

News and Events from the Archdioceses of Birmingham

Birmingham Archdiocese <communications@rcaob.org.uk>

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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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Courses for Liturgical Ministers, become a sight loss friendly church, join Lourdes and Rome from home

Follow the Lourdes Pilgrimage from Home

This Saturday, hundreds of pilgrims from across the Archdiocese will head to Lourdes for the annual pilgrimage for the first time since the pandemic.

If you have been unable to join us, or are just curious about the pilgrimage, you can follow it from home- with daily updates - photos and videos - being added to the website straight from Lourdes. The pilgrimage runs from Sunday 29 May - Thursday 2 June.

The Grotto Mass, celebrated by Bishop Stephen Wright with Archbishop Bernard Longley will be live streamed on Monday at 9am (UK time) thanks to TV Lourdes.

Daily Updates from Lourdes

Refresher Day for Parish Liturgical Ministers

At St Nicholas, Boldmere. Arranged particularly for ministers from parishes in the northern part of the new Deanery of Birmingham North and East, but all ministers are welcome.

The day begins at 10am and will finish at 3pm - come for as much or as little as you like.

Liturgical Ministers Refresher Day

How to Become A Sight Loss Friendly Church

So far this year 40 churches have signed up to become sight loss friendly, but Torch Trust's vision is to reach all 50,000 churches in the UK. Your help is vital so that blind and partially sighted people can be fully included in their church community.

The Trust has released more dates for our popular Sight Loss Friendly Church Tasters in May, June and July.

Watch their brand new insightful video where blind and partially sighted people talk about the joys and challenges of church life to get an understanding of how much your support can make a difference.

[Sight Loss Friendly Taster Sessions](#)

The Climate Emergency: What Next?

Join a weekend reflecting on the Climate Emergency. Hosted by FaithJustice, the CSJP sisters and Friends.

Friday 10 - Sunday 12 June, or just Saturday 11 June, 9am-9pm, in Nottingham. For those aged 18-40

The latest IPCC reports makes it very clear that we are in an emergency situation. Climate change and ecological destruction are happening and are expected to get much worse.

This event is for anyone who is concerned about the climate emergency, and who is looking for a community of both action and support.

The Saturday morning will be a time of reflection and retreat focusing on climate grief and enormity of the challenges facing us. The afternoon will be a space for learning from each other, hearing stories, and reflecting and sharing about the way forward.

Simple accommodation and food will be provided from Friday to Sunday.

Cost: Free (Donations welcome)

[Register for Climate Emergency: What Next?](#)

The Commonwealth Games are coming to the Archdiocese this July

The Games will be staged at venues across our Archdiocese area from Thursday 28 July to Monday 8 August.

Hundreds of thousands of people will be heading to our region this summer and we extend a very warm welcome to all.

To assist those who wish to visit a Catholic church during their time in the area we have listed all the Catholic churches within the vicinity of the region's Commonwealth Games venues.

Birmingham Churches Together is hosting a series of worship and prayer events, including an ecumenical service of praise hosted at St Chad's Cathedral. Tickets are free but must be booked.

Commonwealth Games in the Diocese

'Rome at Home': World Meeting of Families 2022

The World Meeting of Families (WMOF) takes place in Rome from Wednesday 22 to Sunday 26 June and the approach encouraged by Pope Francis is for the event to be celebrated at a local level.

The theme for the 10th World Meeting of Families is Family Love: a vocation and a path to Holiness. Parishes across the Archdiocese are encouraged to celebrate 'Rome at Home'.

Find videos, posters and other resources from your parish or school on the Diocesan website.

World Meeting of Families 2022

'Encounter' Weekend Residential Conference, 19 - 21 August, by Birmingham Catholic Charismatic Renewal Conference

The Birmingham Catholic Charismatic Renewal Conference is delighted to announce that bookings are now open for its summer Conference on the theme of **Encounter: The Woman at the Well: healing, transformation and mission**

"Whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. John 4:14".

In addition to the celebration of Holy Mass there will be times of praise, adoration, confession, healing ministry, inspiring talks, workshops and fellowship.

We are very blessed that Fr Pat Deegan will be our keynote speaker.

The weekend conference takes place from **Friday 19 August to Sunday 21 August**. The venue is The Woodbrooke Centre, Bristol Road, Birmingham.

The cost is £249 payable by July 22.

Encounter Weekend

Invitation to the AGM of the Churches and Industry Group Birmingham (CIGB)

The theme for the AGM is "Reflections on Faith, Public Health and Pandemics".

The speaker at the event is Dr Justin Varney, Director of Public Health, Birmingham City Council.

Tuesday 14 June 2022, from 5.15 pm until 8pm.
Join us at Solihull United Reformed Church.

Please RSVP as soon as possible.

Register for the CIGB AGM

Bible Society Seeks Catholic Scripture Engagement Officer

Bible Society is on a global mission to bring the Bible to life for all people. Our mission is driven by our conviction that when people engage with the Bible, lives can change, for good.

We're looking for a Catholic Scripture Engagement Officer who will focus on fulfilling this mission within the context of the Catholic community in England and Wales.

Jobs page

Dates for your diary: the month ahead

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

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](#)

Tue 14 June: [CIGB AGM](#)

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](#)

Sat 18 June: [Refresher Day for Parish Liturgical Ministers](#)

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

Wed 22 - Sun 26 June: [World Meeting of Families 2022](#)

Sat 25 Jun - Fri 1 Jul: [Ancient Byzantine Iconography Course](#)

Sun 3 July: [Annual Pilgrimage to Our Lady of Lourdes Hednesford](#)

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

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



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