



# The Parishes of Our Lady of the Assumption, Maryvale and Christ the King, Kingstanding

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## Responsorial Psalm – Isaiah 12

**R:** *Sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.*

## MASSES THIS WEEK

|              |   |  |  |
|--------------|---|--|--|
| Sat 11/12/21 | 12:30 CTK<br>18:00 OLAM†                | <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b>                   | Mary Chambers (Anni.)                            |
| Sun 12/12/21 | 10:00 CTK<br>11:30 OLAM                 |  | Veronica Finnerty (RIP)                          |
| Mon 13/12/21 | 08:00 Con†.<br>09:30 Mon.<br>12:00 CTK  | <b>St Lucy, Mem</b>                                      | Henry Byrne & Tommny Judge (RIP)                 |
| Tue 14/12/21 | 09:30 Mon†                              |  | Eva Green (RIP)                                  |
| Wed 15/12/21 | 08:00 Con†<br>09:30 Mon                 | <b>St John of the Cross, Mem</b>                         | John Cassidy (RIP)                               |
| Thu 16/12/21 | 09:00 OLAM<br>09:30 Mon.†<br>11:30 OLAM |  | Grace Deane (RIP)                                |
| Fri 17/12/21 | 09:00 CTK<br>10:15 Mon<br>11:30 OLAM    | <b>Advent Feria – Wk 3</b>                               | Fabian Cowan (B'day Anni.)                       |
| Sat 18/12/21 | 10:00 Mon<br>12:30 CTK<br>18:00 OLAM    |  | Kitty Heaney                                     |
| Sun 19/12/21 | 10:00 CTK†<br>11:30 OLAM                | <b>Advent Feria – O Sapiientia</b>                       | Annie Rochford (RIP)                             |
|              |   |  | Margaret Bierne                                  |
|              |   | <b>Advent Feria – O Adonai</b>                           | End of Term Mass - Cardinal Wiseman              |
|              |   |  | Sr Barbara Claire (45 <sup>th</sup> Prof. Anni.) |
|              |   | <b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent<br/>O Radix Iesse</b> | Bob Thompson (Anni.)                             |
|              |   |  | PEOPLE OF THE PARISHES                           |
|              |   |  | Veronica Finnerty (RIP)                          |
|              |   |  | Funeral Service - Patrick Farrell                |
|              |   |  | All Souls  |
|              |   |  | Francis Coogan (Anni.)                           |
|              |   |  | Rita Maxwell (Anni.)                             |
|              |   |  | Frances Ormsby (RIP)                             |
|              |   |  | Mary Finn (RIP)                                  |

**Bible Study** with Deacon Dominic Fahey in the church of Our Lady of the Assumption every Tuesday at 7:00pm.

**Rosary Group:** meeting every Wednesday in Christ the King Church at 3:30pm.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Ron & Monique Hunt, Jean McCabe, Luke Byrne, Muriel Cowan, Paul Cowan, John & Sandra Mageean, Gerald, Sarah McCallion, Audrey Vickers, John, Sadie Pulido, Sheila Ferns, Mary McGee, Margaret Gasson, Claire & Mark, Mary Ann Gniadkowski, Niamh O' Reilly, Carole Smith, Alan Rowan, Doreen Lakin, Kyle Billing, Jo Teece, Nicola Jones, Deacon Jack, Daniel Kelly, Sean Butler, Sr Marie, Patricia Nash, Vanda Strlikovska-Czeczko, Alberto Bolongaro, Mandy Hawkes, Arjun Paul, Teresa Webb, Mary Hickey, Sean Mulkeen, Chenai & Stephanie Svinurai.

**Altar Servers** who started serving before the pandemic and would like to serve again please contact Andrew Leadbetter on [ctkliturg@outlook.com](mailto:ctkliturg@outlook.com)

**Dates for your diary:** Parish Visit to Oscott College: on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> February afternoon, from 3:00pm – 7:15pm.

## Prayer of Spiritual Communion

Lord God, our light and our salvation, we praise you for your gifts of life and faith. We thank you for the desire you have planted in our hearts, our yearning to see your face. Help us to meet you in prayer, to walk in your ways, and to speak to others of our joy and consolation in your presence. Give us the wisdom to appreciate your Son's self-gift in the Eucharist, so that although we cannot now be at mass to receive this gift sacramentally we may still be able to receive him spiritually. Give us faithfulness in this present life so that we may come into full communion with you and with all that belong to you. We make this prayer through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Gospel Reflection (<https://goodnews.ie/calendar.shtml> )

Advent is a time of waiting. This is a difficult art to learn in a world that now tends to move with ever-increasing speed. You would think that all our time-saving devices would have left us by now with a vast capital of spare time. But the opposite is the case. We have less time than ever. Blaise Pascal famously said that all our troubles come from our being unable to sit still in a room for five minutes. He lived in the 17th century; what would he say to us now, when computers have increased the speed of life a thousand-fold? (But he should take some of the blame: it was he who invented the first mechanical adding-machine; and a computer programming language was named after him.) Learning to stop and be still and wait is not a luxury; it is now a matter of survival.

Our way with food can be a good indicator of our way with many other things. A greedy person doesn't know how to wait but has a blind compulsion to eat, a compulsion that is unrelated to hunger and even to enjoyment. Greed doesn't even see what lies before it, and so it never knows any surprise. It is waiting that gives flavour to food, and to our life too.

Advent is about the possibility of surprise. Not some self-indulgent expectation ("surprise me!"), but a dawning awareness that my life as I know it is only a shadow of what it is meant to be. We are often told that we use only a small percentage of our brain's capability. If this is so, why should we not suspect that we are using an even smaller percentage of our spirit's capacity? All our frenzy of living will not help us to use more of it, but rather less. There is a kind of frenzy about John the Baptist. He is rough and violent in his speech. And you wouldn't want to be anywhere near him if you were a locust. Yet for all his vehemence (or because of it), his message is rather conventional: "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.... Be content with your pay." He has none of the depth or the stillness of Jesus. He is not a man to give you time or space. You feel he doesn't see anything in you. Most people are "chaff" to him (as they were to the scribes and Pharisees), but for Jesus they are "harvest" (Luke 10:2; see December 4). Harvest is something you have to wait for, but you can make chaff of anything right away.

We have to learn to wait for the harvest: not a harvest of our own devising, but God's gift..

### Last Week's Collection CTK

|              |                 |
|--------------|-----------------|
| Envelopes    | £ 77.00         |
| Loose        | £ 286.94        |
| St. Orders   | £ 206.69        |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>£ 570.63</b> |

### Last Week's Collection OLAM

|              |                 |
|--------------|-----------------|
| Envelopes    | £ 90.70         |
| Loose        | £ 57.28         |
| St. Orders   | £ 33.46         |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>£ 181.44</b> |

## Thank you for your generosity

**Congratulations** to Sr Barbara Claire who is celebrating the 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of her perpetual profession on Thursday 16/12/21.

**Appointment of Additional Deacon:** As we are praying and waiting for Deacon Jack to recover from his treatment, a newly ordained Deacon, Gary O'Brien, has been appointed to the parish of Christ the King. He is involved with the work of the Marriage Tribunal and is still to finish his licence in Canon Law. He is going to start at Christ the King on the weekend 18/19 December. His induction as a Parish Deacon will be on Thursday 23/12/21 at 7:00pm mass.

**Christmas Cards and Calendars** are available in Piety Stall of both churches. Please do take a look.

**Voluntary Activities:** The brief notes from the recent open parish meeting highlighted 10 activities in the parish which do good work but need more volunteers. If you would like to find out about any of these please sign up on the lists at the back of the Church and someone will contact you.

## Dates for your diary

**Sat 11 Dec:** [Alpha online - Come and See sessions](https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/Event/alpha-come-see-sessions-december)

<https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/Event/alpha-come-see-sessions-december>

**Mon 13 Dec:** [Divine Renovation webinar - I See in You](https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/Event/divine-renovation-webinar-i-see-in-you)

<https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/Event/divine-renovation-webinar-i-see-in-you>

**Mon 13 Dec:** [Carmelite Friars Vigil Lecture](https://www.carmelite.uk.net/featured/a-vigil-lecture/)

<https://www.carmelite.uk.net/featured/a-vigil-lecture/>

**Tues 14 Dec:** [Living More Simply this Advent and Christmas](https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/Event/living-more-simply-this-advent-and-christmas)

<https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/Event/living-more-simply-this-advent-and-christmas>

**Fri 24 Dec:** [Midnight Mass broadcast on BBC from St Chad's Cathedral](https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/news/midnight-mass-to-be-broadcast-live-on-the-bbc-from-st-chads-cathedral)

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