

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sunday 1 December 2019: 1st Sunday of Advent (Year A)

6.30pm (Saturday)	Joe & Maggie Joyce
9.00am	Nellie Quirke RIP
11.00am	Muriel Duffin RIP
5.30pm	Parishioners

Monday 2 December

7.30am	Charlie Feeney RIP
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Tuesday 3 December *St Francis Xavier*

7.30am	Viera & Marta Hejzlarova RIP
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Wednesday 4 December

7.30am	All the saints from the Cistone family
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Thursday 5 December *St Birinus*

7.30am	Barbara RIP
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Friday 6 December

7.30am	Kieran Hughes
7.30pm	<i>In honour of the Sacred Heart</i>

Saturday 7 December *St Ambrose*

8.00am	Br. Ambrose's intentions
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CONFESSIONS: Saturday 11.30am–12 noon; 5.30–6.25pm

Please pray for those members of our community who are sick.

Pray, too, for those whose anniversaries occur about this time, including:

Anthony Jones, Mary Roberts, Norah Jackson, Dennis Doyle, Patrick O'Callaghan, Celia Jennings, Theresa Brown, Marie Gwynn, Peter Masnyj, Gertrude Albert, & Peter McDonagh.

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

COLLECTIONS:

No second collection today

Last week's collections:

<i>Offertory</i>	£378.91	+ <i>Gift-aided</i>	£115.00
<i>Catholic Youth Service</i>	£281.42	+ <i>Gift-aided</i>	£39.70
<i>Second collection next week: Poor Parishes Fund</i>			

SS Edmund and Frideswide Roman Catholic Church

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Parish Priest:

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Stay awake

“It is necessary to understand that the whole of our life must be an ‘Advent’, a vigilant awaiting of the final coming of Christ.”

- Pope St John Paul II



1st Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

Response: **I rejoiced when I heard them say: ‘Let us go to God’s house.’**

2nd Reading: Romans 13:11-14

Gospel: Matthew 24:37-44

Entrance Antiphon: To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

Christmas Fair & Raffle Prizes

Those who came to last week's Christmas Fair had a good time, and it also raised £523.06. Thanks to everyone who participated and especially to those whose hard work made it all possible. Some of the raffle winners were absent when their tickets were drawn: 4th prize – ticket 134; 5th prize – ticket 154; 6th prizes – 32; other prizes – tickets 244, 237, 256, 250, 273, 28, 282, 33, 305, and 171.

Sunday 1 December: Guest preacher - Br. Krzysztof Przybylski

Br. Krzysztof lived and ministered here in the UK for a few years, but he is now the Missions Secretary for the Capuchins in Warsaw. He will be preaching to us about the missions of the Order in places as varied as Sweden and Gabon.

Also beginning Sunday 1 December: Year of the Word

2020 is the 10th anniversary of *Verbum Domini*, Pope Benedict XVI's Apostolic Exhortation on 'The Word of the Lord', and the 1,600th anniversary of St Jerome's death. These dates have inspired the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales to dedicate 2020 as a year of focus on the Bible and 'The God Who Speaks': <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/events/the-god-who-speaks/>.

This week:

Church Cleaning:

Groups of dedicated volunteers keep the church clean and tidy. This week is the turn of D: Eliston, Jubinia, Fabio & family. Thank you.

Advent Daily Rosary

During Advent the Legion of Mary is organizing a Rosary at 7pm, Monday to Thursday, in Greyfriars church. This is in addition to the usual Rosary at 7pm on Fridays.

Monday 2 December: Legion of Mary

The Legion of Mary is a small group of ordinary Catholics who gather to pray and to organize works of mercy. Come to the door of the sacristy at 7.30pm.

Wednesday 4 December: Youth Alpha Oxford

This term's course comes to an end this week, with the question, 'What about the Church?' Even if you haven't been yet, feel free to come along for a taste of Alpha (and a taste of pizza!). There'll be more Alpha next term—watch this space.

Also Wednesday 4 December: Holy Hour & Benediction for Vocations

All are welcome to join in praying for vocations to the priesthood, religious, and consecrated life at 7.45–8.45pm in Bl. Dominic Barberi Church, Littlemore. The Holy Hour for this intention is always on the first Wednesday of the month.

Friday 6 December: Holy Rosary & Mass of the Sacred Heart

Every Friday evening the Holy Rosary is recited in the church at 7pm. On this first Friday of the month there follows at 7.30pm a Mass in honour of the Sacred Heart, with prayers for healing.

Looking ahead:

First Holy Communions 2020

Children in Year 3 or above are eligible to receive their First Holy Communion in 2020. Preparation classes begin in the New Year. Application forms are available at the back of church—please return them by Sunday 22 December.

Children's Nativity

At the 6pm vigil Mass on Christmas Eve, we have a little nativity play enacted by children. If you have children who wish to take part, please sign them up on the sheet at the back of church or by emailing the parish office: ofmcaparish@gmail.com.

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Welcome to St Edmund & St Frideswide Catholic Church!

If you are new to the parish and would like to register as a member—whether or not you are a Catholic— please complete a Greyfriars Connect form, which can be found at the back of the church. May the Lord bless you and your family.

Music at 5.30pm Mass

During the past year the Sunday evening Mass has been enlivened by a fledgling music group. The group is small, however, and would welcome new members who can sing and/or play an instrument. Speak to Br. Paul if you're interested.

CAFOD World Gifts

When you are buying your Christmas presents, why not think of a present for those for whom Christmas and every other day is a struggle? CAFOD has made this easy to do; you have a choice of a whole range of gifts from footballs or sewing kits to a llama or chickens. Any of these gifts go to helping struggling communities in areas where CAFOD has a presence. You will find an attractive catalogue of these imaginative World Gifts at the back of the church. Please feel free to take one.

The Five-minute Advent Challenge

Advent is a time to prepare for the Lord's coming and to remember the long years that the Jewish people waited for the Messiah. This Advent, spend some time prayerfully waiting for the Lord by coming to church at least five minutes before Mass.

Walk with Me booklets

This Advent and Christmastide edition of *Walk with Me* follows the daily Mass readings and also explores the Prologue of St John's Gospel. It is a handy companion for your Christmas preparations and is available from the back of church. The cost of each booklet is £1, but feel free to take one even if you don't have the money to hand.

Website of the Week

The *Pray More Retreat* is an online retreat (<https://praymoreretreat.org/>) to help you spend more time in prayer this Advent to prepare to celebrate the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ.