

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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Jubilee celebrations, Lourdes Pilgrimage, sign up for summer events

Send us your Jubilee pictures

This weekend in our parishes and communities we will be celebrating Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Let us give thanks for her continued service and dedication.

If your parish is having a Jubilee celebration please send us your pictures for use on the Diocesan website, and potentially in the summer edition of *The Sower* magazine.

Platinum Jubilee

Returning to Mass this Pentecost Sunday (5 June)

Following the recent Spring Plenary, the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales 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

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

Lourdes Pilgrimage now underway

Hundreds of pilgrims from across the Archdiocese are currently in Lourdes on pilgrimage for the first time since the pandemic.

You can follow the pilgrimage from home - with daily updates, photos and videos - added to the website straight from Lourdes.

Daily Updates from Lourdes

Ignatian Spirituality talks, all welcome

St John the Evangelist, Banbury, is to host 'Ignatian Spirituality - a Deep Dive'.

The series of in-person talks over five weeks starts on Monday 13 June.

Guest speakers will deliver the introduction to prayer and contemplation through the teaching of St Ignatius of Loyola.

Join the conversation

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

Sign up now for summer events

A host of summer events are taking place over the coming months. Take a look, share in your parish and book your place today!

July: [Together Festival 22](#)

July: [KYT Summer Camp](#)

Late July: [Jesuits in Britain retreat](#)

Late July: [YouCAN Pilgrimage to the Holy Land](#)

August: [Society of Saint Gregory - Summer School](#)

August: ['Encounter' Weekend](#)

August: [Youth 2000 Summer Festival](#)

Dates for your diary: the month ahead

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

Fri 10 - Sun 12 June: [The Climate Emergency: What next?](#)

Mon 13 June: [Ignatian Spirituality - A Deep Dive, session 1](#)

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.](#)

Starts Thurs 16 June: [Annual Novena preparing for the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus](#)

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

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

Mon 20 June: [Ignatian Spirituality - A Deep Dive, session 2](#)

Tues 21 June: [Lecture: How the Arts & Crafts brought God down to earth](#)

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

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

Mon 27 June: [Ignatian Spirituality - A Deep Dive, session 3](#)

Thurs 30 June: [Sunday Experience: Revitalising Music Ministry in your Parish](#)

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

Sat 2 July: [Divine Renovation Connect, Nottingham](#)

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.

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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