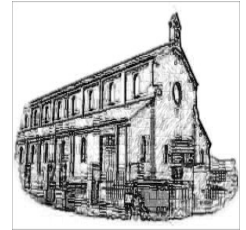




**St Bernard of Clairvaux Mission of Parishes:
Our Lady and St Benedict & St George and St Martin**

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Parish Priest : Fr Adrian MacNamara.
Archdiocese of Birmingham birminghamdiocese.org.uk Registered Charity Number
2342176 www.northstaffordshire-catholicdeanery.org.uk/

Second Sunday of Advent

**December 7th and December 8th 2024
Psalter Week 2 Year C: Year of St. Luke**

Our Lady and St Benedict's Mass and Service Times

Saturday: 5.00 pm Craig Lewis
Monday 9.45 am Holy Souls
Friday 9.45 am People of the Holy Land
Saturday 5.00 pm Mary Horochiowskyj

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 Mary Morrey
Tuesday 7.00 pm Fr Jacob Lewis
Thursday 9.15 am Teresa and Ronald Lindop (RIP)
Friday 12.15 pm Maureen Ann Peake (Funeral Mass)
Saturday 10.15 am Holy Souls
Sunday 9.30 am Barbara and Peter Luby (50)
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 Dec 7/8th. Plan your Christmas menu to eat less meat. You don't have to go totally vegan (unless you want to), but consider buying some meat free alternatives or a smaller turkey. There are many good alternatives to meat in the shops that are worth trying. Every little helps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

CAFOD: 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 voluntary retiring collection today to buy one or more of the gifts.

Counters: Thank you to all who count the money following the weekend Masses. Would you be willing to help and form a new team? Another way you can help is to pay by Standing Order. Thank you.

Christmas Cleaning: There will be a big clean on Friday 20th December in OLSB following morning Mass. There will be a big clean in SGSM on the same day at 5.00 pm. You are welcome to one or both sessions.

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: This weekend is the final opportunity to contribute to the OLSBA Advent Appeal. The items needed to make bags for the homeless can be found at the back of Church.

Christmas Mass Times:

Christmas Eve SGSM 5.00 pm
Christmas Eve OLSB 7.30 pm
Christmas Eve SGSM 9.30 pm
Christmas Day SGSM 9.30 am

Asha: 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.