 04 | 6.30pm 7.00pm | Eucharistic Adoration Holy Souls |
| Thursday | 05 | | <i>Feria in Ordinary Time.</i> Kathleen McCarthy RIP |
| Friday | 06 | | <i>Feria in Ordinary Time.</i> |
| Saturday | 07 | 5.30pm | <i>Feria in Ordinary Time.</i> In Thanksgiving (Stewards & Volunteers) |
| Sunday | 08 | 10.00am | <i>Thirty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> People of the Parish |

The Second Collection this weekend is for Johnson Association.

All Saints Day

Sunday 1st November is the Solemnity of All Saints. On the eve, (Saturday Oct. 31) there will be half an hour of Eucharistic Adoration between 5.00pm and 5.30pm. All are welcome.

Book of Remembrance

The month of November, 'Month of Remembrance', also commonly known as the 'Month of the Holy Souls' is upon us. The resurrection of the Lord is at the centre of our faith and that faith inspires us to pray for all the faithful departed and look forward for their and our own resurrection..

As we all owe a debt of gratitude to all who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith, let us remember them and support them through our prayer.

Thank you to for providing the names for the 'Book of Remembrance' and thank you to Julie Hum for organising this. The 'Book of Remembrance' will be placed in the sanctuary from the beginning and for the whole of November.

November Dead List

Thanks to parishioners for providing names of all the deceased family members, friends and benefactors in the envelopes provided. They will be placed on the sanctuary and prayers and Masses will be offered for the Holy Souls, especially in November.

Please ignore the instruction on the envelope about placing offering in the envelopes. If you so wish, please use the Mass offering envelopes and Masses for the Holy Souls will be offered as and when possible.

The Paschal Candle in the sanctuary is the constant reminder of the Lord's resurrection, the heart of our faith. Although it is lit throughout the Easter Season and during Baptisms and Funerals during the rest of the liturgical year, to help us in our November devotions, we shall have it lit during the month for all our liturgical celebrations.

On Monday 2nd Nov., the day of Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed, there will be Mass at 10.00am and 7.00pm. Hope as many parishioners as possible will attend Mass and pray for the Holy Souls. All are welcome.

Sick: Please pray for all those who are unwell at this time, especially all those who are affected by Covid-19, those who are in isolation and all who help / take care of them as well as all those who serve our communities in frontline jobs.

RIP: Please pray for **Rev Fr Thomas Edward Williams** and all those who died recently and for all the faithful departed. *May they all, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*

The Beatitudes (Matthew 5:1-12): These eight blessings stand at the head of the Sermon on the Mount, pointing out eight ways in which we can welcome God into our lives. They are ways of living out God's blessing, possible only if the hand of God is upon us. That is why the first and the last beatitudes knit them all together with 'theirs is the kingdom of heaven'. Jesus came to proclaim the kingship of his Father, and these are ways of living that kingship. For each of the beatitudes, do you know someone in the parish or elsewhere in your life who exemplifies that particular attitude? Or is there a saint whom you consider typifies each of these beatitudes for you? What is your own favourite beatitude? Jesus illustrates the beatitudes in various incidents in the gospels: he enters Jerusalem on a donkey as the gentle king; he shows love in his welcome to sinners; he brings peace to those tortured by disease or contempt; he manifests purity of heart in his single-minded pre-occupation with his Father's will; finally, he accepts persecution for what he knew to be right. All Christians may suddenly find themselves face to face with similar shattering challenges.

Which of these 'beatitudes' do you most lack? Which would you most like to acquire?

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

Pope's Prayer Intention for November – Artificial Intelligence: We pray that by the progress of robotics and artificial intelligence may always serve humankind.

Telephone support: Some of our parishioners are supporting each other by telephone. Please phone 811703 (Shirley) or email (shirley@shirleyrush8.plus.com) if you want a chat or to

receive calls or if you would like to join those who are calling others.

Church Cleaners / Stewards: We still require more volunteers aged between 18 and 69 to help before, during and after Masses at weekends and on Wednesdays. If sufficient volunteers are found, Masses could be celebrated with parishioners on other weekdays as well. If you are able and willing to help, please contact Fr. Arul or speak to one of the volunteers on duty.

Just a Reminder: 'Thank you' to parishioners for complying with safety measures such as, hand-wash, wearing face mask and social distancing expected during Covid 19 pandemic in the Church. While having to communicate or catch up with friends after Mass, if parishioners could remember to observe social distancing, it will be much appreciated.

Christmas Cards Sales: Parishioners will be pleased to know Christmas Cards will be on sale in Parish Hall after 10.00am Mass on Sundays **only on 1st November and 6th December.** If possible please pay by Cheque to avoid handling money. It will be much appreciated. Please be advised and guided by the volunteers with regard to the Covid-19 restrictions to be observed while browsing or purchasing the products. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Prayers for & Solidarity with Fr. Stan Swamy sj
Your prayers and support will be very much appreciated for the 83 year old Jesuit Priest Stan Swamy based in Ranchi, India. He has spent his ministry for nearly half a century among the society's most disadvantaged people. Amidst this global pandemic he has been arrested and imprisoned in Mumbai. Let us remember him and the cause he was living for, in our prayers. More information is available online.

All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day

All Saints' Day is a feast day celebrated on 1st November. All Souls' Day, 2nd November, is a time to pray for departed souls.

All Saints' Day: All Saints' Day (also known as All Hallows' Day or Halloween) is the day after **All Hallows' Eve** (Hallowe'en). It is a feast day celebrated on 1st Novmeber by Roman Catholics and Anglicans.

It is an opportunity for believers to remember all saints and martyrs, known and unknown, throughout Christian history. As part of this day of obligation, believers are required to attend church and try not to do any servile work.

Remembering saints and martyrs and dedicating a specific day to them each year has been a Christian tradition since the 4th century AD, but it wasn't until 609AD that Pope Boniface IV decided to remember *all* martyrs. Originally 13th May was designated as the Feast of All Holy Martyrs. Later, in 837AD, Pope Gregory IV extended the festival to remember all the saints, changed its name to Feast of All Saints and changed the date to 1st November.

We celebrate today the solemnity of All Saints. This invites us to turn our gaze to the immense multitude of those who have already reached the blessed land, and points us on the path that will lead us to that destination.

Pope John Paul II, All Saints' Day 2003

All Souls' Day: All Souls' Day is marked on **2nd November** (or the **3rd** if the 2nd is a Sunday), directly following All Saints' Day, and is an opportunity for Roman Catholics and Anglo-Catholic churches to commemorate the

faithful departed. They remember and pray for the souls of people who are in Purgatory - the place (or state) in which those who have died atone for their less grave sins before being granted the vision of God in Heaven (called *Beatific vision*).

Reasoning behind this stems from the notion that when a soul leaves the body, it is not entirely cleansed from venial (minor) sins. However, through the power of prayer and self-denial, the faithful left on earth may be able to help these souls gain the Beatific Vision they seek, bringing the soul eternal sublime happiness.

A 7/8th century AD prayer *The Office of the Dead* is read out in churches on All Souls' Day. Other rituals include the offering of Requiem Mass for the dead, visiting family graves and reflecting on lost loved ones. In Mexico, on *el dia de los muertos* (Day of the Dead), people take picnics to their family graves and leave food out for their dead relatives.

Whilst praying for the dead is an ancient Christian tradition, it was Odilo, Abbot of Cluny (France) who, in 998AD, designated a specific day for remembering and praying for those in the process of purification. This started as a local feast in his monasteries and gradually spread throughout the Catholic Church towards the end of the 10th century AD.

For the souls in purgatory, waiting for eternal happiness and for meeting the Beloved is a source of suffering, because of the punishment due to sin which separates them from God. But there is also the certitude that once the time of purification is over, the souls will go to meet the One it desires.

Letter of Pope John Paul II for Millennium of All Souls' Day

https://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/christianity/holydays/allsouls_1.shtml

PRAYERS DURING THE PANDEMIC

Almighty ever-living God,
only support of our human weakness,
look with compassion upon
the sorrowful condition of your children
who suffer because of this pandemic;
relieve the pain of the sick,
give strength to those who care for them,
welcome into your peace those who have died
and, throughout this time of tribulation,
grant that we may all find
comfort in your merciful love.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pope Francis Good Friday 2020

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