



OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS PRAY FOR US

**Saint Mary's Catholic Church,
Wednesbury.**

Saint Mary's Road, WS10 9DL

Telephone 0121 505 7927

Parish Website <http://www.saintmaryswednesbury.org.uk>

Parish email: stmaryoth.wednesbury@rcaob.org.uk

Parish Priest: *Fr Michael Vaughan*

fr.michael.vaughan@rcaob.org.uk

www.frmichaelvaughan.com



SAFEGUARDING: The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Mary Jones. She can be contacted at sg.stmaryoth.wednesbury@rcaob.org.uk or the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted at safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk or on 0121 230 6240 if you have any concern.

The Archdiocese of Birmingham has a zero-tolerance approach to ALL abuse.

HYMNS

60 388 300 471

CHRISTMAS WEEK 2 3rd/4th January 2026.	
Saturday January 3rd Christmas Feria	4.15pm - 4.50pm. Confession. 5pm Sambrooks Family (B. Sambrooks)
Sunday January 4th 2nd Sunday of Christmas.	9.30am - 9.50am. Confession. 10am Pat Jeynes RIP
Monday January 5th Christmas Feria	10am No Mass.
Tuesday January 6th SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD.	9.15am – No Adoration, Rosary or Confession. 10am For the Repose of the Soul of Elizabeth Morris (RIP)
Wednesday January 7th Christmas Feria	9.15am Adoration, Rosary. Confession. 10am Phyllis Mary Woodward (RIP)
Thursday January 8th Christmas Feria	9.15am Adoration, Rosary. Confession. 10am For the intentions of the perpetuity fund.
Friday January 9th Christmas Feria	9am Adoration. Benediction. Divine Mercy. Confession. 10am Mass. The Peaceful Repose of the Soul of Alison Southcombe RIP
Saturday January 10th Christmas Feria	4.15pm - 4.50pm. Confession. 5pm 'Patrick Devenney, Birthday Remembrance'
Sunday January 11th FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD. Ordinary time week 1 begins after Mass today.	9.30am - 9.50am. Confession. 10am Anne Jennings. 12.30pm – Baptism Inaya-Chloe Ngadja

Roman Catholic Initiation of Adults (RCIA) For Adults who have asked to become Catholics, and for young people at Secondary School, the Parish Catechetical program resumes after Christmas, and begins on SATURDAY 10th JANUARY AT 10am IN THE PRESBYTERY, with the intention of being received into the Church at Easter, Baptism, Communion, and Confirmation. For children in primary school, parents, please book an appointment to speak to Fr Michael. Thank you

Communion.

Everyone is most welcome to come to the altar rails to receive Communion, or to have a blessing from Fr Michael. Please put your hand across your chest to indicate a blessing only. Thank You.

Children's Liturgy.

Is held in the church porch every Sunday at the 10am Mass. Children will be called forward at the beginning of Mass. Parents who wish to do so, are most welcome to join their Children.

Tea and Coffee. After Mass every Sunday.

Gift Aid. Thank you to those who Gift Aid their offertory. This enables the parish to benefit from the tax paid on your offering at no extra cost to you. If you would like to know how your tax can benefit the parish (which is a charity) then please have a word with Gary Linford. Thank you.

Baptism Preparation for children under 7.

The next Baptism preparation meeting will be held on **Tuesday at 7pm.** All parents wishing for their children to be baptised should attend this meeting to help you prepare for your child's baptism. For Children over 7, please book an appointment to speak with Fr Michael.

Finance.

Fr Michael would like to thank you all for your offerings, especially during these difficult financial times for everyone, and respectfully asks people to give some thought to the Church as prices continue to increase. Thank you.

Food Bank: There is a box in the Porch. Please support if you can. There is a note from Breaking Bread on the notice board thanking all parishioners who support their work.

Donations. To ensure the church is heated and welcoming during these cold days, we are grateful for any donation you can make. Thank you.

Thank you. To everyone who helped decorate the church for Christmas, decorated the tree, arranged the flowers and put up the Crib. God Bless you all.

Clergy Training Fund.

Thank you to those who regularly donate to the CTF.

Please Pray For All The Sick of our Parish, may God bless and comfort them.

Also remember in your prayers, those who bear their illness privately, and those that care for them. Theresa Adams, Melesi Chapo, Bridgitt Cooper, Joan Dixon, Lynne Harper, Barbara Jarvis, Michelle Price, Veronica Smith, Pat Wilkins, Pat Morris.

Mass Intentions.

If you would like a mass said for your intention, or for the repose of the soul of your loved one, then please write your intention on the brown Mass Intention envelope, together with your name and a contact number, stating when you'd like the mass said. Please place your donation in the envelope and either give to the priest, push through the presbytery door, or put in the collection making sure you've filled in the envelope, or the mass will not be said. The diocese suggests a donation of £10, however, please give what you can afford.

Marriage Preparation.

Please note that all couples thinking of getting Married should speak to the priest as soon as possible, 12 months before would be preferred, so that, all necessary paperwork can be processed, and the couple have time to do the necessary preparation course. Thank you.

Church Hall Bookings.

If you would like to hire the Church Hall, please email Margaret Holden using the hall email address.

Last Week's Attendance. **Total 97**

SANCTUARY LAMPS

A new Sanctuary Lamp has been placed in the Sacred Heart Altar. The lamp in the Lady Altar will soon be replaced by one like that in the Sacred Heart Chapel.

Please Note

Fr Michael likes to greet people as they enter church and as they leave. He realises that this is an opportunity for people to speak to him about Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion, but he needs to get your children's details, so please make an appointment to see him where he can give you his full attention. Thank you.

Fr Michael is available to parishioners Tuesday to Sunday but please note that he is not available on Mondays. Thank you.



CHRISTMAS FLOWERS.

Thank you to everyone who donated towards the flowers for Christmas. Thank you to Anne, Bridget and June for their hard work doing the flowers and making the church look so beautiful for Christmas.

Crib Donations.

This year's Crib donations will be given to the local charity 'Smile for Joel' the charity supporting families who are victims of murder. Joel was a pupil of our school, he along with many others, including 3 other members of his family were brutally killed whilst on holiday in Tunisia. This year marks the 10th Anniversary.

Replacement Certificates.

Please note that a charge of £10 per certificate is made on ALL Copies of Baptism and Confirmation certificates.

Parents who have children aged 7 or over, who have not yet been Baptised, Confirmed or received First Holy Communion, please make an appointment with the Priest. Preparation for these Sacraments will begin after Christmas.

Finance Council Meeting

There will be a meeting of the Parish Financial Council on Wednesday 21st January from 2pm to 4pm in St Mary's hall. Minutes of the last meeting together with the agenda for this meeting to be sent out shortly.

Adverse weather conditions.

The weather forecast for the next few days is not looking good. If we have severe weather conditions, please stay at home and be safe, keep warm. Please follow any information that is given by the local authorities. please keep an eye on the Parish website, which is updated daily.



New Years Message.

My dear friends, as we prepare to welcome in a new year, I think it's right that we should look back over the past year and give thanks to God for all the blessings he has given us, and also to reflect on the things that have changed, people who have moved on, and those we have loved who have died. We remember them all with love, and we miss and grieve their passing, but we're also happy that they have been called home to our heavenly Father who loves us all.

As we begin now to celebrate the new year, it will be a year that will present new challenges for us, I won't say, as a community, but as a family here at St Mary's. Last year we had the bishop's visitation, and that presents us with new challenges that will direct us in the coming year. I give thanks to many of you who have risen to the small changes that have taken place since the bishops visit, you have helped and supported me and the parish more than you realise. The next couple of months will present us with a new focus as we look towards working more closely with neighbouring parishes and priests in the deanery. There is no news yet concerning moving back into the Walsall (Now Lichfield and Walsall) deanery, I hope to have news of that in the new year.

I ask that you continue to pray for each other, and for our family here at St Mary's, and for me, as we continue to serve our Lord in the months and the year ahead. With all God's blessings upon you all, and your families in this New Year, 2026. Fr Michael.

THANK YOU.

To everyone for all your Christmas Cards, Gifts and presents, for your Christmas Offerings, and your words of kindness and greetings during this time. I hope that you all had a wonderful Christmas, and I'd like to thank everyone for supporting the Christmas Services by coming, and I'd especially like to thank all those who worked so hard behind the scenes to ensure everything was prepared for the services; the ladies who do the flowers, the church cleaners, our wonderful singers, our organist, those who prepare and play the sacred music during Mass on Saturday and Sunday, Servers, sacristan and MC, readers, greeters, and all those who I haven't mentioned who work so hard; thank you, because your involvement improves our participation in the Mass so much. Fr Michael.

PARISH DIRECTORY.

Parish Treasurer & Church Cleaning: Kristine Moseley.

pt.stmaryoth.wednesbury@rcaob.org.uk

Health & Safety: Paul Piddock.

hs.stmaryoth.wednesbury@rcaob.org.uk

Gift Aid & Children's Liturgy/Catechesis: Gary Linford.

ga.stmaryoth.wednesbury@rcaob.org.uk

Parish Hall Bookings: Margaret Holden.

hall.stmaryoth.wednesbury@rcaob.org.uk

Safeguarding & Extraordinary Minister for the Sick:

Mary Jones.

sg.stmaryoth.wednesbury@rcaob.org.uk

St Mary's School Headteacher Mrs Amy Pritchard.

Flowers: Ann Baxter. Bridget Lane. June Lefan.

All voluntary jobs by appointment.

Of your charity, please pray for the repose of the souls of the faithfully departed whose Anniversaries occur in **JANUARY**: Trudie Burns, Archie Burrows, William Clarke, Michaela Cole, Margaret Cousins, Mary P Dalton, Sid Davies, Joan Derry, Graham Diggett, Albert Diggett, Kathleen Garbett nee Mason, George Garmston, Raymond Gayden, Rose Giddins, Michael Haken, Lola Haken, Rene Hall, Gordon Halt, Patricia (Pat) Jeynes (nee Heskin), Betty Joynes, John Patrick Kelly, Con Kiley, Mary Kirk, John Joseph Lane, Elsie Langley, Marian Maczka, Joyce Maddox, James McNally, Monica and Joseph Moran, Norman Morris, Patrick O'Connor, George Payne, Alan Payne, John Peach, Albert Peach, Bernard George Peach, Fr John Piris (Former Parish Priest), Mary Stanley, Roland Vernon, Bridget Ward, William Whorriskey, Derek Wilkins, Clara Withers, Margaret Woodcock, Lola Haken.

Our Lady and the Sacred Heart. Sanctuary Lamps.

To have a Sanctuary Lamp lit in one of the chapels, for your intentions or loved ones, please fill in an envelope, available at the back of church, place your £10 in and give to Fr Michael. Thank you. Candles cost £10.

The Sanctuary lamp in Our Lady's Chapel burns for:

The Sanctuary lamp in the Sacred Heart Chapel burns for:

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS IN MEMORY OF: -

Sambrooks family, Allexander & Knowles family, William and May Nickless, Mr & Mrs O'Connor, Maureen and Joan Swift for Christopher, Kevin and Frances Garaghty, Derek Wilks, Bacon Family, Josh Clarke, Eileen Mole, Tery Wellings, William Whorriskey, also, many thanks for all the donations towards the Christmas flowers.

Please check the Parish Website for regular updates

Please note that the cut-off for all notices to be included in the weekend newsletter is Wednesday at 12pm. Items for the Newsletter can be given to Fr Michael or emailed to Fr Michael's email address. The Newsletter is posted on the parish website before 5pm Mass on Saturday. Thank you.

