



ANTIPHON AT THE ENTRY

**O people of Sion, behold,
the Lord will come to save the nations,
and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard
in the joy of your heart.**

OPENING PRAYER

Almighty and merciful God,
may no earthly undertaking hinder those
who set out in haste to meet your Son,
but may our learning of heavenly wisdom
gain us admittance to his company.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

'With righteousness he shall judge the poor.'

11:1-10

On that day: There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples — of him shall the nations enquire, and his resting-place shall be glorious.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps. 72(71)

In his days shall justice flourish, and great peace for ever.

O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice,
and your poor in right judgement. **R.**

In his days justice shall flourish,
and great peace till the moon is no more.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the River to the bounds of the earth. **R.**

For he shall rescue the needy when they cry,
the poor who have no one to help.
He will have pity on the weak and the needy,
and save the lives of the needy. **R.**

May his name endure for ever,
his name continue like the sun.
Every tribe shall be blest in him,
all nations shall call him blessed. **R.**

SECOND READING

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans.

Christ saves humanity.

15:4-9

Brothers and sisters: Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, 'Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia.

**Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight;
all flesh shall see the salvation of God.**

Alleluia.

GOSPEL

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.'

3:1-12

In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.' For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, 'The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight."'

Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptised by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our father", for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.'

'I baptise you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Be pleased, O Lord, with our humble prayers and offerings,
and, since we have no merits to plead our cause,
come, we pray, to our rescue
with the protection of your mercy.
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

ANTIPHON AT COMMUNION

**Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights,
and behold the joy which comes to you from God.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Replenished by the food of spiritual nourishment,
we humbly beseech you, O Lord,
that, through our partaking in this mystery,
you may teach us to judge wisely the things of earth
and hold firm to the things of heaven.
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



Archdiocese of Birmingham
Holy Family RC Parish
763 Coventry Road, Small Heath
Birmingham, B10 0HT



MASSES AND INTENTIONS FOR THE COMING WEEK

Sat 6 th	4.00 pm	Brid Gilligan (Anniversary)	7th December 2025: 2nd Sunday of Advent FEASTS : Monday Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Friday Our Lady of Guadalupe Saturday St Lucy Sunday 3 rd Sunday of Advent Adoration & Confession: Tuesday & Thursday (9.30 am – 10.20 am) Altar Lamp – People of the Parish Our Lady's Lamp – Joe O'Brien RIP
Sun 7 th	10.30 am	Thomas & Kathleen Croke RIP	
Mon 8 th		NO MASS	
Tues 9 th	9.30 am	Irene Whelan RIP	
Wed 10 th	10.30 am	Patricia Begley	
Thurs 11 th	10.00 am	Bridget Anderson RIP	
Fri 12 th	10.30 am	Joel Brian Dela Cruz (Birthday)	
Sat 13 th	4.00 pm	Joe O'Brien (Anniversary)	
Sun 14 th	10.30 am	Anne Garvey (Anniversary)	
	6.30 pm	Parish Carol Service	
OFFERTORY COLLECTION: £385.08 SECOND COLLECTION: £180.03 (Church Maintenance)			

RECENTLY DEAD: Thomas Noel Tully RIP. Reception into Church Tuesday 16th December, 6.30 pm. Requiem Mass Wednesday, 17th December at 12.00 pm.

ANNIVERSARIES: Dermot Crozier, Margaret Gill, Roseleen Ahmed, Agnes Woods, Bernadette Finn, Christine Connolly, Patrick Scullion, Annie Foley, William Walsh, Kevin Kerrigan, Patrick Kinnally, Theresa Scott, Andrew Piggott, Thomas Murray, James Connolly, Patrick Barkey, Bridget Claffey, Mark Cummings, Peter (Joe) O'Brien, Peter Donoghue, Michael McHugh, Yvonne Bradley, Mary Johns, Mary Byrne, William McClean, Agnes Johnson, Peter Sandy, Kathleen Horgan, Margaret Houston, Michael Cuff, Janet Hewitt, Joseph Gallagher, Rosaleen McCaffrey, Margaret Greavis.

SICK LIST: Anselm John Baptiste, Jim Deards, Fr Morty O'Shea, John Garvey, Cath McGrath, Amie Faulkner, Clare Bergin, Mary Bergin, Tommy Flynn, John Leo Daly, Fr Michael White, Everly Arnold, Pete McManamon, Mary McManamon.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR DECEMBER: For Christians in areas of conflict. Let us pray that Christian living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, may be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope.

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND: Poor Parishes. **NEXT WEEKEND:** Church Maintenance

WALK WITH ME Booklets and Advent Calendars are available at the back of the Church. These are free, but any donations are greatly appreciated.

CHURCH CLEANING: In preparation for our Christmas celebrations, we will have a parish general cleaning on Saturday, the 13th of December, from 11.00 am – 1.00 pm. All are welcome to help. Thank you.

PARISH CAROL SERVICE: Sunday, 14th December at 6.30 pm.

REQUEST FOR POINSETTIAS: We're now happy to accept poinsettias to brighten up our Church for Christmas. Thank you.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Divine Jesus, Son of the eternal Father and Mary Immaculate, grant us and all the faithful true generosity in following your call and bestow on us the grace of your Holy Spirit to persevere in overcoming all obstacles to our vocations. Give the Church in this Diocese and throughout the world many holy priests, fervent religious and committed lay people. Through the intercession of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary, all the Angels, Saint Justin, and all Saints, we humbly ask you to hear our prayers and multiply the ministries by which we may serve You and one another in faith and love. Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

"O my God and my all, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, may your will be done, your love reign, your glory shine always more in me and everyone as in yourself, O my God and my all." (Saint Justin Russolillo, SDV)

Fr Fretch Ballesteros SDV

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The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies and procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Barbara Conneely. She can be contacted at sg.holyfamily.bham@rcaob.org.uk, or alternatively, the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted at safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concerns.

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