

News and Events from the Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham

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Thu 19/05/2022 15:57

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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Celebrating St Chad - booking now open

Join us for a day of celebration and history organised collaboratively by St Chad's Cathedral and the Archdiocese of Birmingham History and Archives Commission.

Saturday 18 June, opening with Mass at midday, including the Rite of the Dedication of the Altar.

The historical event, for which advance booking is required, will begin after Mass with light refreshments, and an opportunity to visit a special historical exhibition in the Archives of the Archdiocese of Birmingham.

Speakers include Dr John Jenkins from University of York, and Dr Judith Champ, Archdiocese of Birmingham.

[Book now for celebrating St Chad](#)

This Sunday: Join the International Day of Prayer for Eastern Christians

Taking place on the Sixth Sunday of Easter, Sunday 22 May.

The annual International Day of Prayer for Eastern Christians enables Eastern and Western Christians to come together in prayer during Easter. The event unites the Roman Catholic Church in Europe with the Eastern Catholic Churches in union with the Bishop of Rome.

All welcome to join in prayer and/or donate.

[Support Eastern Christians](#)

Fit 4 Function event: Big Journeys begin with Small Steps

All parishes are invited to this ecumenical conference, organised collaboratively by the Archdiocese of Birmingham and the Anglican Dioceses of Birmingham, Coventry, Gloucester, Hereford, Lichfield and Worcester.

Wednesday 22 June, 9.15am to 4.30pm in Kidderminster.

Explore the ways in which we can unlock the potential of our church buildings to help to build stronger and more resilient communities.

Through a range of presentations and relevant case studies, themes will cover the extraordinary value that churches have in transforming their local communities, the importance of working in partnership to meet local needs and provide essential services, and the potential to develop them as income-generating business ventures.

Book Fit 4 Function

Register for Laudato Si' Week:

May 22-29 2022

This global event invites Catholic communities to celebrate the seventh anniversary of Pope Francis' landmark encyclical on creation care, rejoicing in the progress we have made in bringing Laudato Si' to life.

The theme for the week of May 22-29 is "Listening and Journeying Together."

- Register to receive the latest information about Laudato Si' Week.
- See the list of global events or learn how to host and register a local event.

Laudato Si' Week

Queen's Platinum Jubilee

The Bishops' Conference establishes that, at all Sunday Masses on 4–5 June 2022, each parish prays for Her Majesty the Queen to mark her Platinum Jubilee.

And if your parish is hosting a celebration please consider sharing photographs for possible use on the Diocesan website and in the next edition of *The Sower* magazine.

Celebrating the Platinum Jubilee

Returning to Mass at Pentecost

Following the recent 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

Birmingham Forum for Spiritual Directors and Companions 2022-2023

'The Church will have to initiate everyone into this "art of accompaniment" which teaches us to remove our sandals before the sacred ground of the other' (EG 169, Pope Francis)

Are you someone others turn to naturally to talk about their life and faith?

Are you keen to develop and grow in the art of accompanying others on their faith journey?

If so, the Birmingham Ecumenical Course in Spiritual accompaniment which commences in September 2022 may just be right for you!

Spiritual accompaniment is a practice rooted in Catholic and other Christian Traditions.

You may already be exercising the art of accompaniment in different ways or seeking to grow in it.

For information about applying contact John Austen at johnausten151@hotmail.co.uk or Maureen Slattery-Marsh at sonas@slatterymarsh.com

2022 Christian Leadership Formation programme, apply now

The Christian Heritage Centre is delighted to announce that the Christian Leadership Formation programme is running for a second consecutive year and is currently open to applications from students in Lower Sixth.

The application **deadline is Friday 3 June 2022**, although references will still be accepted after that date for applications that have already been submitted.

The programme is for students who are actively committed to their faith, who are intellectually gifted and who are committed to shaping a Christian society through their careers.

Information and apply

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 29 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 **Friday 20 May** to secure your place.*

Organ Recital Booking

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:

- Three opportunities for **academic staff members** at St Mary's College, Oscott
- West Midlands Combined Authority - Faith Strategic Partnership Group
- **Trustees** for Father Hudson's Care

- **Pilgrimage Liaison Volunteers** for Friends of the Holy Land

Jobs page

Programmes, Retreats, Lectures, Festival, Summer School

The Centre for Applied Carmelite Spirituality, Oxford has a packed programme of events over the coming months.

Visit the website to see what's on in May, June, July.

Carmelite Friars website

Dates for your diary: the month ahead

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

Sun 22 - Sun 29 May: [Laudato Si' Action Week](#)

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](#)

Sun 29 May: [World Communications Day](#)

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

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

Wed 15 June: [Seminar - The Man With Two Consciences: A Modern Catholic Horror Story](#)

Sat 18 June: [Celebrating St Chad at Altar Dedication](#)

Wed 22 June: [Fit 4 Function event](#)

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 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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