



# OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL, REDDITCH

Beoley Road West, Redditch, Worcestershire, B98 8LT (01527) 63096

Email: [office@mtcarmel.co.uk](mailto:office@mtcarmel.co.uk) Website: [www.ourladyofmountcarmel.co.uk](http://www.ourladyofmountcarmel.co.uk)

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

Parish Clergy: Fr Jason Mahoney

Permanent Deacon: Revd Des Chilton

FACEBOOK

OLMC Redditch



NEWSLETTER 2236 **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT 21ST DECEMBER 2025**

Readings: Isaiah 7:10-14 Psalm 23 Romans 1:1-7 Gospel Matthew 1:18-24 Psalter Week 4

## Reflection for this Sunday ...

On this Sunday the Gospel according to St Matthew recounts the birth of Jesus from St Joseph's viewpoint. He was betrothed to Mary who, 'before they came together ... was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit' ... St Joseph is presented as 'a just man', faithful to God's law and ready to do his will ... Having given up the idea of divorcing Mary secretly, Joseph took her to himself because he then saw God's work in her with his own eyes. Although he had felt distressed Joseph 'did as the Angel of the Lord commanded him', certain that he was doing the right thing ... the new man is outlined in him, who looks with trust and courage to the future, He does not follow his own plans but entrusts himself without reserve to the infinite mercy of the One who will fulfil the prophecies and open the time of salvation.

Pope Benedict XVI



## MASS INTENTIONS for the week beginning 21st December 2025

**Saturday** 5pm Chris Morrissey (b'day a) & Peter & David McHugh

**Sunday** 8.15am James & Eileen Herlihy 9.45am (Polish)

11.15am Private Intention (CC) & People of the Parish

6pm Private Intention (DAS) (live-streamed)

**Monday** 6pm Allan Coombes

**Tuesday** 9.30am **NO MASS**

**Wednesday** 9.30am Mary & Denis O'Brien & dec'd family members

### Christmas Eve—Vigil of the Nativity

**5pm** Elizabeth & Roma Loboda

**10pm** Service of Readings & Carols followed by Mass

Deacon Doug Taylor & Kay & Ken Morton

### Christmas Day—Nativity of the Lord

**Thursday** 8.15am Ints of the McNamee, Harte & Barratt Families

9.45am Polish

11.15am Tony & Teresa Gregory & Ints of Catherine Conboy (b'day)

### St Stephen's Day—Boxing Day

**Friday** 9.45am (Polish)

**11am** Tess & Patrick Ellicott (Wedd A)

### Feast of St John, Apostle

**Saturday** 9.30am Winifred & Michael Conboy

5pm Fred Seaman (a) & Daniel & Mgt O'Brien & dec'd family

## MASS INTENTIONS for the Feast of the Holy Family, Jesus, Mary & Joseph 28th December 2025

**Sunday** 8.15am Gerry Bree 9.45am (Polish)

11.15am John Sheehan (a) & People of the Parish

6pm Liam Boyd (a) (live-streamed)

## For the Sick ...

Please pray for **BRIAN DIXON, CAROLINE & BOB HOLLAND, EDDIE & GERALDINE MCGROARTY, DELIA BREE, PAUL MCCONNELL, JULIAN MCRANDAL, MICHAEL & MARIA YATES, PIUS MCDERMOTT, JANE-CHRISTINA THOMSON, HELEN HORVATH, JEAN MAITLAND, EILEEN GIBBON, MARY FALLON, MARGARET WILLIAMS, LEXI BRADBURY, FR MICHAEL WHITE, ALISTAIR CROWLE, ANNIE CLEARY, VILMA WILLIS, TRACEY HAWTHORNE, JANE ELLIOTT, MARGARET ANNE SEAMAN, EVELYN (5 YRS OLD), JOHN BROWN, LORNA PARSONAGE, GARY DALLOW, PASCALE BREYNE, SHEILA TWIST**

## For the Dead ...

Please pray for **ALLAN TRAHEARN** Funeral Mass 12 noon Monday 29th December



### Lamp at the Shrine of Our Lady

This week for the **McKENNA, McILROY & BROWN FAMILIES**

Next week in **THANKSGIVING (RACHEL)**



### Lamp at the Shrine of the Sacred Heart

This week in loving memory of **PAT REARDON**

Next week in loving memory of **BRIDIE O'SHEA & MICHAEL PURCELL**

After Mass on Tuesdays  
Flame of Love of the  
Immaculate Heart of Mary  
Prayer Meeting

## CONFESSION & BENEDICTION



**Wednesday 24th December**

after 9.30 Mass

**Saturday 27th December**

**10am-11am**

## ★ Christmas Stars ★

Please decorate the Christmas Tree in church with stars in memory of loved ones, special intentions or Christmas wishes to members of the parish. There is no cost but a donation would be appreciated. STARS available next to Our Lady's Shrine

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

There is only one Collection at all Christmas Masses which is your traditional Christmas Offerings to the Clergy

## Readers .....

If you would like to read at the 5pm or 10pm Mass on Christmas Eve, please contact Carol in the Parish Office next week—thank you

## PRAYER FOR PEACE IN THE UKRAINE, MIDDLE EAST AND THE WORLD

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** O Rex Gentium

**Tuesday** O Emmanuel. **Saint John of Kanty, Priest**

(1390-1473) St John was born at Kanty (Krakow, Poland). After being ordained, he taught at the university and became pastor of a parish. He distinguished himself by his piety and love of neighbour.

**Friday** **Feast of Saint Stephen, the first Martyr**

He was the first Christian martyr. Stoned outside Jerusalem, he died praying for his executioners. He was one of the seven deacons who helped the Apostles: he was 'filled with faith and the Holy Spirit', and was 'full of fortitude'. The Church draws a comparison between the disciple and the Master, emphasising the imitation of Christ up to the complete gift of self. His name is in the Roman Canon.

**Saturday** **Feast of Saint John, Apostle, Evangelist**

Born in Bethsaida, he was called from mending the nets to follow Jesus. He became the Beloved Disciple of Jesus. He wrote the Fourth Gospel, three Epistles and the apocalypse. His passages on the pre-existence of the Word, who by his Incarnation became the light of the world and the life of our souls, are among the finest of the New Testament. He is the evangelist of the divinity of Christ and of fraternal love. With James, his brother, and Simon Peter, he was one of the witnesses of the Transfiguration. At the Last Supper, he leant on the Master's breast. At the foot of the Cross, Jesus entrusted his Mother to his care. John's pure life kept him very close to Jesus and Mary. In later years, under Emperor Domitian, John was exiled to the island of Patmos.



St. Stephen Deacon & Martyr Patron of Altar Servers

## Pope's Prayer Intention for December

**For Christians in areas of conflict :** Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, specially in the Middle East, may be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope.

## Weekly Statistics :

Weekend 13/14 December 2025  
1st Collection £491.70  
2nd Collection £234.91 (Parish Hall)  
Attendance 452

*These figures do not include Standing Orders or Dona payments*

## Christmas Cards, Calendars & Diaries (with Mass)

We have a small collection of religious Christmas Cards, £2 per pack of 10, Calendars £1 each and Catholic Diaries which include the Mass at £3.50 each available from the parish office (10am onwards Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday)

## Mount Carmel 500 club winners for November & December

**1st Prize £120 2nd Prize £50**

November 1st Prize No 158 Paul Brewster 2nd Prize No 268 Ann Crompton

December 1st Prize No 265 Kate Hartigan 2nd Prize No 162 Paul Skinner

## Mount Carmel 500 Club Subscriptions now due

These can be brought to the parish office during the week, posted through the office letter box or by cheque in the post. Cheques should be made payable to 'Mount Carmel 500 Club'. Thank you to those who have already paid.

## Unclaimed Raffle Prizes from the Parish Christmas Lunch

Raffle Nos : 256-260 (Candle & Chocolates), 266-270 (Tea Light Holder & lights), and 371-375 (Bottle of Wine) Please collect from the parish office.

## Vacancy for part time Domestic Operative at Oscott College, Sutton Coldfield

25 hours per week, 5 hours a day, to include some weekends and evenings, term time only. Deadline for applications is 11 January. Interviews will be held in mid-January, to start in February 2026. Job description and more information can be found at:

[www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/jobs](http://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/jobs)

**Would you like to receive your Newsletter via email?** If so, please contact the parish office either by phone 01527 63096 or email [office@mtcarmel.co.uk](mailto:office@mtcarmel.co.uk)

**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.**

## COUNTERS FOR THIS WEEKEND

Team 3 P B Holder T Tamburro

## COUNTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

Team 4 A Jacob D Davis L Jacob S Jose

## Parish First Holy Communion Class beginning Wednesday 7th January 6pm in church

*for children in non-Catholic schools  
begins in January. Please contact the  
parish office either by email or phone  
if you wish to enrol your child/  
children*

## Prayer & Coffee Morning

Ss John Fisher & Thomas More Church  
Feckenham

10am Wednesdays

7th & 21st January 2026

Everyone welcome



