



Our Lady of the Wayside Catholic Church

566 Stratford Road, Shirley, Solihull B90 4AY

www.olw-shirley.org.uk Tel: 0121 744 1967

Email: olw.shirley@rcaob.org.uk

Online Giving: olw.mydona.com

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR C

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SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD - YEAR C

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Dear Parishioners, I wish you a Happy Fourth Sunday of Advent! As we light the fourth candle of love it is a wonderful opportunity for us to think about the meanings of the Advent candles, namely hope, peace, joy and love. Each and every one of us is called to be a Christian that is filled with these gifts. We are called to be peacemakers, we are called to be joyful, we are called to a people of hope even when times can be difficult and hard and finally we are called to be people whose hearts are filled with love; love for ourselves, love for our neighbour and most importantly love of Almighty God who shows us his great love for us by with the birth of Christ his son at Christmas. As we draw to the end of another year, I want to take this opportunity to thank of all of you as parishioners of OLW for all that you are and all that you do. Our community continues to grow under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and this is something we can be truly grateful for. On behalf of myself and Deacon Sean, we wish you a happy, holy and peaceful Christmas and every blessing for the New Year ahead. God bless, Fr Andrew and Deacon Sean.

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Church Opening Times:

The church is open for private prayer from dawn to 5.00pm.

Parish Office Opening Times: Tel: 0121 744 1967

9.00am to 4.00pm Monday, Wednesday, Thursday. (Juliet)

9.00am to 4.00pm Tuesday. (Sue)

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Parish Contact Details.

Parish Priest: Fr Andrew Franklin. Email: fr.andrew.franklin@rcaob.org.uk

Parish Deacon: Rev. Sean Loone. Email: dcn.sean.loone@rcaob.org.uk

Parish Office: Sue Cheshire. Juliet Ferrara. Email: olw.shirley@rcaob.org.uk Tel: 0121 744 1967

Safeguarding: Dot Emm. Email: sg.olw.shirley@rcaob.org.uk

School Headteacher: Mrs Debbie Enstone. Email: s79denstone@ol-wayside.solihull.sch.uk

Liturgy: Chris Rolinson. Email: chris@solihullpiano.co.uk Tel: 07544 549000

Catechists: Bernie Hunt. Email: bernadettehunt47@btinternet.com Tel: 07790 829283

Sacristy: Bill Rawson. Email: w.rawson187@btinternet.com Tel. 07514 487588

SVP: John Nolan. Email: presidentf021312@svp.org.uk

Father O'Mahony Memorial Trust: Maureen Jennings. Email: mjfont@gmail.com

Divine Mercy Group: Paul Matthews. Email: 2020paulmatthews@gmail.com Tel: 07771 727000

Journey in Faith (RCIA): John Nolan. Email: johnfpnolan@gmail.com

Youth Group: Ray McNally. Email: ray@extendaline.com Tel: 07827 894446

Treasurer: Ian Swancott. Email: pt.olw.shirley@rcaob.org.uk

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Collections: 15th December 2024. Gift Aid: £227.00 Loose: £725.84 Standing Orders: £853.35 Total: £1806.19

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Christmas Offerings. The collection on Christmas Eve/Day is your traditional gift to Father Andrew. Thank you in advance for your kindness.

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Mrs Dot Emm. She can be contacted at: sg.olw.shirley@rcaob.org.uk, or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or email: safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk, if you have any concern.



Online donations. Scan the QR code with your smartphone or use the link to make an online donation <https://donate.mydona.com/our-lady-of-the-wayside> or use the machines as you enter the church. Thank you. For more information on donating please see the website or contact the parish office.



Liturgical Schedule

Sat 21st 10.00am 5.30pm	(Vigil Mass) Fourth Sunday of Advent Holy hour and Confessions Int. Kevin Diggins RIP
Sun 22nd 10.00am	Fourth Sunday of Advent Int. Michael Mullen RIP
Mon 23rd 6.00pm	No Mass Reception into Church – Raphael Lee RIP
Tues 24th 10.15am 3.00pm 5.30pm 8.30pm	Advent Feria Funeral Mass – Raphael Lee RIP Int. Andrew & David O’Gorman RIP Int. Bridget Wilson RIP Int. Adriana Wheatley RIP
Wed 25th 10.00am	Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord Int. Jim Cronin RIP Int. People of the Parish
Thurs 26th 10.00am	Feast of St Stephen Int. Jackie Conroy RIP
Fri 27th 9.30am	Feast of St John Int. Fr Lawrence Watson RIP
Sat 28th 5.30pm	(Vigil Mass) Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph Int. Peter Connolly - Anniversary
Sun 29th 10.00am	Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph Int. Munir Choudhry
Mon 30th 9.30am	Sixth Day within the Octave of Christmas Int. Eamonn Priestley RIP
Tues 31st	No Mass
Wed 1st Jan 9.30am	Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God Int. Peter Doyle - Anniversary
Thurs 2nd	No Mass
Fri 3rd	No Mass
Sat 4th 10.00am 5.30pm	(Vigil Mass) Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord Holy hour & Confessions Int. Mabel McCormick In Thanksgiving Int. Deceased members of the Finneran family
Sun 5th 10.00am	Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord Int. Staff and pupils at St Peter’s school
Mon 6th	No Mass
Tues 7th 9.30am 6.00pm	Christmas Feria Int. Raphael Lee RIP Reception into Church – Julia Reaney
Wed 8th 12.30pm	Christmas Feria Funeral Mass – Julie Reaney
Thurs 9th 9.30am	Christmas Feria Int. Adriana Wheatley – Birthday Anniversary
Fri 10th 9.30am	Christmas Feria Int. Ann Cheal RIP
Sat 11th 10.00am 5.30pm	(Vigil Mass) Feast of the Baptism of the Lord Holy hours & Confessions Int. Kevin McCormick
Sun 12th 10.00am	Feast of the Baptism of the Lord Int. May Donaghy RIP

Liturgical and Spiritual . . .



RIP. Please remember in your prayers John Robinson, Raphael Lee, Julia Reaney and Terri Moriani who have died recently and all who mourn them. John Robinson was the former head of lower school at Archbishop Ilsley and a parishioner at The Wayside. His funeral is on 23rd December - 2.00pm at St Dunstan's church, Kings Heath. Raphael's Funeral Mass will take place on Tuesday 24th December at 10.15am and he will be received into Church the evening before at 6.00pm. Julia's Funeral Mass is on Wednesday 8th January at 12.30pm and she will be received into Church the evening before at 6.00pm.



Our Lady's Candle. This week it is lit for the McCormick family.

Week commencing 29th December it is lit for Kevin Finn.

Week commencing 5th January it is lit for Peter Doyle.



Please pray for Ania Maxwell and Ben Jones who are to be married at Our Lady of the Wayside on Monday 30th December.

Mass arrangements for Christmas at OLW

Christmas Eve - Tuesday 24th

3.00pm Family Mass

5.30pm Family Mass

8.00pm Service of Carols, followed by Mass
at **8.30pm**

Christmas Day - Wednesday 25th

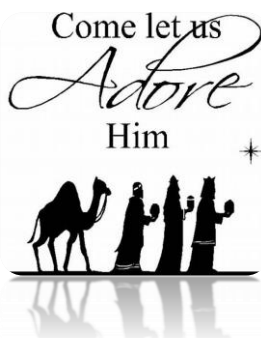
10.00am

St Stephen's Day - Thursday 26th

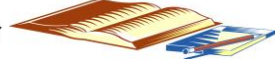
10.00am

We ask that you encourage family and friends to 'Come Home for Christmas.'

Father Andrew and Deacon Sean wish you all a very happy and holy Christmas.



Confirmation Class



In February 2025 we will begin our sacramental programme for children who attend non-Catholic schools in preparation for Confirmation next June.

If you wish for your child to attend the programme, please contact the parish office.



Sacramental Programme First Reconciliation First Holy Communion



We will begin our sacramental programme for children who attend non-Catholic schools on **Wednesday 8th January 2025 at 5.00pm** (St Aidan's Chapel)

Please contact the parish office for further details.

Journey in Faith (RCIA) at Our Lady of the Wayside, Shirley.

For both those wishing to become Catholic as well as existing Catholics who wish to learn more about the riches of their faith. There are usually two sessions a month, each lasting from 7.00pm to 8.15pm, all on **Wednesdays** in the **Parish Hall**. Any enquiries, please contact John Nolan on 07400 399000 or johnfpnolan@gmail.com.

The next meeting is to be confirmed.

Pastoral and Social Outreach . . .

The SVP offers confidential practical support for anyone in need. Please email svpshirley@gmail.com.

SVP Food Bank. The food bank is very low on coffee, cereal, washing powder, toothpaste, shampoo, soap, tinned fruit, rice pudding, evaporated milk and kitchen rolls. If you have a large or unusual item you wish to donate, please contact us beforehand on the above email so that we can find a suitable beneficiary. Thank you for your generosity.



Open Morning for Reception Class

9th January 2025 at 9.30am

Application closing date is 15th January 2025.

See school website for more details

Nursery Places

Applications for nursery for September 2025 need to be submitted straight away as the deadline was the 2nd December and reception by January 31st 2025.

We have had several applications already so please don't miss out on our wonderful EYFS provision at Our Lady of the Wayside. Ofsted May 2024 stated that; "The school is a calm, purpose environment, where pupils get off to a flying start in their education" "From the early years, the school provides daily phonic lessons, staff are well trained to become expert at teaching phonics. Phonic lessons are engaging" The Catholic Inspection took place in September 2024 and the school was graded outstanding. Again the provision in EYFS was highlighted as being a real strength of the school.

Carlo Acutis youth group would like to thank everyone for their support over this past year and would like to wish everyone involved a very Happy, Peaceful and Holy Christmas.

Our return date is Jan 10th 6.30pm till 8.30pm at Olton Friary. Usual Minibus service available.

Also, the exciting announcement that the Junior youth group will be starting at OLOW parish hall on the 17th Jan 6.30pm till 8.00pm.



Missio Red Boxes: Annual Collection

Many thanks for the return of the Redboxes over the last few weeks. In total we have banked so far £1,206.23. Many thanks also for those who signed gift aid forms, which will allow us to claim back tax paid on your donations. Any uncollected red boxes can be picked up in the sacristy.

Again, many thanks for your continued generosity and support of the missions. Hazel and John Nolan (johnfpnolan@gmail.com)

Escorted Tour to Westport, Knock & Co Mayo, 10th March 2025.



£799.00 pp. Price includes flight, 10kg hold luggage, 4 nights in 4* Castlecourt Hotel, Westport with Dinner, Bed & Breakfast. Lunch on three days. All entertainment, excursions and transport included. Visit Knock, Galway City, Kylemore Abbey, Croagh Patrick, Ballintubber Abbey, Quiet Man Museum. Single supplement on Enquiry. Contact 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com.

Recycling: Tub2Pub is back for 2024!

Bring your clean, empty plastic confectionery and cracker tubs to church before the end of the year (or take them directly to any Greene King Pub from 1st January – 11th February 2024) to be recycled. All proceeds from the recycled plastic tubs are donated to Macmillan Cancer Support.

Church Cleaning

Thursday 9th January 2025, at 10.00am.

All are welcome.



At Our Lady of the Wayside we operate a 24x7 livestream service:

<https://www.youtube.com/@OurLadyoftheWayside>.



There is signage in the church to show the areas that can be seen. For more information, please visit our website <https://ourladyofthewaysidechurchshirley.co.uk/>.