**Parish of the Sacred Heart and Saint Margaret Mary, Aston**

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Sacred Heart Parish Social Club – The Heart

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***First Sunday of Advent (Year A)*  26th / 27th November 2022**

**CELEBRATING THE CENTENARY OF SACRED HEART & ST MARGARET MARY CHURCH**

**Weekend Masses (26th / 27th November) Mass Intention:**

**Solemnity of Christ the King; World Youth Sunday (Year C)**

Saturday 12.30pm Peggy Pollard

Sunday *10.15am (NB New time)* Peter Cleaver RIP (Anniv.)

Please note: School Mass this week is on TUESDAY at 9.10am. Parishioners welcome.

**Next Weekend (3rd / 4th December) Mass Intention:**

**Second Sunday of Advent (Year A)**

Saturday 12.30pm Michael Joseph Roleston (Anniv)

Sunday *10.15am (NB New time)* Marion Levell RIP

*Readings:**Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 71; Romans 15:4-9; Matthew 3:1-12*

**Prayers for those who have died:** Marion Levell, Donovan Dawes (West Indian Chaplaincy), Jacqueline Finnegan, Dr Ian Ker, Archbishop Mario Conti

Funeral Arrangements for Marion Levell: Reception of the Body – Tuesday 6th December at 7pm; Funeral Mass – Wednesday 7th December at 10.30am.

**Second Collection next weekend:** is for the Poor Parishes of the Archdiocese of Birmingham

**Today – First Sunday of Advent (Year A)** and the beginning of a new Church Year. Please take a *Walk With Me* booklet. There are some calendars for children.

All children at our primary school will receive a calendar as a gift from the parish.

**Children’s Liturgy of the Word begins again this Sunday (27th November).**

The Season of Advent is a time of expectant waiting, but it is important for us to draw out the full riches of this season. Most people think that Advent is preparation for Christmas. That is half true! The other half is as important for our life of faith and it is good to be aware of it. The first half of Advent lasts from the First Sunday of Advent to 16th December. The focus of this first half of Advent is the Second Coming of Christ in Glory at the End of Time. So, itis really not to do with Christmas and Bethlehem. That comes later. But listen closely to the prayers of the Mass and you will hear how often the phrase ‘until you come again’ or ‘Second Coming’ are mentioned all the year round…

**Unwanted, good quality winter coats** – for homeless people. Please bring them to Mass.

**Centenary Mass (100 years of Sacred Heart Church)**

There were both photos and a video of the Mass made and it is hoped that we shall be able to see all of these in the coming weeks.

Our wonderful celebration on Saturday 15th October was very much the beginning of a year of celebration of our 100 years.

It is also a time to be a **Centenary People** who see this 100 year milestone not just as a time to look back, although we cherish our history. It is a time to look forward to our mission.

As we do so, we can consider how much people gave towards the building of our beautiful church – something that we have inherited.

We celebrate the diversity of cultures in our parish today and we seek to build on all of the strengths of our parish to make Christ known in Aston for many years to come!

Some ways of considering ourselves a **Centenary People:**

Praying for the Needs of our Parish and School each day; Fundraising ideas for our parish – imaginative ways to support the parish including workplaces that might support charities;

Regular offers to clean your Church; Ideas for a day pilgrimage in the coming year;

New readers; Ways of bringing new people into our parish and our church community.

This is a time for the Church to be full of ACTIVE parishioners who each take responsibility for the life and future mission of our parish.

Let us pray for the courage to find new ways of celebrating God’s love for his people – not only his church-going people, but praying for Aston and for our whole city.

Let’s make Sacred Heart Church a focus of life and energy for the many people who pass it each day and those who need hope.

**Centenary Book of Memories –** The book that was offered to people to share their memories of being part of our parish over 100 years and the history of our school,

**Sponsor a New Hymn Book** – we have bought a new set of hymn books. We are inviting parishioners and friends to sponsor a hymn book. In each sponsored book, the name of the donor and in whose memory it has been sponsored will be written.

**Last Friday of the Month** – at our church – TRANSFORM NIGHT VIGIL 7pm to 9pm.

All welcome. Holy Mass, Word of God, Healing Prayers.

**Deanery Visitation of Parishes by Archbishop Bernard Longley and Bishop David Evans**

The visitation of parishes of our Deanery has begun.

**A visitation weekend in a parish serves two purposes:** it is a moment in time to share with the visiting Bishop something of the life of our parish as we see it; it is also an opportunity for parishioners to share with each other what is already happening that not everybody knows, but also to share something of a vision for the future: what we would like our parish to be. Your thoughts and ideas on this are always welcome.

**Prayers for members of our parish community who are sick or housebound**:

Maura Greene, John McManus, Bernadette Harnett, Noreen Fowler, Clem Murray, Julie Bartram *(please let Fr Tim know if there is anybody who needs prayers and who has given their permission for their name to be listed here)*.

**Christmas Mass Times 2022 at Sacred Heart**

Christmas Eve (Saturday 24th December). No 12.30 Mass. Christmas Vigil Mass at **5pm**

Christmas Day (Sunday 25th December) Normal Sunday Mass time **10.15am**