

News and Events from the Archdiocese of Birmingham in December

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To: The Sacred Heart and St Catherine of Alexandria - Droitwich <sacredheart.droitwich@rcaob.org.uk>



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Archdiocese of Birmingham

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Live More Simply this Advent and Christmas, Midnight Mass broadcast on the BBC and lots of seasonal resources

Living More Simply - webinar hosted by the Diocesan Climate Group

Join us online on Tuesday 14 December, 7pm to 8.30pm, via Zoom.

Inspired by COP26 even more parishes and schools across the Archdiocese have signed up to CAFOD's *livesimply* award, as we look to reduce our carbon footprints.

We will look at how we can take our first steps to reducing our impact on the planet starting this Advent and Christmas, and how we can increase our care for God's precious creation.

[Register for webinar](#)

International Volunteers Day - Sun 5 Dec

This Sunday marks International Volunteers Day, an international observance mandated by the UN General Assembly in 1985.

We'd like to say a huge thank you to all our volunteers who support the life of the Church.

The Archdiocese is proud to have over 1,800 volunteers working tirelessly in their parishes and communities. Your contribution cannot be underestimated.

If you would like to volunteer in your local parish please speak to the parish priest to see what opportunities are available.

Midnight Mass at St Chad's Cathedral to be broadcast on the BBC

The first Mass of Christmas to be televised on the BBC this year will be broadcast from St Chad's Cathedral, our Diocesan Mother Church.

Midnight Mass will be shown on BBC One.

The BBC has recently announced its Christmas Religious Programming across television and radio.

[Midnight Mass at St Chad's](#)

Diocesan handbook on the Synod

Has your parish started its Synod journey?

A guide to help kickstart conversations in parishes and communities is now available to download from our website.

The 'Walking Together' handbook is a step-by-step guide of what to do as parish meetings start to take place.

You can also watch back recent information talks held online.

[Join the Synod journey](#)

Out now! Advent edition of *The Sower* magazine

Pick up your latest copy of the free diocesan magazine, *The Sower*, in parishes now.

Featuring people and places from across the Archdiocese.

An e-version of the magazine is also available to download from the website.

[The Sower](#)

Women of the Diocese present weekly Advent reflections

The Women of the Diocese group are producing a reflection for each Sunday in Advent.

The reflection will also be available on the Women of the Diocese Facebook page and Friday prayer email.

Watch reflections

Advent Synodal Pathway Reflections

There's still time to sign up to our daily Advent emails which we hope will help you to understand, to pray into, and reflect on the Synod that Pope Francis has called us to participate in.

Each daily email from 12-26 December will be made up of a short excerpt on the Synod, followed by questions and prayers to encourage you to listen to the Holy Spirit's voice in your life and in the life of the Church.

Each reflection should take no more than 5 minutes, but we suggest that you have a pen and paper handy to make notes on your thoughts and prayers for each day.

[Sign up now](#)

Advent is here

Advent is a time of preparation and joyful expectation.

As we prepare for the birth of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, these weeks provide a wonderful opportunity to slow down and reflect.

Please make use of Advent resources now available on our website.

[Advent](#)

Starts January 2022 - Letting Teresa Speak

Register now for new course hosted by The Centre for Applied Carmelite Spirituality, Oxford.

Every Saturday from January 22 to February 26 2022, 4pm to 5.30pm.

Your course presenter - Sr Jo Robson, OCD: is a member of the Carmelite community in Ware, Hertfordshire.

[Sign up for course](#)

Dates for your diary: the month ahead

Sat 4 Dec: [Training and Formation for Ministers to the Liturgy - Leaders of Prayer](#)

Tues 7 Dec: [Advent Evening of Renewal](#)

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Tues 7 and Sat 11 Dec: [Alpha online - Come and See sessions](#)

Mon 13 Dec: [Divine Renovation webinar - I See in You](#)

Tues 14 Dec: [Living More Simply this Advent and Christmas](#)

[Visit our Events page](#)

Supporting your parish

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

Parishes still greatly need your support.

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 your Parish

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

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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