



ENTRANCE ANTIphon

Drop down dew from above, you heavens,
and let the clouds rain down the Just One;
let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

COLLECT

Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord,
your grace into our hearts,
that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son
was made known by the message of an Angel,
may by his Passion and Cross
be brought to the glory of his Resurrection.
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.

'Behold, the virgin shall conceive.'

In those days: The LORD spoke to Ahaz: 'Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.' But Ahaz said, 'I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test.' And Isaiah said, 'Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Emmanuel.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps. 24(23)

Let the LORD enter; he is the king of glory.

The LORD's is the earth and its fullness,
the world, and those who dwell in it.
It is he who set it on the seas;
on the rivers he made it firm. R.

Who shall climb the mountain of the LORD?
Who shall stand in his holy place?
The clean of hands and pure of heart,
whose soul is not set on vain things. R.

Blessings from the LORD shall he receive,
and right reward from the God who saves him.
Such are the people who seek him,
who seek the face of the God of Jacob. R.

SECOND READING

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

Jesus Christ, descended from David, Son of God.

1:1-7

Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an Apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ.

To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia.

Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall call his name Emmanuel —
which means, God with us.

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.

Jesus was born of Mary, who was betrothed to Joseph, son of David.

1:18-24

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to send her away quietly. But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, 'Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.'

All this took place to fulfil what the LORD had spoken by the prophet: 'Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel' — which means, God with us.

When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the LORD commanded him: he took his wife.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

May the Holy Spirit, O Lord,
sanctify these gifts laid upon your altar,
just as he filled with his power the womb of the Blessed
Virgin Mary.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIphon

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son;
and his name will be called Emmanuel.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Having received this pledge of eternal redemption,
we pray, almighty God,
that, as the feast day of our salvation draws ever nearer,
so we may press forward all the more eagerly
to the worthy celebration of the mystery of your Son's
Nativity.

Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.



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



MASSES AND INTENTIONS FOR THE COMING WEEK

Sat 20 th	4.00 pm	Kevin Williams RIP	21 st December 2025: 4 th Sunday of Advent
Sun 21 st	10.30 am	Catherine Foley (1 st Anniversary)	
Mon 22 nd		NO MASS	FEASTS :
Tues 23 rd	10.30 am	Eddie Dunne (Intentions)	Tuesday St John of Kanty
Wed 24 th	10.30 am	People of the Parish	Wednesday Christmas Eve
	5.00 pm	John Sheehan RIP (Christmas Eve Mass)	Thursday Nativity of the Lord (Christma Day)
Thurs 25 th	10.30 am	Pat, Ann & Denis O'Sullivan RIP	Friday St Stephen
Fri 26 th	10.30 am	Sharkey, Brennan & Boyle Families RIP	Saturday St John, Apostle
Sat 27 th	10.30 am	Society of Divine Vocations	Sunday Holy Family
	4.00 pm	Martina Foley (Anniversary)	
Sun 28 th	10.30 am	Mary & Aidan Dillon RIP	
OFFERTORY COLLECTION: £500.72			
SECOND COLLECTION: £161.12 (Church Maintenance)			

RECENTLY DEAD: Theresa Patricia Hughes RIP. Funeral Service at Yardley Crematorium, Tuesday 23rd December, 12.15 pm. Ena Comerford RIP. Reception Tuesday 6th January, 6.30 pm. Requiem Mass Wednesday 7th January, 11.00 am. Tommy Flynn RIP. Requiem Mass Thursday, 15th January 2026 at 11.00 am. Michael Sheehan RIP. Funeral Service at Yardley Crematorium, Thursday, 15th January 2026 at 1.00 pm. Patrick Freeman RIP.

ANNIVERSARIES: Clara Clapham, John Joseph White, Andrew Kearney, Kathleen Finn, Patrick Lynch, Christina Donnelly, Margaret Rafferty, John Breslin, Margaret Doherty, Patrick Canning, Kathleen Yallop, Catherine Foley, Jack Higgins, Margaret Smythe, Simon Boyce, Ken Abrams, Patrick O'Neill, James Patrick, Howard Finden, Mark Anderson, Patrick Ryan, Eileen Callard, Annie Bolton, Mary Ann Doyle, Martina Foley.

SICK LIST: Anselm John Baptiste, Jim Deards, Fr Morty O'Shea, John Garvey, Cath McGrath, Amie Faulkner, Clare Bergin, Mary Bergin, John Leo Daly, Fr Michael White, Everly Arnold, 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: Church Maintenance. **NEXT WEEKEND:** Church Maintenance.

COLLECTION on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day is your Christmas gift to our Parish Priest. Thank you.

WISHING ALL OUR PARISHIONERS A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND EVERY BLESSING FOR THE NEW YEAR.

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.