

# Holy Family RC Church Coventry



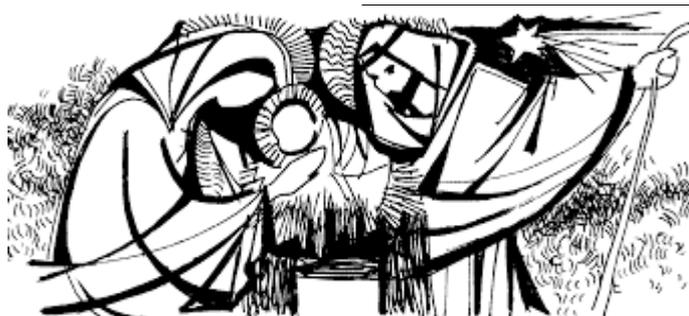
Parish Priest: Fr Patrick Brennan  
 Website: www.hf-cov.org.uk  
 Email: brennan6192@outlook.com  
 Priest in Residence (Retired) Fr Bernard Anwyl  
 The Parish Live Stream Web Cam: [hf-cov.org.uk](http://hf-cov.org.uk)  
 Parish Address: 177 Parkgate Road Coventry CV6 4GF  
 02476 333128  
 Registered as a Charity. Birmingham RC Diocese No: 234216

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B

Saturday	5th Dec	5 00pm	Zygmunt Furmankiewicz 1st A RIP Carmel Kelly RIP
Sunday	6th Dec	10 00 am	Catherine Boyle RIP A
Monday	7th Dec	9 15 am	Carmel Kelly RIP
Tuesday	8th Dec	10 30 am	Requiem Mass (Family only) Isabela Mary McFarlane RIP
Wednesday	9th Dec	9 15 am	Deborah Ormsby
Thursday	10th Dec	9 15 am	Fr Sarves RIP
Friday	11th Dec	9 15 am	Teresa Sheridan (Get Well)
Saturday	12th Dec	10.00am	People of the Parish
Saturday	12th Dec	5 00pm	Ints of Dunne, Kerrigan, McDermott McGonagle and Porter Family's
Sunday	13th Dec	10 00 am	Michael McHugh RIP A

Confessions at request ask stewards as you arrive.

The parish webcam <https://www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/coventry-holy-family>



**Wrap up when attending church as the heating is still being fixed. The problem has been identified but because of distribution problems it is not possible to get a fixed date for the work to be**

**completed It will be sooner rather than later!**

**Boiler repair and re wiring** The cost has come in and is £14,000 + (it may rise due to other parts needing replacing The wiring was not up to standard and had to be replaced, Asbestos was found and removed. The pipes were not the same sizes so had to be replaced too. In the end it has proved to be an expensive job but one that is necessary. During this year of lockdowns it greatly depletes our finances so I am hoping that next year we will fundraise to help get parish funds back on track.

## Scripture Readings

### First Reading

Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11

Isaiah tells the people to prepare a way for the Lord.

### Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 85:9-14

The Lord's salvation is near.

### Second Reading

2 Peter 3:8-14

Peter teaches that we must always be holy because the return of the Lord cannot be predicted.

### Gospel Reading

Mark 1:1-8

John the Baptist preached repentance and baptized the people, in preparation for the one who would baptize with the Holy Spirit.

Please Pray for all who have died recently,

**Christina Boyle and Isabella Mary McFarlane**

Fr Pat is on twitter @Fr\_PatBren and Facebook too I like to post reflections of encouragement there.

Fr Bernard has his own email address: [anwylb2@btinternet.com](mailto:anwylb2@btinternet.com)

**Christmas Arrangements Please note Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day have to be booked beforehand**

What to do about Christmas?



The heating is still being fixed. When you come to Mass please wrap up to keep warm! There is now a run up to Christmas, Advent is in full swing, a new liturgical year has started, what will remain for now is face coverings, distancing, sanitising and track and trace. Christmas is not a case of just turning up and expecting a seat. The Masses will be booked before hand so that we know how many will be in attendance. Four Masses

<b>Christmas Eve:</b>	<b>Mass at 5 00pm and at Midnight</b>
<b>Christmas Day</b>	<b>Mass at 8 00 am and 10 am.</b>

During the weekends that we are back at Church there will be sheets of a4 paper to sign for each Mass that you are attending, with how many, and a contact number (this helps with track and trace) so that numbers can be regulated, this is vital to ensure that we do not have a problem with capacity. I would think 125-30 can fit safely into each of the Masses. Once a person or family arrives, they will be ticked off the list for the Mass, and seated. It will be important to book beforehand. Those who are coming to church when we return will be able to choose which Mass you wish to attend over Christmas eve and Christmas Day. The newsletter will be posted on the deanery website, the parish website and on the webcam site too. People can ring the presbytery to book attendance at Mass. Once we are fully booked people who just turn up may not be able to come inside. It is important to book beforehand. This is because of the pandemic and it makes everything different!



**Prepare the way:** Culturally, Alexander the Great had spread the Greek language over most of the civilized world three centuries earlier. It was then established as the international language by which the Gospel could be communicated. Governmentally, the Romans furnished a system of law which made it possible for the Gospel to grow in relative stability. Logistically, the system of Roman roads made travel by missionaries very possible. (Ernest White.) Do you suppose that as Alexander was extending his empire, he had any idea that God was using him to prepare the way for the Babe of Bethlehem? Do you suppose that as the Romans built the roads that made commerce possible over all the known world, they knew that they were preparing the way for the King of Kings? When Augustus Caesar sent out his decree that all the world should be taxed and that every person should be enrolled in his own city, do you suppose that he had any idea

that he was engaged in bringing to pass an ancient prophecy that the Messiah should be born in Bethlehem? By the time John cried out in the wilderness his prophetic, "Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight," God had already been at work for thousands of years bringing about just the right conditions for the birth of his Son. Then, in the fullness of time, Christ was born.

The first reading, taken from the prophet Isaiah, tells us about the Babylonian exiles coming home to their native country, Judah, and their holy city, Jerusalem. Isaiah assures his people that the Lord will lead them in a grand procession to their homeland and take care of them as a shepherd cares for his sheep. The Responsorial Psalm (Ps 85) describes how *shalom* or perfect peace is coming home with the Lord's coming. The second reading, taken from the second letter of St. Peter, invites us to get ready to go home to Heaven with Jesus at his *Second Coming*. Peter tells those who doubt the Second Coming of Jesus that God's way of counting time is different from ours and that God has His own reasons for delaying the Second Coming of Christ. The Gospel tells us through John the Baptist how we should prepare to receive Jesus our Saviour's "coming home" into our lives during the Advent season by repentance and the renewal of life. John preached that the appropriate behaviour for those preparing "the way of the Lord" was to be baptized "as they confessed their sins." He wanted the Jews to prepare their lives for the Messiah by filling in the valleys of prejudice, levelling the mountains of pride and straightening out their crooked paths of injustice and immorality. John recommended a baptism of repentance in the river Jordan to the Jews who were familiar with ritual and symbolic washings. The most amazing thing about John's baptism was that, as a Jew, he was asking fellow-Jews to submit to the baptism of repentance which only a Gentile was obliged to undergo

There are "Walk With Me" booklets at the back of church for you to take with the newsletter.

**Christmas Offering for parish priest.** The collection on Christmas eve and Christmas day will be for the this purpose and as you know there will not be a passing of collection plate during Masses. You can give as you arrive or leave church or putting offering though the presbytery door marked for the priests. Thank you!

**Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and all mankind shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!**