

News and Events from the Archdiocese of Birmingham

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Thu 15/12/2022 15:08

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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We pray for the community of Kingshurst

A printable PDF of this newsletter is attached for sharing.

Prayers offered following lake tragedy

Following the incident at Babbs Mill Lake on Sunday 11 December, Archbishop Bernard Longley has issued a message:

"My heart goes out to all those affected by this tragedy and on behalf of the Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham I offer my deepest condolences to those who have lost loved ones.

"Our thoughts and prayers are with the Kingshurst community at this deeply distressing time."

[Read Message](#)

All welcome at St Chad's Carol Service

All are invited to St Chad's Cathedral annual Carol Service this **Sunday (18th)** at 5pm.

The Cathedral Choir, under the direction of Professor David Saint, will present a festive programme to start Christmas Week.

The service, which will also be live streamed, will be followed by mince pies and mulled wine in the Grimshaw Room.

[Carol Service](#)

'As the Light Grows' Advent series

Every week this Advent the National Office for Vocation has released a new video as part of its '*As The Light Grows*' series.

You can find this and more readings, reflections, liturgy and prayer on our Advent and Christmas Resources page.

[Access Advent resources](#)

Volunteer at Lourdes 2023

Do something amazing next year and volunteer your skills to look after our Accueil (assisted) pilgrims on our Diocesan Pilgrimage.

Applications to join the Lourdes Nursing and Medical Team, or the Handmaids and Brancardiers, for the 2023 Diocesan Pilgrimage are now open.

Next year's pilgrimage takes place from **Saturday 27 May to Friday 2 June 2023** in Lourdes, France.

[Volunteer for Lourdes 2023](#)

Good Neighbours in Coventry and Bedworth

Can you help? Over Christmas, many older people will be left alone and without anyone to chat with - like Dennis, who's 81, housebound and was in the RAF, or Noreen, who's a 90-year-old Catholic retired nurse.

Good Neighbours Coventry & Bedworth is an ecumenical church project which has been finding friends for isolated older people since 2016.

If you might be able to spare from 30 mins per fortnight in 2023, chatting with a like-minded older person near you, please come and find out more.

[Good Neighbours](#)

Safeguarding in Faith Communities

Birmingham Safeguarding Children Partnership is working in close collaboration with the Birmingham Council of Faiths (BCF) and Faith members across the city, to build upon the fantastic work that is already being done to safeguard children, support families and the vulnerable.

The latest newsletter features:

- Big opportunity for you to be involved
- Free events
- How we successfully lobbied for changes to the Faith Covenant
- Free training

The Diocesan Safeguarding Team is involved in the above initiative and can be contacted on 0121 230 6240.

[Access Newsletter](#)

Rescheduled: 'Sharing the Church's Story' conference

One-day conference with Bishop Robert Barron on **Saturday 11 February 2023** in London.

Hosted by Catholic Voices and Word on Fire.

Join 1,300 Catholics who are passionate about the renewal of the Church in the UK and a host of dynamic speakers including the internationally renowned speaker and author, Bishop Robert Barron.

[More information and book](#)

More hosts sought to support Ukrainian guests in the Archdiocese

Can you extend the hand of friendship to those in need come the New Year?

Together with Father Hudson's Care we are inviting more hosts to come forward and support those in need.

[Support our Ukrainian friends](#)

Dates for your diary: the month ahead

Sun 18 Dec: [St Chad's Cathedral Carol Service](#)

Thurs 5 Jan 2023: [Live Organ Recital at St Chad's Cathedral](#)

[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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