

## ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCHES OF WALSALL

St. Mary's, St. Patrick's &amp; St. Thomas of Canterbury



Diocese of Birmingham  
www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk  
Registered Charity No.234216

Archdiocese of Birmingham

ST. MARY'S THE MOUNT

Roman Catholic Church

Vocationists

WALSALL

[www.stmarysthemount.co.uk](http://www.stmarysthemount.co.uk)

Telephone:01922 622633



Vocationists  
www.vocationist.org  
Registered Charity No. 1135796

## St. Mary's the Mount Parish Family wishes You All a Warm Welcome

**Parish Priest:** Fr. Jobin Kollappallil, SDV

**Assistant Priest:** Fr. Fabien Ramiandrisoa, SDV

**Brother:** Edmar Lapus, SDV

**St. Patrick's:** Fr. Roberto Ciardo, SDV

**St. Thomas of Canterbury:** Fr. Christogonus

Ugwuakposim, SDV

**Chaplain of Manor Hospital:** Fr. Christogonus

### We wait for the Lord with Joy for this 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

On the third Sunday of Advent, we light the third candle, which is pink. In this period, waiting is characterised by an increase of trust and hope. The third candle is, in fact, called the *Candle of Joy* and, in this week, pink is the colour both liturgical vestments and of the third of the four Advent candles, which we gradually light and make their way with their light in the darkness of winter, shining on the altars of churches, in communities or in private homes.

Pink, or more properly *rosaceous*, is a liturgical colour of the Roman rite that we use only twice during the year: the fourth week of Lent (Laetare Sunday) and the third week of Advent (Gaudete Sunday). Pink is a soft colour that comes from mixing white and with a hint of purple. This means that penance and celebration are united. We should be joyous, not only during this 3<sup>rd</sup> week of Advent as Christmas is approaching, but throughout our life.



Indeed, every Christian is called to live in joy. Joy is not that emotion that passes in a few minutes, but one which arises above all from the awareness that a great thing is about to happen for humanity: **THE SAVIOUR OF THE WORLD IS ABOUT TO ARRIVE! GOD IS COMING TO LIVE AMONG US!** There are many things that could cause us to rejoice: perhaps waiting for a wedding celebration, having success in life, success in an exam, or receiving a nice gift on a birthday. But there is only

one reason for all of us to be joyful as we are approaching Christmas: to remember that **GOD HAS COME AMONG US;** to become aware that he came to experience our suffering and become life for us. The question is this: are we aware of the presence of God among us? Do we still have doubts that He is there and never leaves us?

Furthermore, joy is what leads us to holiness. Saint John Bosco reminds us of this by saying that there is no sad saint. Living in joy can lead us to holiness. If we always remain sad about what happens to us, it is difficult for us to respond to God's call to holiness.

INFORMATION

- **Parish Contributions:** Last Sunday: £1102.54 (Standing Orders: £821, Offertory Collection: £392.05). **Second collection for Poor Parishes: £160.40. Counting:** This Sunday: Team B, next Sunday: Team C.
- **Christmas Offertory Collections for priests:** There will be Christmas Offertory envelopes available at the back of church this weekend, and on Christmas Day, for the Christmas collection, which is your contribution to the clergy of our parish.
- **Bambinelli Sunday:** This Sunday, the third Sunday of Advent, is traditionally known as *Bambinelli Sunday*. Please bring the statues of baby Jesus from your cribs, so that they can be blessed in church.
- **Penitential Rite:** Our penitential rite in preparation for Christmas will be on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December, starting with Eucharistic Exposition & Penitential rite at 5.30 pm. Holy Mass will be at 7pm and there will be opportunity for Confessions until 8.30pm. Three priests will be available to hear Confessions, including a visiting priest.
- **Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols:** This will take place in church this Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> December, at 4.00 pm, followed by a glass of mulled wine and mince pies in the parish hall. Everyone is welcome. (The carols will last for one hour.)
- **Prayer for Expectant Mothers:** Fourth Sunday of Advent is the day pray for expectant mothers/parents. We will be praying for them at next weekend masses and there will be special blessing for them.
- **Christmas Eve:** Please note that Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday this year, which means that both Sunday & Monday (Christmas Day) are Holy Days of Obligation. As Catholics, we are required to attend Mass on both days.
- **Parish Christmas Programme:** If you have not already done so, please take a copy of the programme of Masses & other services for the Christmas & New Year period. If you know of someone else, a friend or neighbour, who might be interested in joining us, please take an extra copy.
- **Bro. Edmar:** Bro Edmar has been admitted to the Minor Order of Acolytes, a step nearer to the sacred order of priesthood. He will be ordained to the Order of Acolytes on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm Mass. We invite everyone to join and witness this celebration, and to pray for Bro. Edmar on this joyous occasion. There will be light refreshments in the Parish Hall afterwards.
- **Church Cleaning:** We would like to do a full clean of the church in preparation for Christmas on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December at 4pm. Everyone is welcome to help.
- **Christmas Flowers and Decorations:** If anybody would like to make donations towards buying flowers to decorate the church in preparation for Christmas, please contact Shiela Parker or one of the priests.
- **Church Christmas Decorations:** We will be decorating the church on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> December from 10.30am. We invite people to come and help decorate the church.
- **Give a Home to Baby Jesus:** As part of our Advent preparations, we offer parishioners the opportunity to welcome the statue of *Baby Jesus* into their homes between now and 24<sup>th</sup> of December. If you are interested, please sign the sheet at the back of church, next to your preferred date. Guidelines are also provided. **You will receive Jesus from the church after 4pm on the day you wish to bring Jesus to your home and should return the statue to the church the following day, before 3pm.**
- **Diocesan Directory 2024:** The new diocesan directory for the year 2024 is available for purchase from the piety stall at the back of the church, priced at £3.50. *Christmas Cards, diaries and other items are also on sale from our piety stall.* Please take a look at these items, before or after Mass.
- **ORDO/Liturgical Calendar:** The new Ordo, Advent 2023 to December 2024, is also available at £6.50.
- **RIP:** Please pray for the soul of Christine Lobo, who died suddenly on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November. She is the mother of former altar servers, Chriswina & Kegan. Her funeral will take place in our church on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 10.30am.

- **RIP:** Please pray for the soul of Margaret Mary Lloyd who died on 1<sup>st</sup> December. Her funeral service will take place in our church on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January at 11.15am, followed by a burial at North Walsall cemetery.
- **Food Bank:** This week we are in need of tea, rice, long-life milk, cereal and tinned potatoes. Donations can be left in the trolley in the entrance to church - **only food items please**. We are now supporting 7 families with your donations.
- **Refreshments:** Please note that there will be refreshments in the Parish Centre, as usual, on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December, but there will be *no refreshments during the Christmas & New Year period*. They will resume on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January.
- **St. Mary's the Mount Nursery School:** Applications are invited from parents whose children will be 3 years old in September 2024.
- **Safeguarding:** The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese's policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are Paul McGill and Doreen Sehdeva. They can be contacted at: [sg.stmary.walsall@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.stmary.walsall@rcaob.org.uk) Alternatively, the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/ [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) if you have any concerns.

**Pope Francis's Prayer Intention for December 2023: For persons with disabilities**

*We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programmes which value their active participation.*

**Prayer for Vocations**

Divine Jesus, Son of the Eternal Father and Mary Immaculate, grant us and all the faithful true generosity in following your call and bestow on us the grace of your Holy Spirit to persevere in overcoming all obstacles to our vocations. Give the church in our Diocese and throughout the world many holy priests, fervent religious and committed lay people. Through the intercession of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary, all the Angels, Saint Justin Maria Russolillo and all Saints, we humbly ask you to hear our prayers and multiply the ministries by which we may serve You and one another in faith and love. Amen. Hail Mary....

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - 2023**

<b>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December</b>	<b>Penitential Rite &amp; Confession – beginning with Adoration at 5:30pm</b>
<b>Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>St. Stephen's Day: Altar Servers' Mass of Commitment at 10am</b>

**Let us Pray for those who are Sick**

Enid Johnson, Beryl Fearon, Eileen Fogarty, Liccia Petrocco, Wendy Bubb, Martha Ekezie, Moira Law, Madeleine Holland, Anne F Kazmie, Patrick Kelly, Anne Dixon, Cliff Maybury, Anne Kinsey, Faisal Kazilbash, John Horton, Una Greevy, Aga, James McGeough, Mavourneen Smith, Marie Hornblower, Judith Dunthorne, Angela Gonsalves, Margaret Powell, Lee Chit Wei

**CONTACT DETAILS OF PRIESTS**

<b>St. Mary's</b>	<b>Fr. Jobin Kollappallil, SDV</b>	<p><b>Address:</b> St. Mary's the Mount Presbytery, Vicarage Walk, Walsall, WS1 3NF  <b>Tel:</b> 01922 622 633</p> <p><b>Web:</b> <a href="http://www.stmarsthemount.co.uk">www.stmarsthemount.co.uk</a></p> <p><b>Parish Email:</b> <a href="mailto:stmary.walsall@rcaob.org.uk">stmary.walsall@rcaob.org.uk</a>  <b>Fr. Jobin:</b> <a href="mailto:fr.jobin.kollappallil@rcaob.org.uk">fr.jobin.kollappallil@rcaob.org.uk</a>  <b>Fr. Fabien:</b> <a href="mailto:fr.fabien.ramiandrisona@rcaob.org.uk">fr.fabien.ramiandrisona@rcaob.org.uk</a>  <b>FB:</b> Stmarys Mount; <b>Twitter:</b> @marys_mount  <b>Blog:</b> <a href="http://stmarysthemount.tumblr.com">stmarysthemount.tumblr.com</a></p>
<b>St. Patrick's</b>	<b>Fr. Roberto Ciardo, SDV</b>	<p><b>Blue Lane East, Walsall, WS2 8HN. Tel:</b> 01922 622633  <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:stpatrick.walsall@rcaob.org.uk">stpatrick.walsall@rcaob.org.uk</a></p>
<b>St. Thomas's</b>	<b>Fr. Christogonus, SDV</b>	<p><b>Dartmouth Avenue, Walsall, WS3 1SP. Tel:</b> 07404816951  <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:fr.christogonus.ugwuakposim@rcaob.org.uk">fr.christogonus.ugwuakposim@rcaob.org.uk</a></p>

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION	OFFERED BY
Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup>	5:30pm	St. Mary's	<b>Pro Populo</b>	
	6:30pm	St. Patrick's	Holy Mass	
	6:30pm	St. Thomas's	Holy Mass	
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> <i>Third Sunday of Advent</i>	9:00am	St. Mary's	<b>Frank Daniels - RIP</b>	<b>Byers Family</b>
	10:00am	St. Patrick's	Holy Mass	
	10:00am	St. Thomas's	Holy Mass	
	11:00am	St. Mary's	<b>Sarah &amp; Michael Johnson &amp; Bierd Family – RIP, DA</b>	<b>A &amp; P Johnson</b>
	4:00pm	St. Mary's	<b>Festival of Nine Lessons &amp; Carols</b>	
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup>	9:15am	St. Patrick's	Holy Mass	
	10:00am	St. Mary's	<b>Brian Crowley – RIP, DA</b>	<b>Josie Gray &amp; Roger Bird</b>
	10:00am	St. Thomas's	Holy Mass	
	7:00pm	St. Mary's	<b>Br. Edmar - TH</b>	
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	9:15am	St. Patrick's	Holy Mass	
	10:00am	St. Mary's	<b>Margaret Heavin – RIP, DA</b>	<b>J Heavin</b>
	10:00am	St. Thomas's	Holy Mass	
	4:00pm	St. Mary's	<b>Reception of Christine Lobo</b>	
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	9:00am	St. Mary's (SCH)	<b>School Mass</b>	
	10:30	St. Mary's	<b>Requiem Mass for Christine Lobo</b>	
	9:15am	St. Patrick's	Holy Mass	
	6:00pm	St. Mary's	<b>Adoration for Vocations</b>	
	7:00pm	St. Mary's	<b>Mark Longmore – RIP</b>	<b>Jaci Pugh</b>
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup>	9:15am	St. Patrick's	Holy Mass	
	10:00am	St. Mary's	<b>Eddie Frankham – RIP</b>	<b>M Frankham</b>
	10:00am	St. Thomas's	<b>Margaret Greer – RIP</b>	<b>K Gerrett</b>
	10:00am	St. Thomas's	Holy Mass	
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	9:15am	St. Patrick's	Holy Mass	
	10:00am	St. Thomas's	Holy Mass	
	5:30pm	St. Mary's	<b>Penitential Rite, Confessions &amp; Adoration</b>	
	7:00pm	St. Mary's	<b>Margaret Fallon – RIP</b>	
	8:15pm	St. Mary's	<b>Night Prayers &amp; Benedicton</b>	
Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	10:00am	St. Mary's	<b>Philomena Bickley - WB</b>	<b>J &amp; M Heavin</b>
	5:30pm	St. Mary's	<b>Catherine Broughton - RIP</b>	<b>J &amp; M Heavin</b>
	6:30pm	St. Patrick's	Holy Mass	
	6:30pm	St. Thomas's	Holy Mass	
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> <i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i> Day of Prayer for Expectant Mothers	9:00am	St. Mary's	<b>Mary Doyle - WB</b>	<b>J &amp; M Heavin</b>
	10:00am	St. Patrick's	Holy Mass	
	10:00am	St. Thomas's	Holy Mass	
	11:00am	St. Mary's	<b>Marie &amp; Pat Mahony – RIP</b>	

*C=Conversion, RIP=Rest in Peace, DA=Death Anniversary, S=Sick, B=Birthday, TH=Thanksgiving, WB=Well-Being, H=Healing, HE=Health, RC=Recovery, SI=Special Intention, M=Marriage, BP=Baptism, G=Guidance, SE= Success in Exams, WA=Wedding Anniversary, HS=Holy Strength, Ch=Church, SCH=School, BD= Beechdale, PC=Parish Centre*