

News and Events from the Archdiocese of Birmingham

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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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Holy Week and Easter at St Chad's Cathedral, the return of Hednesford Pilgrimage and new Women in Scripture podcast

A Weekly Focus on Lent

To help you to participate in a faith-filled Lent this year, the Diocesan Liturgy and Worship Group will be selecting a different Lent resource for you to explore on the Diocese Life blog every week.

This week, we feature two resources from The God Who Speaks to tell the Easter Story for children and for adults..

[Diocese Life Blog](#)

Ukraine: Our Diocesan Response

The Archdiocese is holding regular meetings with local Ukrainian communities, Fr Hudson's Care, Caritas Social Action Network and other agencies as we look at the best way for us to respond to the government's Homes for Ukraine programme.

All updates on this response will be published on the Diocesan website as and when they are available.

[Response to Ukraine](#)

Hednesford Pilgrimage Returns in July

On Sunday 3 July, for the first time since 2019, we are able to invite people from all over the Archdiocese to join us for the Annual Pilgrimage in honour of Our Lady of Lourdes, hosted at the Diocesan shrine at Our Lady of Lourdes, Hednesford near Cannock in Staffordshire.

Join the pilgrimage for Confessions, Private Devotions in the Grotto and Mass with Anointing. A barbecue and refreshments will also be available.

We are delighted to have Bishop David Evans as the main celebrant for the first time. Come and join us!

Hednesford Pilgrimage

New Women in Scripture podcast

The latest Women in Scripture podcast will be available to listen to this weekend.

Join Natalie Orefice as she talks to Dr Mary McCaughey about Mary of Bethany.

Listen now for free via Soundcloud, Spotify or iTunes.

[Listen to podcast](#)

Sistine Chapel Exhibition opens in Birmingham tomorrow

Con McHugh gets a sneak preview of the exhibition, opening in Birmingham on Friday 8 April.

Having already been to the US, parts of Europe, London and Manchester it's now Birmingham's turn to host this wonderful exhibition - A life-size, up-close, never-before-seen perspective!

Thanks to digital technology this stunning exhibition showcases the awe and wonder of one of mankind's greatest artistic feats while allowing visitors to experience it from never-before-seen perspectives without having to travel to Italy.

[Michaelangelo's Sistine Chapel](#)

Holy Week and Easter Liturgies at St Chad's Cathedral

Please find below details of this year's services at our Diocesan Mother Church, St Chad's Cathedral.

You are also welcome to join via the cathedral's live stream facility on its website.

Palm Sunday - Sunday 10 April - Masses at 9.30am & 11.30am.

Mass of Chrism - Wednesday 13 April at 11.30am
(Clergy only this year)

Mass of Last Supper - Thursday 14 April at 7.30pm.

Walk of Witness - Good Friday 15 April. Starting at The Church at Carrs Lane at 10am.

Solemn Liturgy - Good Friday 15 April at 3pm.

Easter Vigil - Saturday 16 April at 8pm.

Easter Sunday - Sunday 17 April - Masses at 9.30am & 11.30am.

Easter Monday - Monday 18 April - Easter Monday Men's Mass at 10am. Open to all.

[St Chad's Cathedral website](#)

Good Friday Walk of Witness, Birmingham

All are welcome to attend this year's Good Friday Walk of Witness in Birmingham city centre.

The ecumenical event makes a welcome in-person return. Virtual Walk of Witnesses were held in 2020 and 2021 due to the pandemic.

The event marks Christ's journey to the cross, starting from The Church at Carrs Lane and finishing at our Diocesan Mother Church, St Chad's Cathedral.

[Walk of Witness](#)

Changes to Hall Hire

Parishes which operate halls are advised a number of Hall Hire-related documents have been updated.

The updated documents (1, 5, 6, 8 and 9) can be found on the diocesan website ([link below](#)).

A key update obliges the occupier to comply with all government or local authority guidance for the prevention of the spread of any infectious illness.

As there are now no legal restrictions in relation to Covid-19 and all government guidance has been withdrawn, we have now removed the guidance for reopening church halls, the hirer's pack and the risk assessments from the website.

[Access Hall Hire documents](#)

The God Who Calls, weekend event

FaithJustice will soon be hosting their first in-person event since the beginning of the pandemic.

'The God Who Calls', a weekend exploring Christian discernment, will take place from Friday 13 - Sunday 15 May in Coventry, at Coventry Quaker Meeting.

FaithJustice is hosting the event alongside the Jesuits and Coventry Quaker Meeting.

[More information and book](#)

Marriage Enrichment experience

An invitation from Marriage Encounter to couples to experience a life-changing Marriage Encounter Weekend.

Available online (May) and in person (June).

The Marriage Encounter Experience offers the opportunity to refresh, enrich, deepen and bring love back into all relationships. The experience offers precious quality time to support lifelong relationships, personal and spiritual growth, all in a Catholic faith context.

[Marriage Encounter](#)

Chaplains at Work newsletter

The Spring newsletter of CIGB (Churches and Industry Group Birmingham and Solihull) Workplace Chaplaincy is out now.

Edition highlights include Eternal Eastertide, Meet the Chaplain and Around the Chaplaincies.

[Access newsletter and website](#)

Transforming the NHS

The Department of Health and Social Care is improving NHS services for the long term through opening new NHS Clinical Diagnostic Centres to help reduce the elective care backlog.

Patients across Birmingham are benefiting from a quicker diagnosis through NHS Community Diagnostic Centres, your new one-stop shops for checks, tests and scans closer to home.

If you get an invite to one of these services, please make sure you read it carefully, attend as planned or rearrange if you need to.

Transforming the NHS

Restore Training Course - book now!

Restore is motivating for action with our next training course for those interested in befriending or wanting to learn more about refugee issues.

Our next online training course will take place over three evenings in June - 9, 16 and 23 from 7.15pm – 8.45pm.

Bookings now being taken.

More information and book for Restore

Dates for your diary: the month ahead

Fri 8 April: [ACTA host talk on Climate Change and Catholic Action](#)

Sat 9 April: [Proud2Profess 2022](#)

Sat 9 April: [Hosanna! A story for Easter in song and mime!](#)

Sat 9 to Thurs 14 April: [Young Adults' Cross Walk](#)

Fri 15 April: [Good Friday Walk of Witness in Birmingham](#)

Sat 23 and Sun 24 April: [The Catholic Medical Association Annual Conference & AGM](#)

Tue 26 April: [Science and Faith on the Second City - Event 1](#)

Wed 27 April: [DR Webinar: Putting on the Full Armour of God](#)

Wed 27 April: [Society of St Gregory Scripture Workshop](#)

Tue 3 May: [Secrecy and Subterfuge: Catholic Life in Early Modern England](#)

More Events

Supporting your parish

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

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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