



# OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL, REDDITCH

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

Parish Clergy: Fr Anthony Rohan, Fr Jason Mahoney

FACEBOOK

Permanent Deacon: Revd Des Chilton

OLMC Redditch



NEWSLETTER 2131 **FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B 3RD DECEMBER 2023**

Readings : Isaiah 63:16-17, 64:1,3-8 Psalm 79 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 Gospel Mark 13:33-57

## Reflection for this Sunday ...

In Advent, Christians relive a dual impulse of the spirit: on the one hand, they raise their eyes towards the final destination of their pilgrimage through history, which is the glorious return of the Lord Jesus; on the other, remembering with emotion his birth in Bethlehem, they kneel before the Crib. The hope of Christians is turned to the future but remains firmly rooted in an event of the past. In the fullness of time, the Son of God was born of the Virgin Mary: 'Born of a woman, born under the law', as the Apostle Paul writes (Ga 4:4). We might say that Advent is the season in which Christians must rekindle in their hearts the hope that they will be able with God's help to renew the world.



## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING SUNDAY 3RD DECEMBER 2023

<b>Saturday</b>	5pm	Peter & David McHugh & P J Kennedy
<b>Sunday</b>	8.15am	Mick McElroy & Emerita Trono (a) 9.45am (Polish) 11.15am People of the Parish & Holy Souls
	6pm	Myrtle Wilson (a) & Bridget Heatley (live-streamed)
<b>Monday</b>	6pm	Francis Keane
<b>MC School</b>	9am	M E Connelly (Johnson Fund)
<b>Tuesday</b>	9.30am	Intentions of Peter
<b>Wednesday</b>	9.30am	Elizabeth & John Burak
<b>Thursday</b>	12.30pm	Funeral Mass John Burak
	7pm	Francis Keane
<b>STA School</b>	9.40am	Margaret McAteer (Johnson Fund)
<b>Friday</b>	9.30am	Mr Nash
<b>STB School</b>	2.30pm	Adoration (8PMU)
<b>Saturday</b>	9.30am	Winifred & Michael Conboy
	5pm	Joan Casey (a) & People of the Parish

Parish Rosary Prayer Group after Mass on Tuesday followed by Flame of Love of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Prayer Meeting

**CONFESSION & BENEDICTION**  
Saturdays 10am—11am  
or by appointment

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT (YEAR B) 10TH DECEMBER 2023

<b>Sunday</b>	8.15am	James & Eileen Herlihy 9.45am (Polish) 11.15am Ints of Ephraim Kott
	6pm	Brendan & Margaret Geraghty (b'day a) (live-streamed)

**Mount Carmel 6pm Sunday Mass is Live Streamed - Visit our website and click on 'Watch Live'**

## For the Dead ...

Please pray for **JOANNA ELMS** Reception into church 5pm Thursday 21st December, Funeral Mass Friday 22nd December. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

## For the Sick ...

Please pray for **FR TONY, BRIAN DIXON, CAROLINE & BOB HOLLAND, EDDIE & GERALDINE MCGROARTY, JOHN HEATLEY, BRIDIE & PAUL MCCONNELL, DEACON DES CHILTON, DELIA BREE, JULIAN MCRANDAL, JACKIE POOLY, MICK O'CONNOR & MAYA MASON, LEONARD ROSE, ANNIE CLEARY, TOMMY CAFFNEY, HALLIE ROSE, BILL BARBER, GRAZYNA JUSZKIEWICZ, JANE ELLIOTT, DAVID CRUISE, KATH WILLIAMS, BERTIE MCHUGH, MARY DYSON**

## Lamp at the Shrine of Our Lady

This week in loving memory of **HUGH & JOE MCKENNA**  
Next week in loving memory of **STAN & STASIA DURAJ**

## Lamp at the Shrine of the Sacred Heart

This week in loving memory of **JAMES GUILFOYLE (B'DAY A)**  
Next week in loving memory of **EMERITA TRONO (A)**



**Bel Canto Singers**  
**Evening of Seasonal Song**  
7.30pm Saturday 9 December  
in Mount Carmel Church

Tickets £8 from 07885 507899  
or 07985 238334

or [www.belcantosingers.org.uk](http://www.belcantosingers.org.uk)

Mince Pie, wine (or soft drink)  
and free prize draw included

Please put mobile phones on silent when at Mass thankyou

**Religious Christmas Cards**

Box of 18 £3.50, Pk of 12 £3.

Pk of 10 £1.50, Calendars £1.

Diaries with Mass £3

for sale in parish office

Walk with Me Booklets & Advent

Calendars available in porches

Please take home with you.

A donation of £1 for the booklet would be welcome but not necessary

## Sacrament of Confirmation

for children in Year 7 or over attending non catholic schools who would like to be confirmed, please call at the Parish Office or contact us by phone or email. Also if you are a student at High School and missed making your confirmation and would like to do so, please contact us

Email [office@mtcarmel.co.uk](mailto:office@mtcarmel.co.uk)  
Phone 01527 63096

## PRAYER FOR PEACE IN THE UKRAINE & MIDDLE EAST

Loving God, we pray for the people of Ukraine and the Middle East, and for all those suffering or afraid, that you will be close to them and protect them. We pray for world leaders, for compassion, strength and wisdom to guide their choices. We pray for the world that in this moment of crisis, we may reach out in solidarity to our brothers and sisters in need. May we walk in your ways so that peace and justice become a reality for the people of Ukraine, the Middle East and the world. Amen. *Our Lady Queen of Peace, pray for us*

### SAINTS FOR THE WEEK

#### Monday **Saint John Damascene, Priest, Doctor of the Church**

*St John Damascene was born in Damascus in the late seventh century. He was a monk and priest at the monastery of St Sabbas in Jerusalem. He is remembered for defending the faith and for his devotion to Our Lady. He died in 749.*

#### Tuesday **Feast of Saint Birinus, Bishop**

*St Birinus was sent to England by Pope Honorius I, was ordained as a bishop and established his See at Dorchester on Thames. He died in 650.*

#### Wednesday **Saint Nicholas, Bishop**

*(Fourth century) St Nicholas was born perhaps at Patara (now in Turkey) and became bishop of Myra he was imprisoned under the Emperor Diocletian and had attended the Council of Nicea which opposed the Arian Heresy. The saint's relics were later brought to Bari (Italy).*

#### Thursday **Saint Ambrose, Bishop, Doctor of the Church**

*St Ambrose was born in Trier about 340. While still preparing for his own Baptism, he was chosen to be bishop of Milan. It was on this day in 374 that he was ordained bishop. He died in 397.*

#### Friday **Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Patroness of the Archdiocese of Birmingham.**

#### Saturday **Saint Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin**

*(1474-1548) St Juan Diego was born near what is now Mexico City and converted to Christianity in middle age. He showed a great piety and walked many miles to attend Holy Mass. While doing so on 9 December 1531, the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to him on Mount Tepeyac, asking that a shrine be built on the spot. The local bishop asked for a sign and Our Lady left a miraculous portrait of herself on St Juan Diego's tilma or mantle.*

### Unclaimed Grand Raffle Winners

2nd Prize £50.00 Ticket No 01632 Alan Wood

3rd Prize Sainsbury's Voucher £20.00 Ticket No 01629 Alan Wood

**Remainder of prizes at winner's choice—please come to the parish office and choose your prize**

Ticket No 00122 Mary Waldron

Ticket No 00732 Liam McAuliffe

Ticket No 00770 Liam McAuliffe

Ticket No 00022 Kate H

Ticket No 00558 Con Morrissey

### Future events .....

Saturday December 9th **Bel Canto Christmas Concert** 7.30pm in Mount Carmel

Friday December 12th **MCS KS2 Carol Concert** 5pm in Mount Carmel Church

Tuesday December 19th **St Augustine's Carol Concert** 7pm in Mount Carmel Church

**Wednesday December 20th Parish Christmas Carol Service** 7pm in Mount Carmel

2024 Date to be decided **Quiz Night** in Parish Hall

### Life Charity—Mass on the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patron Saint of the Unborn Child.

will be held for the first time at St Chad's Cathedral on Tuesday 12 December at 12.15pm celebrated by Archbishop Bernard Longley.

### First Holy Communion for children in non-Catholic schools

The parish Class begins **10th January 2024** on Wednesdays at 6pm during termtime. If you have a child in Year 3 or over who would like to make their First Holy Communion, please contact the parish office either in person or by email to enrol your child/children.

**CAFOD Emergency Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal—A donation today will provide essentials like food, water, and blankets to those who need it. Scan the QR Code (on notice board) or donate on line at [cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk)**

### Foodbank:

Our last delivery to Redditch Food Bank for this year will be week commencing **18th December** so when you are out Christmas shopping pick up something extra to donate so we make it a special Christmas for those in need. Thank you for your continued support.

### UN Climate Conference (COP28)

This is a vitally important conference the results of which affect us all. Pope Francis was intending to go but, 'with regret' has cancelled his visit on health grounds. He wrote in *Laudate Deum* that 'only a process of this sort can enable international politics to recover its credibility, since only in this concrete manner will it be possible to reduce significantly carbon dioxide levels and to prevent ever greater evils over time'.

Please pray not just for the Pope's health but also that countries at COP28 will live up to his urgent call for greater ambition on addressing the climate crisis, and for politicians to leave a legacy they can be proud of.

### Fairtrade Christmas Sale

This takes place at the back of church in St Joseph's Chapel after all masses this weekend. It includes a good selection of cards, which support CAFOD, chocolate, seasonal ingredients and other goodies. The sale of food items helps community producers in developing countries. Cash only please.

### Cafod/Laudato Si Group

In Britain every Christmas we throw away 226,800 miles of wrapping paper. There is no need to throw it away. It can re-used many times. And you can buy wrapping paper made from hemp, or from recycled paper. How about using attractive and re-usable cloth material instead of paper? Use ribbon instead of tape for sealing, so that the paper can be more easily re-used or recycled. The ribbon can be re-used as well, as can the bows. All of these actions will help the environment and contribute to reducing our carbon footprint.

### Mount Carmel 500 Club Winners for September & October

September 1st Prize £120 No 251 C & M Wegrzyn 2nd Prize £50 No 162 Paul Skinner

October 1st Prize £120 No 125 John Casey 2nd Prize £50 No 326 Bernadette Dempsey

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are **Mrs Jane Craig & Mrs Linda Gordon**, they can be contacted at: [safeguardingOLMC@gmail.com](mailto:safeguardingOLMC@gmail.com) or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on **0121 230 6240/safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk** if you have any concerns.

**Paid Private Tuition required for Maths, Chemistry and Biology (6th Form)**  
Please contact the Presbytery on  
01527 63096 or  
[email.office@mtcarmel.co.uk](mailto:email.office@mtcarmel.co.uk)

**COUNTERS FOR THIS WEEKEND**  
Team 4 J Hardcastle T & B Hughes  
**COUNTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND**  
Team 1 T Craig D Cruise L Kings

**PARISH SENIORS' GROUP  
2.30pm in the Parish Hall**

**Next Meeting  
Thursday November 30th**

**Winter Weather**

We urgently need help with protecting parishioners from any ice and snow falling this winter in the church car park and pedestrian areas. The task is to check the weather forecast the night before. If ice and snow are expected, the volunteer is asked to come to the church preferably before the first Mass of the day and spread salt from the existing bin. The areas at the entrances to the church and between the upper and lower car parks are critical. We hope to put together a rota. Help us prevent injury this winter! Please contact Trevor Hughes on 07479 013894