

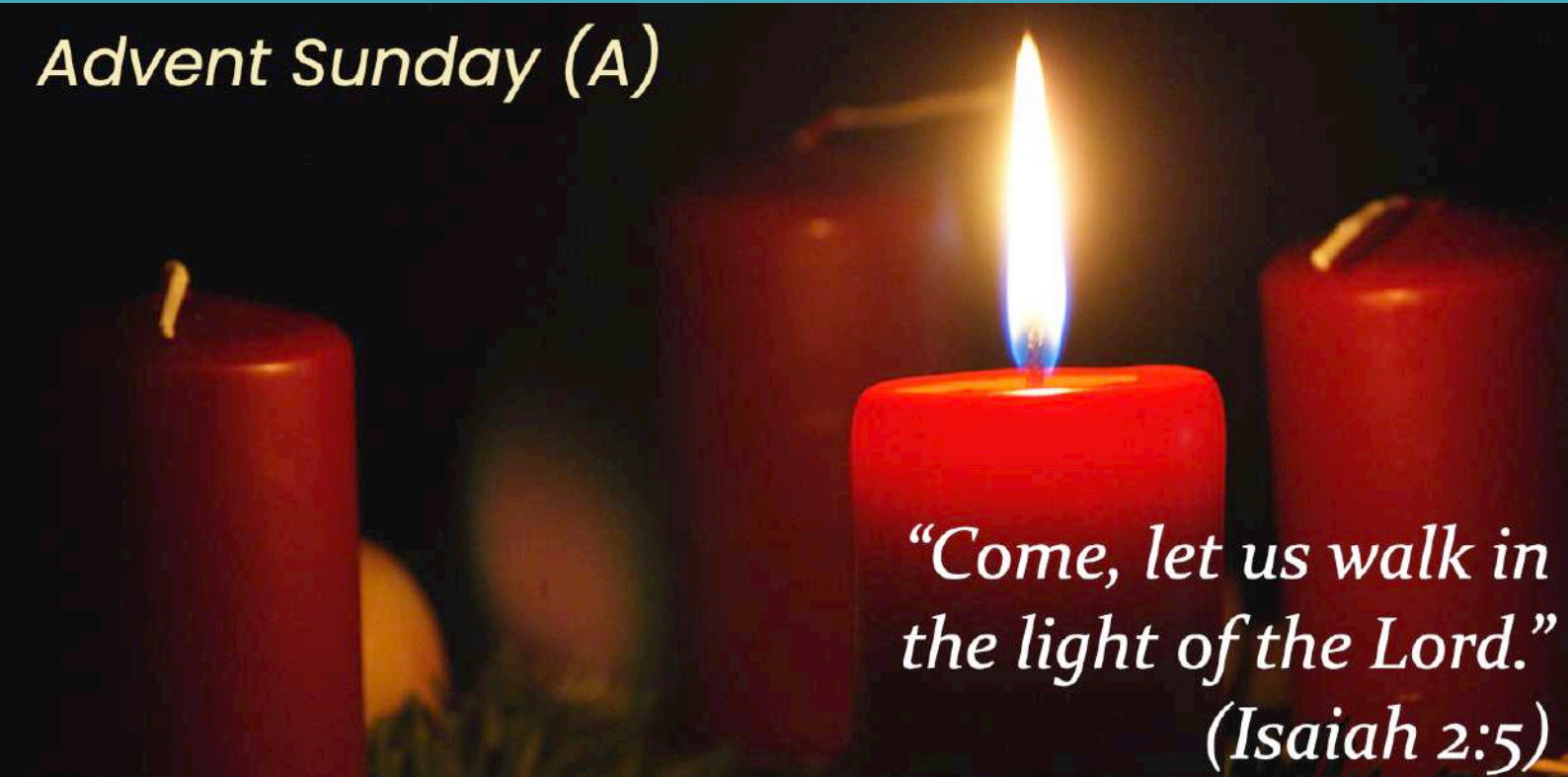
30th December 2025 • Advent Sunday

Newsletter Online

from Cannock & Hednesford

Is this the latest edition? To check, go here: bit.ly/M-Latest

Advent Sunday (A)



*“Come, let us walk in
the light of the Lord.”
(Isaiah 2:5)*

This Week ...

[Newsletter](#) • [Weekly Activities](#) • [Christmas Masses](#)

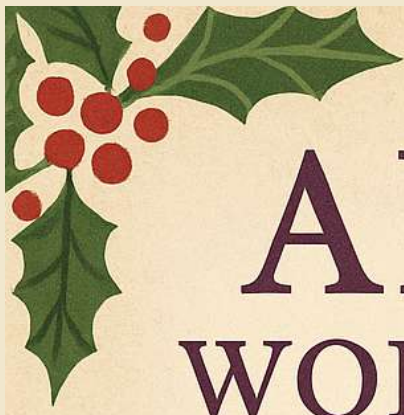
[Christmas Market \(C\)](#) • [Christmas Market \(H\)](#)

[Gospel Reflection](#) • [Advent](#) • [Call of Creation](#)

[Journey of Faith](#) • [Rota for Readers, Ministers & Stewards\(C\)](#)

(C) indicates pages mainly for, or about, activities at St Mary's Cannock.

If you are viewing a pdf of the Newsletter, tap the underlined link to go to the page



ADVENT WORDS OF HOPE

“Hope is the window through which the
light of Christ enters our lives.”

Pope Francis, *Audience Address*

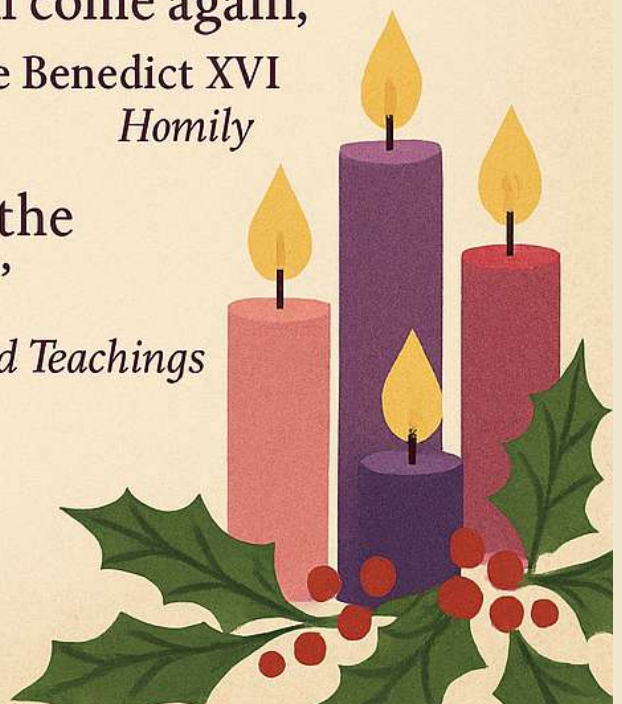
“We must wait for the Lord
with faithful hearts.” St Augustine, *Sermons*

“Even in the longest night, God
is not far from us.” St John Henry Newman,
Parochial and Plain Sermons

“Patience is the companion of hope.”
St Thomas Aquinas, *Summa Theologica*

“The Lord who came will come again,
and this is our joy.” Pope Benedict XVI
Homily

“In every longing heart, the
Lord is already at work.”
St Teresa of Calcutta, *Collected Teachings*



WEEKLY ACTIVITIES IN OUR PARISHES

At a glance

	Mass <i>and other activities before and after mass</i>		Other Activities <i>Times may change, please consult weekly newsletter</i>
Day	Our Lady of Lourdes, Hednesford, WS12 1DB	St Mary & St Thomas More, Cannock WS11 0AA	(H) - Our Lady of Lourdes, Hednesford (C) - St Mary & St Thomas More, Cannock
Saturday <i>fulfils Sunday Obligation</i>	12 noon		Exposition and Confessions from 11am (H)
		6pm	Confessions from 5:15pm (C)
Sunday	9:30am		Children's Liturgy 1st Sunday (H)
		11am	Children's Liturgy term time (C)
Monday	9:30am <i>Winter Months in the Presbytery</i>		2nd Monday 7pm Come Sit with Jesus (H) Last Monday 7:15pm Men's Group (H)
Tuesday			No Masses this day
Wednesday	1:30am Centenary Hall (H) Mass on 2nd Wednesday or when announced	9am Rosary 9:30am St Mary's School Mass in Church (term time) 1st & 3rd Wednesday 2:30pm Mass at St Thomas More School, Great Wyrley	12 noon Forget-me-nots Luncheon Club (H) 6pm (dates as announced) Confirmation and First Holy Communion Preparation
Thursday	2nd & 4th Thursday 2:15pm Mass at St Josephs School, Hednesford	9am Rosary 9:30am Chaplet of the Divine Mercy after mass	Journey in Faith: October to Easter 7pm - in the Presbytery at Hednesford
Friday		9am Rosary 9:30am First Friday devotions during mass	



**Our Lady of Lourdes, Hednesford Parish & Diocesan Shrine
St Mary & St Thomas More, Cannock**
Parish Priest Father Peter Weatherby 07766 335591 fr.peter.weatherby@rcaob.org.uk

Websites: olohednesford.org & stmcancock.org
Hednesford Parish Office 01543 422576 olohednesford@rcaob.org.uk
The Office in Hednesford is open Monday & Wednesday 9 am – 1 pm
Cannock Parish Office 07362 418105 stmary-sttm.cannock@rcaob.org.uk

A more detailed parish directory and guide to activities is here: bit.ly/M-Directory



Sunday 29th November 2025 – First Sunday in Advent (Year C)

Calendar of Masses H = Hednesford C = Cannock. Full calendar: bit.ly/M-Masscalendar

Sat	29 Nov	12 noon	H	RIP Christine Rogers, Margaret Jarvis, Cannon family	Advent 1 Blue Bag = Second Collection Church Maintenance (H) SVP (C)
Sat	29 Nov	6 pm	C	Thanksgiving; Memorial Mass	
Sun	30 Nov	9.30 am	H	RIP Robert Lester	
Sun	30 Nov	11 am	C	RIP Ann Healy Anniversary	
Mon	1 Dec	9.30 am	*H	RIP Mavis Bradin	St Edmund Campion
Wed	3 Dec	9.30 am	C	RIP Olive & Frank Brookes	St Francis Xavier
Thu	4 Dec	9.30 am	C	RIP Bernie Lordan	Advent 1
Fri	5 Dec	9.30 am	C	RIP Kathleen Davies	St Birinus
Sat	6 Dec	12 noon	H	RIP Jean Ann Caley	Advent 2 Blue Bag = Second Collection Poor Parishes Fund
Sat	6 Dec	6 pm	C	RIP Joseph, Sheila, Betty, Shelagh, Maureen Murphy, John Morris, Alan Dale	
Sun	7 Dec	9.30 am	H	RIP Gordon & June Weatherby	
Sun	7 Dec	11 am	C	RIP Tess Peters (Anniv)	

***Midweek Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes now takes place in the Presbytery**

School Masses usually anticipate the following Sunday: Masses at St Joseph's and St Thomas More are in school. Wednesday mass (C) is in church and includes children from St Mary's School.

Confessions during Exposition Saturday 11am (H), 5:15pm (C)

Rosary 9am (C) before Mass on Wed, Thu, Fri; **Divine Mercy Chaplet** (C) Thursdays after Mass

THIS WEEKEND: "Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord." Deacon in training, Michael Flower, will deliver a reflection on the Gospel at each mass this weekend. The **6pm Mass** (C) is a memorial mass for the our loved ones.. All who wish may light Candles at the mass in commemoration. **AND!** Hot Chocolate & toasted tea cakes are sale after this mass! (each Saturday evening in Advent!)

Next Weekend: No exposition or confessions before 12 noon Mass.

St Joseph's Primary School, Hednesford – There are two vacancies advertised, one is a Teaching Assistant maternity cover post, <https://mynewterm.com/jobs/152007/EDV-2025-SJCPS-54911>, the second is a permanent post, Administration Assistant <https://mynewterm.com/jobs/152007/EDV-2025-SJCPS-36269>

St Joseph's School Mass on Thursday December 11th at will be in Our Lady of Lourdes Church.

Cannock Christmas Market: December 6th from 12 noon in the Centre;

Please return stubs and the raffle tickets you have sold. Please bring in items for the Tombola, Bottles & Cakes.

Hednesford Christmas Market (H) December 14th 10:15am in the Hall (after the Bambinelli Mass). Raffle tickets now on sale, donations needed of Bottles, Sweets / chocolates, Bric-a-brac, Toys & Games and Books. Please give items to Nesta or leave at the piety stall. Please bring Homemade cakes on the day.

(C) A Christmas Goodies Basket will be raffled at the 11am Mass on Sunday 21st December. Tickets are available after Saturday and Sunday masses in Advent at St Mary's.

Confirmation & First Holy Communion Courses: will begin in the New Year. Info will be sent soon to families who have already expressed interest.

Please Pray for ...

Peace and Justice: in Gaza and the Middle East, Sudan, Ukraine and all places beset by war

Our Parishes, and the work of evangelisation and teaching the faith, especially through our schools and the Shrine

Thanksgivings: Burt Mears (99!)

All who are sick or other kinds of need: Anthony Costello, James Hunt, Valerie Brace; Clare Burrowes, Alan C, Alan White, Allan Weatherby, Allison, Angela Freary, Anna Bayliss, Anne Conway-Jones, Anthony, Baby Amelia, Bernard, Bernard Beeson, Bert Dodd, Bert Mears, Bill, Carol, Catherine Baker, Charley, Christopher Allan, Clare Murphy, David K, Deborah Woollaston, Den Owens, Dominic Mulchrone, Don Hinton, Eileen H, Emilia, Frank Heaton, Frank Taylor, Gerard, Gerry, Gladys Chmielewski, Greg, Helen C, Henry, HR, Iris, Ivan Molyneaux, Jack Kennedy, Jane Morecroft, Jane Seal, Janet Barker, Jasper, Jean Nycz, Jerry, Jo Reading, Joan O'Sullivan, John, John Dewhurst, John Martin, Josephine Kafwembe, Josie Morris, Julie, June, June W, Kath Poole, Kathleen Mongon, Kathy Dodd, Katie, Keith Davies, Kyriese, Layla, Louise, Maggie Dale, Margaret B, Margaret Phipps, Margaret Reynolds, Marie, Marion, Mark Duffy, Mary D, Mary Klek, Mary Philpott, Mary Turvey, Matt G, Matt Twohig, Maureen, Michael Liddy, Michael M, Mick Flynn, Mick Jobburns, Mike Baldwin, Nicola McCulloch, Oscar Wordsworth, Pat & Wilf Palmer, Pat Lester, Pat Seery, Pat W, Patricia, Patrick, Pauline March, Peer Mohammed, Peggy, Peter Dunton, Peter H, Peter Hawthorne, Peter Maciejewski, Peter Woollaston, Phyllis Michael, Rajinder, Rev Ned Kelly, Richard Sharp, Robert, Russell Mackuin, Sophie King, Sue Atkinson, Sue Green, Sue Titley, Sylvia Hale, Tess Dudley, Tim Wright, Tom Poxon, Tony Bullivant, Val B, Vincent Dockery, Zorah McQuillan

Please let us know of names to add or remove. We will be completely revising the sick list before the end of the year. Please remember that each person named on this list must have given their consent. FrP

The Holy Souls

Recently departed: Kevin Corfield, Gino Memoli (Thur 11 Dec 11:30am at OLOL), Anne Shepherd

Anniversaries

- 30/11** Beryl Holford 2015, Robert Lester 2022, Tony Nunn
- 1/12** Doris Taylor 1973, John Broadhurst 2002, Peter Brookes 2004, Margaret Hodson 2015, Giovanni Cino 2018, Joyce Cousins 2020, Frank Brookes
- 2/12** Barry Cooper 2002, Maurice Walsh 2017, Mary Keogh 2018
- 3/12** Maria Rowland
- 4/12** Celia Brice 1992
- 5/12** Anne Wenlock 1989, Kenneth Morgan, Brian Joseph Lloyd, Olive Brookes
- 6/12** Margaret M Rogers 1975, Agnes Fallon 1984, Anton Wandocowski 1988, Mary Broadhurst 1999, Winifred Nixon 2010

Please note: A Funeral Mass at either of our Churches, will usually be the only mass in the parishes that day. This may mean that your intention may not be possible on the date you hoped for. If so, we will give notice as early as possible through this newsletter. Masses may be transferred to a school mass if you wish.

Financial Report

Second Collections: 7 December Poor Parishes. (Printed info at the back of the each Church)

Cannock Second Collections are for Car Park when there is no other 2nd Collection.

Our Lady of Lourdes: 23 Nov Standing Orders £149. GA £87, other £163, Second collection Catholic Youth Service GA £29.50, other £110.17. 200 Club – November draw this weekend (H).

St Mary & St Thomas More 23 Nov St Orders £439; GA £92; Other £185;
2nd Collection - Catholic Youth Service £121; Car Park £50

Foodbank from Hednesford and Cannock: 34kg. Thanks for your support!

Newsletter Online bit.ly/M-Latest	Calendar of Mass intentions bit.ly/M-Masscalendar	Newsletter Online bit.ly/M-Latest	Live Stream of Masses at Cannock (C) stmcanock.org
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*Send items for the Newsletter to Anne Walker lol.hednesford@rcaob.org.uk
or Fr Peter stmary-sttm.cannock@rcaob.org.uk before Thursday afternoon.*

SAFEGUARDING NOTICE The Parishes operate in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and National and Archdiocese's policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are Bernadette Corbett sg.lol.hednesford@rcaob.org.uk and Stephanie Hewitt sg.stmary-sttm.cannock@rcaob.org.uk and. Alternatively, contact the Diocesan Safeguarding team on 0121 230 6240 or at safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concerns.

St. Mary & St. Thomas More

CHRISTMAS MARKET



St Mary's Community Centre
Hunter Road, WS11 0AE

Saturday 6th December 2025

12 noon — 2 pm

Entrance 50p (adults), Children free

Christmas Market

At Our Lady of Lourdes Church Hall,
Uxbridge Street, Hednesford

**Sunday 14th December at
10.30am**

Come and join us for some festive fun!



Tombola
Father Christmas
Toy stall
Christmas crafts
Bric a Brac
Grand Raffle
Warm mince pies
Bacon Sandwiches
Homemade cakes



Children's steel band playing
at 10.30am

Christmas Masses & Confessions



Catholic Parishes of Cannock & Hednesford, Christmas 2025
(C) = St Mary's, Cannock | (H) = Our Lady of Lourdes, Hednesford



Sun	21 Dec	4pm	H	Carols in the Grotto
Wed	24 Dec	12 noon	H	Christmas Vigil Mass
	24 Dec	3pm	C	Family Mass
	24 Dec	5pm	H	Family Mass
	24 Dec	6:30pm	C	Carols
	24 Dec	7pm	C	Mass of Christmas Night
Thu	25 Dec	10am	H	Mass of Christmas Day
Fri	26 Dec	10am	C	Mass of St Stephen's Day
Sat	27 Dec	12 noon	H	Holy Family
	27 Dec	6pm	C	Holy Family
Sun	28 Dec	9:30am	H	Holy Family
	28 Dec	11am	C	Holy Family
Thu	1 Jan 26	10am	C	New Year • Mary, Mother of God
Sat/Sun	3/4 Jan	<i>Usual times</i>		
Tue	6 Jan	10am	H	Epiphany

Confessions before Christmas

Saturday 20th 10:30am (H); 7pm (C)

Monday 22nd 6pm (C);

Christmas Eve 10:30-11:30 (H)

Notes

No Masses on Jan 5, 7, 8, 9.

Normal pattern resumes on Jan 10th

Next year (26/27)

Christmas Eve Mass 7pm will be at Hednesford

Christmas Day mass will be at Cannock;

St Stephen's Day and New Years Day masses will be at Hednesford



Giving for the Future

Planned Giving

Planned giving means making regular donations to the parish. You can set this up as you like - it does not need to be weekly - it could be monthly for example.

We recommend **Standing Orders**, at intervals of your choice, from your Bank to the Parish. Please ask for a form from Church.

Occasional Giving

As well as planned giving, you may wish to give occasional amounts for special appeals and events, including second collections, to the parish and outside charities. Again, special envelopes can be used, but we recommend the Digital Collection Plate in Church or the links cannock.mydona.com for Cannock or bit.ly/olol-give for Hednesford. You can make donations in Church (by card, contactless or chip and pin) or online, wherever you may be.

Gift Aid

If you are a tax payer you can Gift Aid the tax you have paid, back to the parish. This means that for every £10 you give, the government will add a further £2.50. Only a small amount of paperwork is necessary. You can register for Gift Aid when you make a donation at cannock.mydona.com or bit.ly/olol-give or with a form available from Church.

Cashless collections

It would be a great help to the Parish if most parishioners paid your collection money by Standing Order. The Bank now charges us for paying in cash, while standing orders, especially with Gift Aid, bring extra, and regular, money into the parish.

Please pick up a copy of a form from church and return it complete with your details.

Please register your card for Gift Aid

Go to **cannock.mydona.com** on your Internet connected device, (phone, tablet, laptop etc) and make a donation. Choose to Gift Aid it, and fill in the short form. The card you use will then be registered for gift aid, and all future donations to the parish using this card (online or in Church) will be increased by 25% by the taxman.

Reflection on the Sunday Gospel (Advent Sunday, Year A)

*“Stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming”
(Matthew 24:42)*

Advent begins quietly, almost shyly. There are no trumpets, no fireworks, no instant celebration. Instead, the Church gives us a season of

watching and waiting, a season that resists the pressure to pretend everything is cheerful when life is sometimes far from that. Advent acknowledges that many hearts are tired, many minds are troubled, and many people carry burdens that the world never sees.

In that sense, Advent is honest. It meets us where we really are. It asks us not to force joy, but to look for hope.

Think of the first snowfall of winter. It does not remove the cold, or lengthen the days, or solve the problems that existed the day before. But it changes the landscape. It reveals beauty where there seemed to be none. Even the most ordinary rooftop or quiet street becomes touched with wonder. Snow conceals and reveals at the same time – it hides harshness and uncovers grace.

Advent does something similar in the soul. It lifts our gaze. It helps us to notice the small signs of God’s presence, signs we might otherwise overlook when life becomes grey or demanding.

Our Lord’s words in today’s Gospel beckon us into that attentiveness. “As the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man” (Matthew 24:37). People carried on with daily life, unaware that something momentous was approaching. Jesus warns us not to drift through our own days in the same way – numbed by routine, distracted by worries or worn down by disappointment.

The invitation of Advent is simple: wake up. Not in fear, but in hope.

Many saints lived this watchful hope, but perhaps

none more gently than St Francis Xavier, whose feast falls in early Advent. He crossed oceans and continents, meeting people in their struggles and uncertainties, always trusting that Christ was already at work long before he arrived. He lived with a readiness that did not come from anxiety, but from love. He expected God to act, and so he saw God acting.

Advent asks us to expect God to act in our lives too.



Charles Dickens touches something similar in *A Christmas Carol*. Scrooge begins in bitterness, convinced that the world is harsh and humanity disappointing. His complaint about “humbug” is not entirely wrong – he recognises that forced festivity can cover deep unhappiness. But the turning point in his life does not come through jollity. It comes when he is given hope, costly hope, the kind that shows him what life could become if he opened his heart.

That is Advent. Not sentimental brightness, but the promise that things can change – that grace is near, that God is approaching, that light is already pushing through the cracks.

This season is challenging. Waiting is harder than celebrating, especially when others seem eager to rush ahead. But Advent reminds us that God often works in hidden ways. Babies grow in silence. Seeds take root in darkness. Dawn begins long before the sky shows any light.

And so we watch. We pray. We notice. We make space. We choose mercy. We allow Christ to reshape our hearts so that when he comes – in glory at the end of time, in the quietness of prayer today, and in the vulnerability of Bethlehem – he finds us ready to receive him.

Advent is our yearly reminder that hope is not fragile. It is steady, strong and rooted in the God who never forgets his people. The world may feel cold or uncertain, but the promise of Christ is certain: the night will not last, and the dawn is coming.

Journey of Faith 2025-26

This is a course for adults who want to learn more about the Catholic Faith, and runs weekly (with breaks) from October to Easter. The course is built around a resource called *Sycamore*, which is based on video, discussion, and the guidance of someone experienced in the teaching of the Faith. Those who are not already Catholics may be prepared through the course for reception into the Church at Easter, or subsequently. Other participants are very welcome too!

Watch and download the film for each session at : www.sycamore.fm/videos/
You can click on the links below in the online (pdf) version of this page.

(1) THE SEARCH FOR HAPPINESS [["Film 1" in Series: click here to view](#)]

The impossibility of sitting still. What is happiness? How to press the pause button.

(2) THE EXISTENCE OF GOD [["Film 2" in Series: click here to view](#)]

Why bother thinking about religion? Five reasons not to believe in God. Arguments for the existence of God?

(3) A GOD WHO SPEAKS? [["Film 3" in Series: click here to view](#)]

The hiddenness of God. When God broke the silence. Discovering the face of God.

(4) WHO IS JESUS? [["Film 4" in Series: click here to view](#)]

He came to bring life to the world. The Saving Death of Jesus. The light of the Resurrection.

(5) THE HOLY SPIRIT AND THE CHURCH [["Film 5" in Series: click here to view](#)]

How the Holy Spirit can change your life. No one gets into heaven alone. Why we need signs, symbols and sacraments.

(6) THE BIBLE [["Film 6" in Series: click here to view](#)]

What is the bible? Can we trust the bible? How the bible can change your life.

(7) THE GIFT OF FAITH [["Film 7" in Series: click here to view](#)]

What is faith? Are Christians just stupid or are there good reasons to believe? How to take a step of faith.

(8) THE POWER OF PRAYER [["Film 8" in Series: click here to view](#)]

What is prayer? Does prayer make a difference? How to pray.

(9) FINDING TRUE FREEDOM [["Film 9" in Series: click here to view](#)]

Is there such a thing as right and wrong? Where can we find moral guidance? How do you discover your true identity?


(10) THE MEANING OF LOVE [["Film 10" in Series: click here to view](#)]

What is love? How to love your neighbour. Knowing the love of God.

Journey of Faith Programme of Meetings 25-26

Updated version - 21 October 2025 - revised date for autumn break

Meetings are at The Presbytery at Hednesford WS12 1DB at 7pm on Thursday evenings, as set out below. There will be a WhatsApp group for participants to update you about activities, and notify of any changes in dates.

#	Date	Location	Session
1	Thu 2 Oct 25	Hednesford	(1) THE SEARCH FOR HAPPINESS
2	Thu 9 Oct 25	Hednesford	... continued
3	Thu 16 Oct 25	Hednesford	(2) THE EXISTENCE OF GOD
4	Thu 23 Oct 25	Hednesford	... continued
5	Thu 30 Oct 25	Hednesford	(4) WHO IS JESUS?
	Thu 6 Nov 25	Break	
6	Thu 13 Nov 25	Hednesford	(4) ... continued
7	Thu 20 Nov 25	Hednesford	(5) THE HOLY SPIRIT AND THE CHURCH
8	Thu 27 Nov 25	Hednesford	... continued
	Thu 4 Dec 25	Christmas Break	
9	Thu 8 Jan 26	Hednesford	(6) THE BIBLE
10	Thu 15 Jan 26	Hednesford	... continued
11	Thu 22 Jan 26	Hednesford	(7) THE GIFT OF FAITH
12	Thu 29 Jan 26	Hednesford	
13	Thu 5 Feb 26	Hednesford	(8) THE POWER OF PRAYER
14	Thu 12 Feb 26	Hednesford	... continued
	Thu 19 Feb 26	Half Term	Ash Wednesday
	Sun 22 Feb 26	3pm Cathedral	Rite of Election
15	Thu 26 Feb 26	Hednesford	(9) FINDING TRUE FREEDOM
16	Thu 5 Mar 26	Hednesford	... continued
17	Thu 12 Mar 26	Hednesford	(10) THE MEANING OF LOVE
18	Thu 19 Mar 26	Hednesford	... continued
19	Thu 26 Mar 26	Hednesford	Rehearsal
20	Thu 2 Apr 26	Cannock	Maundy Thursday
22	Sat 5 Apr 25	Hednesford	Easter Vigil!

RESPONDING TO THE CALL OF CREATION 2025

12 DAYS OF A CLIMATE-CONSCIOUS CHRISTMAS

A NEWSLETTER INSPIRING AND ENABLING CLIMATE ACTION IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM

1 A Partridge in a - more environmentally friendly- Christmas tree

According to the Carbon Trust, real Christmas trees actually have a smaller carbon footprint than artificial trees, provided they are properly disposed of. This means planting it in your garden, having it chipped by your council or using Treecycle. You could also rent a tree that is replanted each year, use your old tree as a wildlife hotel in your garden or even look into ways to donate your tree to coastal erosion management schemes!

4 Four Birds Calling Out Poor Food Practice

The amount of poultry thrown away each year in UK homes is enough to make 800 million Boxing Day curries (UK Gov, 2019). During the Christmas season:

- Only buy what you'll eat
- Eat up your leftovers
- Buy local produce to reduce food miles
- Buy food without packaging, where possible.
- Donate to your local food bank



7 Seven Swans a swimming in plastic-free waters

Consider how you can make your Christmas plastic-free. You could:

- wrap presents without using sellotape
- buy unpackaged food
- buy presents with minimal packaging
- make handmade decorations instead of buying plastic ones



10 Ten lords-a-leaping into action

Instead of as well as giving presents this Christmas, think about how you can give your time to charities. You could volunteer for your local food bank, a charity shop, your local wildlife trust or any other charity of your choice to make a difference in your local community.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO GET INVOLVED IN CLIMATE ACTION IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM, PLEASE CONTACT CLIMATEACTION@RCAOB.ORG.UK

2 Two Turtle-ly Awesome Doves- ways to reuse Christmas cards

Have a huge pile of Christmas cards destined for the recycling bin? Here are 2 ways to reuse them instead:

1. Cut them up and make some new cards or gift tags to use next year
2. Get really creative and make some Christmas decorations out of your old cards (e.g. your own nativity scene, stars, tree decorations)



5 Five Gold Ring lights (or other assorted Christmas lights)

Christmas lights give a real festive feeling but as well as the cost of turning them on, they also carry environmental impacts. Consider setting them on timers to reduce the time they're on for and make sure they're all more efficient LEDs.

While you're at it, why don't you check if all the lights in your home are energy-efficient too. Google the Energy Saving Trust for more information.



8 Eight Maids-a-milking Christmas presents a little bit too much

Do you love giving and/or receiving presents? Do you try to find an excuse to buy everyone under the sun a little something?

Take a moment to reconsider whether every present is necessary.

Also investigate some more planet-friendly options like ethical gifts, charity donations or CAFOD's World Gifts..



11 Eleven Pipers Piping up on climate injustice

How can you speak up for climate justice in 2025?

Join the Laudato Si Movement and consider becoming a Laudato Si Animator:

<https://laudatosimovement.org>



3 Three French Hens that have travelled from France sustainably

Are you travelling to see family or friends this Christmas time? Or are you pushing the boat out and going on holiday? Here are some ways to make your transport more eco-friendly:

- Walk or cycle
- Use public transport where possible (enjoy reading a book or watching our favourite film on the way)
- Offset your carbon footprint if you do need to fly



6 Six Geese-a-laying the foundations for the future

"To suppose that all problems in the future will be able to be solved by new technical interventions is a form of homicidal pragmatism, like pushing a snowball down a hill," - Pope Francis, 2015

In 2015, Pope Francis warned against placing too much hope in carbon capture technologies. We need to act now to make real change.



9 Nine ladies dancing because of climate progress

Christmas is a time for rejoicing. And in that spirit here is an example of progress this year:

- In 2025 there has been an increase in solar panel installations - 1.73 million reported. This is a 6.8% rise on 2024



12 Twelve Drummers Drumming Banging on about their New Years' Resolution

New year, new opportunity for new climate-friendly habits. Take some time to consider what you can do in 2026 to make an impact on the planet. For example, you could monitor how much plastic you use, try to eat seasonal foods or make your resolution to learn more and read some climate news/fiction every month!



St Mary & St Thomas More, Cannock • Readers and Ministers Rota

Rota <i>Date is of Sunday</i>	Saturday 6pm		Sunday 11:00am	
	Readers	Ministers	Readers	Ministers
Nov 23	Alex & Tamsin Davis	Eileen Clancy Doug Bruce	Stephanie Hewitt Gerard Dillon	Sheila Houghton Carol Garnett
Nov 30	Patrick Warren Cath Hunt	Amy Pritchard Tony Gaughan	Mike Burrowes Liz Fraser	Brigid Rhodes Chris Hewitt
Dec 7	Kay Rimmer Lindsay Rotchell	Clare Bridges Cath Hunt	Justine Lomas Miriam Gannon	Colman Whitelaw Gail Korzonek
Dec 14	Wendy Owens	Lisa Gretton Sr Norbert	Colman Whitelaw Doug Bruce	Shirley Weatherby Cath Hunt
Dec 21	Amy Pritchard Margaret Tym	Lindsay Rotchell Grace Bishop	William Pearce, Dave Guy	Doug Bruce David Korzonek
Dec 28	Vikki Wilson Lynn Jones	Wendy Owens	Shirley Weatherby Denisse Perks	Helen Land Sr Norbert
Jan 4	Alex & Tamsin Davis	Eileen Clancy Doug Bruce	Stephanie Hewitt Gerard Dillon	Sheila Houghton Carol Garnett
Jan 11	Patrick Warren Cath Hunt	Amy Pritchard Tony Gaughan	Mike Burrowes Liz Fraser	Brigid Rhodes Chris Hewitt
Jan 18	Kay Rimmer Lindsay Rotchell	Clare Bridges Cath Hunt	Justine Lomas Miriam Gannon	Colman Whitelaw Gail Korzonek
Jan 25	Pat Wilson Wendy Owens	Lisa Gretton Sr Norbert	Colman Whitelaw Doug Bruce	Shirley Weatherby Cath Hunt
Feb 1	Amy Pritchard Margaret Tym	Lindsay Rotchell Grace Bishop	William Pearce, Dave Guy	Doug Bruce David Korzonek
Feb 8	Vikki Wilson Lynn Jones	Pat Wilson Wendy Owens	Shirley Weatherby Denisse Perks	Helen Land Sr Norbert

Saturday 6pm Stewards Rota ...

A	Nov 8	Dec 6	Jan 3	Jan 31	Feb 28	Mar 28	Apr 25	Patrick & Patsy Warren
B	Nov 15	Dec 13	Jan 10	Feb 7	Mar 7	Apr 4	May 2	Gerard Dillon & Kay Rimmer
C	Nov 22	Dec 20	Jan 17	Feb 14	Mar 14	Apr 11	May 9	Eileen Clancy
D	Nov 29	Dec 27	Jan 24	Feb 21	Mar 21	Apr 18	May 16	Ann Spencer & John Gay

If you cannot do a duty on a particular day, please swap



Christmas

St. Mary's Piety Stall



Faith & Community

This Christmas season, explore our beautiful Nativity sets and lovely faith-filled gifts — perfect for sharing the joy and meaning of Christmas with loved ones.

Discover a beautiful range of Christian and devotional items — including rosaries, candles, prayer cards, medals, books, and thoughtful gifts for every occasion.

Enjoy up to 20% off on ALL items.

Come and see us after Mass!
Always happy for a chat, to hear your ideas, feedback, or just to say hello.

Your support helps our parish
and keeps
faith shining in our community.

With blessings,

Denisse & Lynne
St Mary's Piety Stall Team

