

News and Events - 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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Season of Advent, Faith in Action Summit and Operation Elf

A printable PDF of this newsletter is attached for sharing.

The Season of Advent is here

In preparation for the birth of Our Lord please visit our dedicated Advent and Christmas webpage.

It will be regularly updated with activities, resources and prayers suitable for individual, parish and school use over the coming weeks.

Let us celebrate the Season of Advent, beginning this Sunday, 27 November.

[Advent](#)

Director of Education Services: Deadline to apply is Monday 28 November

The Archdiocese is seeking a visionary Director of Education Services to serve its 237 schools.

Catholic Education is vital to the Archdiocese, which has placed young people and families at the heart of its vision. The schools will play a significant role in building even closer relationships and co-responsibility between parish, school and home.

Archbishop Bernard Longley said: *"The person we are looking for will thrive on change and have the energy and communication skills necessary to transform structures and reimagine the relationship between all partners."*

Could this be you, or someone you know? **Apply by Monday 28 November.**

Join online this Saturday: Maryvale Institute Graduation Ceremony

All welcome to watch the Maryvale Institute Graduation Ceremony online.

It starts at 12 midday on **Saturday 26 November**, live streamed from St Chad's Cathedral, to celebrate the achievements of Maryvale students over the last academic year.

Graduation Ceremony

Next week: West Midlands Faith Summit

All welcome to attend on **Wednesday 30 November** at the Bescot Stadium, Walsall.

Event hosted by West Midlands Combined Authority & Faith Strategic Partnership Group.

A Faith in Action summit for all those interested in a faith response to the Cost of Living crisis, plus various workshops.

Register for Faith in Action event

Catholic Bishops of England and Wales: Autumn Plenary Meeting

Resolutions were made on the environment, buffer zones and other key areas at the recent Plenary Meeting, held in Leeds.

You can listen to a virtual press conference or read the resolutions in detail.

Autumn Plenary

Parishes invited to complete survey

Tom Stockwell, the Diocesan Listed Buildings Support Officer, is encouraging parishes to take part in a new survey.

This will aid The Centre for the Study of Christianity & Culture gain a comprehensive picture of churches from all Christian denominations as it develops its online resources to aid parishes.

An opportunity for parishes to share experiences and needs.

Access Survey

Workshop: Supporting the Imprisoned

Would you like to find out more about how you can support our brothers and sisters who are affected by imprisonment? If so, Pact (Prison Advice & Care Trust)'s JustPeople workshops may be for you.

The workshops are free to attend, come with no strings attached, and offer an opportunity to reflect upon Scripture, Church Teaching and Catholic Social Teaching, through the lens of people affected by imprisonment.

An online JustPeople Workshop is taking place on **Thursday 1 December, 9am – 1pm**, via Zoom.

PACT JustPeople Workshop

Operation Elf: A Christmas appeal from Pact

The national Catholic prison charity, Pact (Prison Advice & Care Trust), is appealing for donations to Operation Elf.

The initiative provides £15 gift cards for parents in prison to give to their children at Christmas. This allows mums and dads who are prisoners to feel like parents.

Children can choose a gift and have a lovely chat with their mum or dad about it. The appeal supports Pact's work to keep families together.

Pact needs more than 200 gift cards for the families it supports in seven prisons across our Archdiocese.

The appeal closes on **Wednesday 30 November**.

Support Operation Elf

Dates for your diary: the month ahead

Thu 24 Nov: ['Neighbours without borders' evening lecture 4](#)

Fri 26 - Sun 27 Nov: [SVP 18-33 Retreat](#)

Sat 26 Nov: [Join the Maryvale Institute Graduation Ceremony online](#)

Mon 28 Nov: [Craigmyle Lecture hosted by Catholic Union](#)

Wed 30 Nov: [Faith in Action Summit 2022](#)

Thu 1 Dec: [Live organ recital at St Chad's Cathedral](#)

Thu 1 Dec: [PACT Workshop - Supporting the Imprisoned](#)

Wed 7 Dec: [SSG Wednesday Workshop - The Word of God at Christmas](#)

Thu 8 December: ["My Parish isn't Missional!": How to lead when you are not in charge](#)

Tue 13 December: [Online School of Prayer, December session](#)

Thu 15 Dec: Good Shepherd Ministry, Wolverhampton: [Ecumenical Service to mark 50th Anniversary Year](#)

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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