



## THE PARISH OF OUR LADY & ST. WULSTAN

WOOD STREET, SOUTHAM CV47 1PP

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



### 17.01.2021 – Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Welcome to guests visitors and parishioners.

#### Answering God's Call

Christ calls each of us by name. In this celebration we listen to what he has to say to us, prepared to use in his service the body that he has given us for the glory of God. We say with him, "This is my body which is given up for you".

#### Masses & Intentions

<b>Saturday 16</b> 5.30pm	The Griffin Family (Intentions)
<b>Sunday 17</b> 10.00am	<b>Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Kay Griffin RIP (Rosary Group)
<b>Monday 18</b>	<b>Feria in Ordinary Time</b> Sr. Jane Close RIP
<b>Tuesday 19</b>	<b>St. Wulstan, Bishop.</b> Mary Hughes (Intentions)
<b>Wednesday 20</b>	<b>St. Fabian, Pope, Martyr, St. Sebastian, M.</b> Sonia Bailey & Family (Intentions)
<b>Thursday 21</b>	<b>St. Agnes, Virgin, Martyr</b> Sr. Sharon Peters pcj (Intentions)
<b>Friday 22</b>	<b>Feria in Ordinary Time</b> Frank & Gladys McDonagh (Intentions)
<b>Saturday 23</b> 5.30pm	<b>Feria in Ordinary Time</b> Maureen Stewart & Family (Intentions)
<b>Sunday 24</b> 10.00am	<b>Third Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Kay Griffin RIP

#### Suspension of Public Mass in our Parish

In the light of the alarming number of infections and hospital admissions in recent days, and having listened to concerns raised by our stewards, and having contacted our Dean and the Vicar General, the decision has been made to CANCEL ALL THE PUBLIC MASSES IN OUR CHURCH with immediate effect, until further notice. This applies to Masses both at the WEEKENDS as well as on WEEKDAYS.

In these circumstances, it would have been helpful if our parish Masses could be livestreamed. It seems that there are affordable options available to do this. The parish will be very grateful to those who could help with this. Please contact the parish office if you can help.

In the meanwhile, parishioners are encouraged to avail Mass and other devotions from other churches in our deanery or from the churches / chapels they know from across the country and beyond as they find convenient. Mass will be celebrated regularly and privately for your intentions and those mentioned in our weekly newsletter.

As this might be an opportunity to start / restart and cultivate the habit of personal prayer / family prayer, scripture reading & meditation, grace before and after meals and similar private devotions, parishioners are encouraged to consider them positively.

**The First Disciples (John 1:35-42):** This year the ordinary Sunday gospel readings are taken from Mark, and this provides us with a full picture of that gospel. But Mark is the shortest of the gospels, and is not quite long enough, so just occasionally a reading from John slips in to enrich our understanding of the meaning of Jesus' words and actions. Today's story is about the call of the first disciples and takes place in the Jordan valley, where John was baptising. The first two to be called are disciples of John, so they had already joined his group who were waiting for the Messiah. They were ready when John pointed him out. It is striking that Jesus first calls them to be with him, and that they remain with him for a time. In our call to follow Christ, first comes prayer and getting to know him, before we can actively work for Christ and bring others to share his joy. Only after this repose with the Lord do the disciples sprint off in their enthusiasm and bring others to join in the benefits they have received from that tranquillity and refreshment which comes from keeping company with Jesus.

**What is God calling you to do?**

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

**Pax Christi:** This weekend there will be a voluntary Second Collection for Pax Christi (the Peace of Christ).

Pax Christi International is a non-profit, non-governmental Catholic peace movement working on a global scale on a wide variety of issues in the fields of human rights, human security, disarmament, de-militarisation, just world order, religion and violent conflict. Find out more here <http://www.paxchristi.net/>

**Pope's Prayer Intention for January (Human Fraternity):** May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.

**Sick:** Please pray for all those who are unwell at this time, especially all those who are affected by Covid-19, those who are in isolation and all who help / take care of them as well as all those who serve our communities in frontline jobs.

**RIP:** Please pray for **George Derek Watson, Stacy Reed, Kay Griffin, Kathleen Healy** and all those who died recently and for all the faithful departed. *May they all, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen*

**George Derek Watson RIP:** It is with great sadness we learnt that George Derek Watson, father of Jenny Maynard died in Worcester Royal Hospital on Christmas Day. The funeral is taking place on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January in Worcester. Let us remember him and the bereaved family in our prayers.

**Sunday of the Word of God:** Pope Francis instituted 'The Sunday of the Word of God' to be held every year on the third Sunday of Ordinary Time, with the Apostolic Letter in the form of a Motu proprio "Aperuit illis" issued on 30 September 2019. Accordingly, Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> January will be observed as 'Sunday of the Word of God'.

**Telephone support:** Some of our parishioners are supporting each other by telephone. Please phone 811703 (Shirley) or email ([shirley@shirleyrush8.plus.com](mailto:shirley@shirleyrush8.plus.com)) if you want a chat or to receive calls or if you would like to join those who are calling others

### **Worldwide Marriage Encounter**

Online Marriage Enrichment Experience with Bishop David Evans on January 30th-31st 2021

An opportunity for couples to enrich their relationship, regardless of the length of time they have been together.

Couples can explore their relationship and gain a deeper understanding of the Sacrament of Marriage.

Other dates for 2021 - 20th-21st March & 15th-16th May

To find out more visit <https://wwme.org.uk/> or call 0845 2602016

**Marriage and Family Life:** Alliance of Catholic Marriage Organizations is formed of many organizations that support couples at all stages of their relationship from marriage preparation to marriage enrichment as well as when marriages experience difficulties.

All of these organizations have adapted how they support couples and are now able to remotely provide their services online.

Couples preparing for marriage, please be assured that Marriage Care & Engaged Encounter are still providing marriage preparation courses online during the pandemic.

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2021:** *The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is traditionally observed from the 18 - 25 January – the octave of St. Peter and St. Paul. However, some areas observe it at Pentecost or some other time.*

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in 2021 has been prepared by the Monastic Community of Grandchamp in Switzerland. The theme that was chosen, “Abide in my love and you shall bear much fruit”, is based on John 15:1-17 and expresses Grandchamp Community’s vocation to prayer, reconciliation and unity in the Church and the human family.

Today the community has fifty sisters, all women from different generations, Church traditions, countries and continents. In their diversity the sisters are a living parable of communion. They remain faithful to a life of prayer, life in community and the welcoming of guests. The sisters share the grace of their monastic life with visitors and volunteers who go to Grandchamp for a time of retreat, silence, healing or in search of meaning.

For 2021, the sisters are inviting churches across the world to enter into their tradition of prayer and silence that is rooted in the ancient traditions of the Church catholic.

**Office administrator vacancy: Friends of The Holy Land,** a Christian Charity, is seeking an Office Administrator. This salaried position is important for our future growth and directly supports the Office Manager. Duties include maintaining the database, responding to enquiries, managing post/emails and sending out materials. The successful candidate will have good verbal and written communication skills, a strong ability to multi-task and be comfortable with the use of IT (particularly MS Office). The hours/days are negotiable – min. 20 hrs per week Mon-Fri. In the current pandemic, some work can be done at home. Normally, the work is conducted from our Kenilworth office. Please contact Jen Hill with your CV and covering letter by 25<sup>th</sup> Jan at: [office@friendsoftheholylnd.org.uk](mailto:office@friendsoftheholylnd.org.uk)

### **Prayer of Spiritual Communion** **(St Alphonsus Liguori)**

My Jesus,

I believe that you are present in this Holy Sacrament of the altar.

I love you above all things  
and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul.  
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,  
come spiritually into my soul  
so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and  
forever.

Amen.

### **A Prayer of Spiritual Communion** **for Vocations to the Priesthood**

Lord Jesus Christ,

Eternal High Priest,

offered as a Sacrifice on the Cross  
to take away the sins of the world:

I unite myself with your sacrifice on the altar,  
with the Eucharist which I cannot receive.

You have given to your Church the Sacrament of  
Baptism

through which your people are made holy.

You have given to your Church the Sacrament of the  
Priesthood

by which the banquet of the Eucharist is set before us.

I pray today for all priests,  
who through their consecration  
make present in your Church  
your real and abiding presence.

I thank you for the gift of the Priesthood.  
I praise your wonderful presence in the Eucharist.

Amen.

**St. Wulsatan (1008 – 1095):** St. Wulstan was born about 1008 at Long Itchington in Warwickshire.

He was Bishop of Worcester from 1062 to 1095. He was the last surviving pre-Conquest bishop and the only English-born bishop after 1075. He became a Benedictine monk at Worcester and, after serving as Precentor and Prior, was appointed as Bishop in 1062. He was the only Englishman to retain his See after the Norman Conquest. His wise and benevolent rule lasted thirty-two years, during which he rebuilt his cathedral, reformed the diocese and tried to stop the slave trade at Bristol.

**St. Fabian (+240)** was Pope from 236 to 250 AD. He promoted the consolidation and development of the Church. He divided Rome into seven diaconates for the purposes of extending aid to the poor. The papacy acquired such prestige during this time that he incurred the ire of the Emperor Decius.

**St. Sebastian (+300),** a native of Milan, was an officer in Diocletian’s imperial guard. He became a Christian and suffered martyrdom upon the orders of the emperor. His tomb on the Via Appia (Rome) was soon visited by pilgrims.

**St. Agnes (+304)** came from a noble Roman family. She was about thirteen years old when she suffered martyrdom. After refusing to be married to a pagan, she was tortured and beheaded. Her name is included in the Roman Canon (Eucharistic Prayer I). Pope Damasus wrote a celebrated epitaph about her.