



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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THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT- YEAR C

15TH DECEMBER 2024

Dear Parishioners

Most of us are familiar with the phrase, 'Actions speak louder than words.' When the people asked John, 'What, then, shall we do?' He replied, 'Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise.' Once again, we are confronted with the need to act now rather than put off until tomorrow what God invites us to do today. On this Gaudete Sunday we are called to 'Rejoice' because the Lord is near. Take a moment or two then to reflect on how the first reading and the Psalm explode with shouting, singing and praising God. Yet, we must never forget that he is already here, and that we encounter him daily in all those who cry out for help. So, as today we quite rightly rejoice, may we also give expression to our faith by doing something practical by helping those in desperate need. Why? Because that is how Christ lives through us. God Bless, Deacon Sean.

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)

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

Last week's second collection for the *Poor Parishes Fund* raised £703.40. Thank you for your generosity.

Collections: 8th December 2024: Gift Aid: £164.95 Loose: £583.64 Standing Orders: £861.42 Total: £1610.01

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.



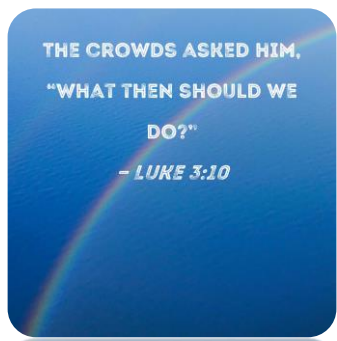
Liturgical Schedule

<p>Sat 14th 10.00am</p> <p>5.30pm</p>	<p>(Vigil Mass) Third Sunday of Advent Holy hour and Confessions</p> <p>Int. Annie Fitzgerald RIP Int. Valerie Morgan – Anniversary</p>
<p>Sun 15th 10.00am</p>	<p>Third Sunday of Advent Int. Brian Giles – Anniversary</p>
<p>Mon 16th 9.30am</p> <p>6.00pm</p>	<p>Advent Feria Int. Marie Thérèse Mullin - Anniversary</p> <p>Reception into Church – John Gaffney RIP</p>
<p>Tues 17th 10.00am</p> <p>7.00pm</p>	<p>Advent Feria Funeral Mass – John Gaffney RIP</p> <p>Advent Penance Service</p>
<p>Wed 18th 10.00am (School Mass)</p>	<p>Advent Feria Int. Tom Cullen – Anniversary Int. Private intention</p>
<p>Thurs 19th 7.00am</p>	<p>Advent Feria Int. Kevin & Mabel McCormick – Wedding Anniversary Int. Pietro De Cesare – Anniversary</p>
<p>Fri 20th</p>	<p>No Mass</p>
<p>Sat 21st 10.00am</p> <p>5.30pm</p>	<p>(Vigil Mass) Fourth Sunday of Advent Holy hour and Confessions</p> <p>Int. Kevin Diggins RIP</p>
<p>Sun 22nd 10.00am</p>	<p>Fourth Sunday of Advent Int. Michael Mullen RIP</p>

Liturgical and Spiritual . . .



RIP. Please remember in your prayers John Gaffney, John Robinson and Raphael Lee who have died recently and all who mourn them. John Gaffney's Funeral Mass is on Tuesday 17th December at 10.00am and he will be received into Church the evening before at 6.00pm. 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.



Our Lady's Candle. This week it is lit for Kevin & Mabel McCormick.



Blessing of the Bambinelli



At our Masses this weekend, Gaudete Sunday, please do bring along the baby Jesus from your cribs so we place him at the centre of our homes this Christmas.

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.

Come let us
Adore
Him



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** (Time to be confirmed).

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 will be on Wednesday 18th December 2024

The Incarnation. Examen. St Stephen, St John, St Thomas of Canterbury (26th, 27th & 29th December)

Pastoral and Social Outreach . . .

The SVP offers confidential practical support for anyone in need. If you have a large or unusual item you wish to donate, please contact us beforehand so that we can find a suitable beneficiary. Please email [svpsirley@gmail.com](mailto: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. In preparation for Christmas any items for a Christmas hamper. Thank you for your generosity.

MARMALADE & CAKE SALE

In the Narthex after Mass this weekend. This is to help with fundraising for Explorer Scouts.



Any cakes to sell would be appreciated.



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.

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 (johnfnolan@gmail.com)

SVP Advent 'Giving Tree

Please place presents under the 'Giving Tree' no later than the 10am Mass this Sunday. The presents will be taken after the Sunday Mass to be distributed to families in Birmingham whose needs are greater than ours at this time.

Thank you for your ongoing kindness and generosity.
The parish SVP group.

Free Gaudete Sunday Afternoon Concert Performance
Sunday 15th December 3.30-5.15pm.

Our Lady of the Wayside School Choir and Solihull /Harborne Got2Sing Choir.

Festive refreshments will also be served with an opportunity to learn more about the life of the school from some of our trustees.

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 19th December, at 10.00am.

All are welcome.



THE **CARLO ACUTIS** YOUTH GROUP
INVITES YOU TO THE

CHRISTMAS DISCO

FRIDAY 20TH DECEMBER

AT THE
OLTON FRIARY

6:30PM – 8:30PM

£5 ENTRY

LIVE DJ, DRINKS, SNACKS AND GLOW STICKS

THE OLTON FRIARY, ST. BERNARDS RD, SOLIHULL B92 7BL

MINIBUS SERVICE AVAILABLE FROM OUR LADY OF THE WAYSIDE TO THE OLTON FRIARY

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT RAY VIA MOBILE: 07827 894446 OR VIA EMAIL: ray@exfendalme.com

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/>.