

# St Francis of Assisi, Baddesley Clinton

[Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No. 234216]

Fr John Sharp

[www.sfachurch.org.uk](http://www.sfachurch.org.uk)

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Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

24<sup>th</sup> January 2021

## PARISH LITURGY – MASS TIMES and INTENTIONS

Saturday            **No Saturday evening Mass at present**  
Sunday             9.30 am             People of the Parish

Monday [Conversion of St Paul]

9.00 am             Fr Pat Joyce

Tuesday [Ss Timothy and Titus, bishops]

9.00 am             Stephen Troth

Wednesday [Feria]

9.00 am             Betty Wattrus

12.30 pm            Funeral Mass of Betty Wattrus

Thursday [St Thomas Aquinas, priest, doctor of the Church]

9.00 am             Lawrence Murray

Friday [Feria]

9.00 am             James Quinn

Saturday [Feria (of Our Lady)]

9.00 am             Private Intention

Confessions:    Saturday, 4.30-5.00 pm

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Please pray for the sick in our parish and those who have died: **John Spencer; John William Butterley; Mary Smith; Catherine Hedges; Fr Mortimer Loftus (former parish priest)** (anniversaries)

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*Current government regulations restrict the numbers who can attend a funeral to 30, which severely limits the number who would like to be present for Betty Wattrus' Funeral Mass. Please note that the 9 o'clock Mass on Wednesday will be of Requiem for Betty; this will enable those who cannot be present for the afternoon Funeral Mass to pay their respects earlier in the day.*

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The Income and Expenditure Summary for 2020 is available. If you would like a copy, please email [sfa.bc@outlook.com](mailto:sfa.bc@outlook.com) and it will be sent to you. Hard copies are also available on request.

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It was depressing even to think of it. 'How long?' I asked the Lord, 'How long will you be angry with me? For ever? Can't you forget my sins?'

You see, even if *he* forgot, I could not; and I could not believe he forgot, either. I felt trapped still by my past failures. So I cried to him: ‘Why not *now*, Lord – why not, at this very moment, put an end to this uncleanness?’

And the moment I said it, he answered. I heard a voice, a far-away voice like a child calling from a distant house, repeating over and over again, ‘Pick up the book and read. Pick up the book and read.’

So I picked up the book. It was the letters of the apostle Paul. I opened it, and read silently the first words on which my eyes fell: ‘Not parties, not getting drunk, not promiscuity, not quarrelling and envy – put off all those. But put on the Lord Christ, and stop encouraging your lower nature.’

I need to read no more, for instantly – by the end of the sentence – a clear, bright light shone in my heart, driving out the darkness of my doubts. It seemed so straightforward. When I put off the old, that I had longed to lose, then I put on the new, the Lord Christ, whom I had longed to find.

St Augustine of Hippo (354-430 A.D.)