



**St Bernard of Clairvaux Mission of Parishes:
Our Lady and St Benedict & St George and St Martin**

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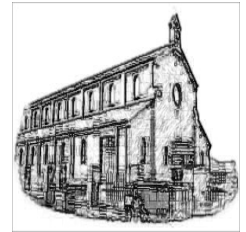
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Parish Priest : Fr Adrian MacNamara.

Archdiocese of Birmingham birminghamdiocese.org.uk Registered Charity Number

2342176 www.northstaffordshire-catholicdeanery.org.uk/



First Sunday of Advent

November 30th and December 1st 2024

Psalter Week 1 Year C: Year of St. Luke

Our Lady and St Benedict's Mass and Service Times

Saturday: 5.00 pm Walter and Winifred Cliff

Wednesday 10.00 am People of Ukraine

Thursday 9.15 am Deceased Homeless

Friday 9.45 am People of the Holy Land

Saturday 5.00 pm Craig Lewis

Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturday 4.30 pm- 4.45 pm OLSB

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.45 am on Saturday SGSM

St George and St Martin's Mass and Service Times

Sunday 9.30 am Maria and Antonio Angotti/

James and Gladys Tomkinson/ Don and Beryl Griffiths/

Ray and David Buxton

Tuesday 7.00 pm Mgr Graham Wilkinson

Saturday 10.15 am Holy Souls

Sunday 9.30 am Mary Morrey

Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturday at 10.45 am SGSM

LiveSimply Both parishes are working towards the **LiveSimply Award**. This is an opportunity for Catholic communities – parishes, schools, and chaplaincies – to answer the call for us to care for our common home and stand in solidarity with our sisters and brothers. We hope to form a Care of Creation Group. In this Season of Advent you might like to donate flowers in memory of a loved one. Please bring them with you to Mass and we will find a place for them

LiveSimply Tip Nov 30th/Dec 1st Christmas trees. If you already have a plastic tree, re-use it for as long as you can. If you are getting a new tree, try a live tree with roots. You can look after it in a pot to use again next year or plant it in the ground. You can even rent a tree over Christmas, returning it after to regrow for another rental next year. Your real tree can also be used to raise funds for the Dougie Mac Hospice via Treecycle. Check website for details.

CAFOD: Please take an Advent prayer card after Mass and use it. Please take a World Gifts Catalogue and find an interesting gift. You will receive a lovely card to give to your recipient, and the gift does help in a practical way. One of the new gifts this year is 'Firewood for Winter' which will help a displaced family in Ukraine to keep warm throughout winter. There will be a second collection next weekend to buy one of the gifts.

Coffee Morning and Auction: Thank you for your support. A total of £314.00 was raised.

RCIA/Adult Catechesis: continues this week as we will gather in St George and St Martin's at 7.00 pm on Thursday. Note change of venue!

Faithful Departed: Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Maureen Ann Peake** whose Funeral Mass will take place on Friday 13th at 12.15 pm in Birches Head. Her body will be received into church the night before at 6.00 pm. Also pray for the repose of the soul of **Christine Sweetmore** whose Funeral Mass will take on December 23rd at 11.00 am. Bev Espley, Peter Galvin and Mgr. Graham Wilkinson. May they rest in peace.

Safeguarding: The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies procedures at all times. Mel Shaw is the Safeguarding Rep for the Partnership. You can contact her on 07857973468 or g.sgam.stokeontrent@rcaob.org.uk. You can contact the Diocesan Safeguarding Team on 0121 230 6240 or safeguarding:rcaob.org.uk if you have any concerns.

Our Lady and St Benedict Academy: are launching their Advent Appeal shortly and are making bags for the homeless. The items needed can be found at the back of Church. As a thank you for your help the school invites to mince pies and tea and coffee on December 5th after Mass.

Asha: is hosting a Christmas party for their service users. Donations of good quality toys and games would be appreciated in the next few weeks, please leave at the back of church, or cash donations towards the cost of the party can go direct to Asha. Please put it in a marked envelope. Food items required (in date please!) dried pasta, Basmati rice, tinned sweetcorn/tomatoes/tuna in oil/chickpeas, biscuits, jam, long-life milk, sunflower cooking oil. Other items needed: toiletries for women and men; sanitary products; household items including cleaning products, eg washing up, laundry washing etc. Thank you.