

# News and Events from the Catholic 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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## Returning to Mass at Pentecost

Following the Spring Plenary, the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales have made an announcement on the "Sunday Obligation":

"Since the beginning of the Covid pandemic, until the present time, we have shared with you our judgment that the situation of the last two years has meant that the Sunday Obligation has been impeded and has needed to be fulfilled in other ways. We thank God that this situation has now changed.

"The pressing challenges of the pandemic have lessened significantly. Most people have resumed the wide range of normal activities, no longer restricted by the previous Covid measures. We therefore believe that the reasons which have prevented Catholics from attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation no longer apply.

"We understand there will still be some members of our congregations who, for reasons of health, do not feel safe enough to return to Mass. It has always been the understanding of the Church that when the freedom of any Catholic to attend Mass in person is impeded for a serious reason, because of situations such as ill health, care for the sick or legitimate fear, this is not a breach of the Sunday Obligation."

[Returning to Mass](#)

## Fundraising to support those seeking safety in the Archdiocese from Ukraine

Many parish communities in our Archdiocese have already been most generous in their support – financial and through prayer - for those who are suffering because of the war in Ukraine.

Archbishop Bernard has asked parishes to hold a second collection on or around the **14/15 May 2022** to support our ability to respond to the many needs connected with this work of welcome. We have also set up a JustGiving page for this fundraising.

We have already seen, in St Chad's Sanctuary, many Ukrainian families coming for support as they have not yet received a destitution fund. Our Ukrainian communities in Wolverhampton and Coventry have held successful orientation and community events for Ukrainian refugees. We want to expand this work and support across the Diocese.

Response to Ukraine

## **Day of Prayer for Victims and Survivors of Abuse**

Tuesday 17 May 2022 marks the Day of Prayer for Victims and Survivors of Abuse. This is observed on the Tuesday of the Fifth Week of Easter in England and Wales.

The Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors (PCPM) has highlighted the importance of prayer and suggested to Pope Francis that the worldwide Catholic Church should join together in a day of prayer. The Holy Father has welcomed this initiative.

The Isaiah Journey has prepared a range of resources for prayer, action and reflection for use throughout the year which are launched on the day of prayer.

Day of Prayer for Victims and Survivors  
of Abuse

## **Organ Recital at Oscott**

The seminary community of St. Mary's College, Oscott invites you to an evening of music in honour of Our Lady at the finish of the month of May.

This will be on **Sunday, 29th of May at 4.30pm** and will be followed by cream tea. Tickets are £10 each, proceeds to Tabor House, which is a charity that helps with homelessness in Central Birmingham.

Please RSVP by 20 May to secure your place.

Organ Recital Booking

## **Marriage Enrichment Experiences - online courses this weekend**

Marriage Encounter England and Wales recognise that the very pillar of vibrant church communities are good couple relationships, leading Christian families to a deeper faith in Christ Jesus.

They are therefore delighted to offer the opportunity for all couples to experience a life changing Marriage Encounter Weekend in 2022, in person or online.

The next experiences are:

1. Online Saturdays – **14 and 21 May 2022**

And

2. Non-Resident experience on the **11-12 June 2022**

located in:

Savio House Near Macclesfield.

The Barn, Savio House, Ingeresly Road, Bollington, Cheshire SK10 5RW.

## Marriage Enrichment

### **Quo Vadis? Blessed Chiara Badanco**

Following Good Shepherd Sunday (the World Day of Prayer for Vocations) the Diocesan Vocations Office is facilitating a series of Zoom sessions for university students of the Archdiocese of Birmingham - all on the theme of discernment.

Quo Vadis? is Latin for: 'Where are you going?'

Each session will include a presentation on the life of the beatus (blessed) by a speaker working within university chaplaincy, followed by a time of prayer.

Monday 16th May focuses on Blessed Chiara Badano by Alvea Fernandes (Oxford University Chaplaincy)

## Quo Vadis?

### **Newman University seeks Council**

#### **Members**

Newman University is looking for new members of its University Council (governors, trustees and company members).

This is an exceptional opportunity to share your talents and expertise to make a positive difference to the lives of the University community.

Other opportunities currently listed on our website include:

- **NEW** - Three opportunities for academic staff members at Oscott College
- **Operations Manager** - Brushstrokes charity
- **Fundraising Manager** - Father Hudson's Care
- **Administration Assistant Apprentice**, Columban Missionaries

- **Trustees** for Father Hudson's Care
- **Communications and Administrative Officer**, at Restore

Jobs page

## New Women in Scripture podcast

What do Miriam and Mary have in common? Find out in the latest Women in Scripture podcast with Natalie Orefice and this month's guest, Dr Angela Costley, St Mary's College, Oscott.

Discover the latest Podcasts

## Dates for your diary: the month ahead

**Thu 12 May:** [An Evening at St Chad's Cathedral with Sarah Kroger & Dom Quaglia](#)

**Fri 13 - Sun 15 May:** [The God Who Calls](#)

**Fri 13 - Sun 15 May:** ['The Breathing of the Air' weekend retreat](#)

**Sat 14 May:** [Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham](#)

**Sat 14 May:** [Marrigae Enrichment Experience online Session One](#)

**Sat 14 May:** [Divine Renovation Open House - Salford](#)

**Sat 14 May:** [Catholics in Health and Social Care: Event 3](#)

**Sat 14 May:** [Quinborne Choir presents Durufle Requiem -Birmingham](#)

**Sun 15 May:** [Healing Garden open day, Northampton](#)

**Mon 16 May:** [Quo Vadis? Blessed Chiara Badano](#)

**Tues 17 May:** [Day of Prayer for Victims and Survivors of Abuse](#)

**Sun 22 May:** [International Day of Prayer for Eastern Christians](#)

**Tue 24 May:** [Science and Faith in the Second City - Event 2](#)

**Thu 26 May:** [Quo Vadis? Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati](#)

**Sun 29 May:** [Organ Recital at Oscott College](#)

**Thu 9 June:** [Restore Training Course June 2022](#)

**Wed 15 June:** [Science and Faith in the Second City: Event 3](#)

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

### 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](mailto: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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