

News and Events from the Archdiocese of Birmingham

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THE ARCHDIOCESE *of* BIRMINGHAM

A new edition of *The Sower*, latest post-lockdown guidelines and a Rosary Hour



Out now! Pentecost edition of *The Sower*

The latest edition of the free Diocesan magazine will be available in parishes this weekend and is online now.

Please pick up extra copies for those parishioners who are continuing to worship from home, particularly those who do not have access to the internet, and post through their letterbox.

We hope that this will help to keep them in touch with the work of our parishes and schools.

[Read *The Sower* online](#)



Celebrate Pentecost Sunday

'That God may raise us up'

Now as he blessed them, he withdrew from them and was carried up to heaven. (Lk 24:51)

Lift us up with you, Lord Jesus Christ, from the sickness, suffering, fear and grief of these last months.

Bless all that your body, the Church, has achieved through her worship of God and her care of God's children.

Renew the Holy Spirit among us, that, sent like your apostles, to the people of our diocese,

all may contribute to the proclamation of God's word and to the growth of God's kingdom.

Amen

Resources for Pentecost



New guidelines for post-lockdown

Issued by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales with effect from Monday 17 May.

These guidelines reflect the fact we are now at Step 3 of the Government's Covid-19 response roadmap.

There are changes to Acts of Worship including capacity numbers, requirements of stewards and parish social activities.

[Read latest guidance](#)



Coming soon! Diocesan virtual Lourdes Pilgrimage

Join us from Sunday 30 May for the diocesan annual pilgrimage to Lourdes, which will be virtual for the second year running.

The theme of the six-day event is "I Am The Immaculate Conception" and will include daily Masses, virtual Marian Processions, a Service of Healing, Stations of the Cross, a Blessed Sacrament Procession and a Reconciliation Service; together with visits to key locations in and around the holy site in southern France.

[Virtual Lourdes Pilgrimage 2021](#)



Laudato Si' Week

Runs until Tuesday 25 May with many online events taking place.

Pope Francis invites us to 'Prepare the future', celebrating the progress the Church has made on its journey to ecological conversion, and reflecting on what the Covid-19 pandemic has taught us.

[Discover Laudato Si'](#)

Rosary Hour for our Archdiocese

Sunday 30 May from 10am to 11am. Archbishop Bernard will celebrate the 10am Mass at St Chad's Cathedral and then lead the rosary.



Event hosted by The Basilica of Our Lady of Walsingham, England's National Shrine of Our Lady, 'England's Nazareth'.

The May 2021 Rosary Mission carries the theme: Rosary Stronghold with the Holy Family - Protecting our Families and the Family of Nations.

[Join the Rosary Hour](#)



Sight Loss Friendly Church taster sessions

Torch Trust, the Christian sight loss charity, offers an initiative to help churches to become accessible for people with sight loss.

Sight Loss Friendly Church (SLFC) taster sessions are available on Zoom for churches to find out more about SLFC including all the benefits of this free resource, meet the SLFC team and ask questions.

The next free sessions are on June 10, 29 and 30 and July 13, 14 and 15.

[Register for taster session](#)



Our voices are needed more than ever

Latest news from CAFOD.

Let your voice be heard at the G7 Summit and COP26 UN climate talks this year.

Join the Cancel the Debt campaign and set up a Parliament in your Parish.

[Campaign with CAFOD](#)



Newman: Meditation & Prayer

The Genesis Foundation and The Sixteen announce a special concert inspired by the life and writings of Cardinal Newman, who was canonised as Saint John Henry Newman in 2019. Newman: Meditation & Prayer will take place at **7pm on Thursday 10 June** at Farm Street Church in London's Mayfair (The Jesuit Church of the Immaculate Conception).

The concert will be live streamed for free on Classic FM's Facebook page and available on demand for a month afterwards; it will feature the world premieres of two new Genesis Foundation choral music commissions by Sir James MacMillan and Will Todd.

Joining them will be Classic FM's flagship morning show presenter Alexander Armstrong, reading the words of Cardinal Newman and the poet and churchman John Donne.

Join the Newman concert



Covid-19 impact survey

Please share your experience of faith during the pandemic.

We want to hear from all across the Archdiocese about the impact the last 12 months has had, and how we can learn from it and move forward.

The survey takes around 10 minutes to complete.

[Complete survey](#)

Job opportunity at the charity World Vision UK

The charity is recruiting a Head of Strategic Church and Christian Partnerships.

World Vision is an international children's charity working with children, their communities, and with supporters and partners, in almost 100 countries.

[View job description](#)

Dates for your diary

Mon 24 May. [National Day of Prayer for Schools and Young People](#)

5/9 July. [Scripture and Spirituality Summer School](#)

10/11 July. [Online Scripture & Spirituality Conference](#)

July/August. [Holy Land Pilgrimage hosted by the Young Catholic Adult Network](#)

5/8 August. [Faith & Reason: A Catholic Integration](#)

Starts 8 Sept. [Spiritual Direction Programme](#)

24/26 Sept. [Family Retreat for Catholic families](#)

Sat 25 Sept. [National Mass for the Guild of Saint Stephen](#)

[Visit our Events page](#)

Live Masses online

Live streaming of Masses continues at St Chad's Cathedral.

If your parish does not offer a live streaming facility please join us.



Online Masses at St Chad's



Supporting your parish

You have asked us how you can continue giving to your parish during the pandemic.

Parishes still greatly need your support, even more so without their weekly congregations and visitors.

We do though recognise that many parishioners may be struggling financially, and there is no expectation to give where you are unable to do so.

You can donate via standing order or single donation.

Support our Work



Please follow us online

If you are on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram please follow the Archdiocese of Birmingham online.

Our accounts are being used more than ever before to share news, events and information.

[Twitter/](#) [Facebook/](#) [Instagram/](#) [Web/YouTube](#)

We hope you are finding this e-newsletter useful. **Please share with anyone you think will benefit, and encourage them to subscribe via the website.**

If you have any news, events or information you'd like to share this way please email it to communications@rcaob.org.uk marked 'For Newsletter'.

It's great to see information coming into us which we can share with others, please keep it coming!

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