



The Catholic Parishes of St. Joseph, St. George and Our Lady Queen of Peace

These Parishes are part of the archdiocese of Birmingham, Registered Charity No: 234216
Parish Office – 2 Sansome Place, Worcester, WR1 1UG (Car Park WR1 1UT)
Website www.catholicworcester.co.uk and on Facebook & YouTube as Catholic Worcester

Donations to St. Georges's QR Code



THE MONTH OF DECEMBER IS DEDICATED TO THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Donations to OLQP QR Code



Second Sunday in Advent

Sunday Cycle C

7th December 2025 – Psalter Week 2

*Pope's Prayer Intention for December: For Christians in areas of conflict
Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East,
may be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope.*

Parish Office

Open 9am-3pm Mo,Tu,Th,Fr
stgeorge.worcester@rcaob.org.uk
Telephone No: 01905 963 712
Parish Centre Bookings –
centre.stgeorge.worcester@rcaob.org.uk
07392 575696

Parish Priest

Very Rev Canon John Y Batthula
canonjohn.batthula@rcaob.org.uk

Assistant Priests

Father Balaswamy Dumpala
fr.balaswamy.dumpala@rcaob.org.uk
Mgr. Patrick Kilgarrieff (retired)

Parish Permanent Deacons

Rev Tony Hartshorn
Rev Paul O'Connor
Rev Kevin Gowdy
Rev Krzysztof Wasilewski
Rev Andrew Foster
Rev Antony Hartley
Rev Reginald Lewis (retired)
Rev Chris Blackman (retired)

Parish Admin. Simon Broadbent

Health & Safety

hs.stgeorge.worcester@rcaob.org.uk

Primary Schools

St George's Catholic Primary School –
01905 25841

geo_office@emmausmac.com

Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic
Primary School –
01905 421409

olq_admin@emmausmac.com

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School –
01905 452772

jow_office@emmausmac.com

01905 452772

Archdiocese of Birmingham:

"Our Vision is to be a Catholic Diocese which is faithful to the mission entrusted to us by Jesus Christ, full of missionary disciples who work together co-responsibly in vibrant communities of faith, joyful in their service of God and neighbour".

Safeguarding:

Our Parishes operate in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance & the National and Archdioceses policies and procedures at all times. Our Parishes Safeguarding Representatives are

Emma Raine:

sg.stgeorge.worcester@rcaob.org.uk

Sam Rudd:

sg.olqp.worcester@rcaob.org.uk

TBC:

sg.stjoseph.worcester@rcaob.org.uk

Diocesan Safeguarding Team:

They can be contacted if you have any concerns on 0121 2306240
or safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk

DATE	CHURCH	TIME	INTENTIONS (or Event Description)	FEAST DAYS
SAT 6 th Dec	St G	9 am	Breda Hogan RIP	Memorial of Our Lady (First Saturday)
	St G	11.00 am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions	
Vigil Mass	St G	12.30 pm	Wedding Anniversary remembrance for the late Jimmy Fido	
Vigil Mass	OLQP	6 pm	Pro Populo	
SUN 7 th Dec	St G	8.45 am	John Halpin RIP (Anniv.)	Second Sunday of Advent 
	OLQP	9 am	Birthday thanksgiving (23rd November)	
	St J (Warndon)	10.30 am	Mr O.M.Mathew RIP	
	St G	11.00 am	Fiona Clark RIP	
	OLQP	12.15 pm	Polish Mass	
	St G	5 pm	Sung Vespers (1 st Sunday)	
	St J (Warndon)	5.30 pm	Barry	
MON 8 th Dec	St G	10 am	Birthday thanksgiving - Jesna / Russell Brannan RIP (Anniv)	Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
	St G	12 noon	The Bulger Family	
	St G	7 pm	Jenny Parsonage RIP (recently deceased) & Rosamma Thomas (RIP)	
TUE 9 th Dec	OLQP	9.05 am	OLQP School Mass in Church – Kevin Down RIP	Advent FERIA
	St G	10am	Anorique Gomes de Jesus RIP / Christian's Birthday	
	St G	7.30 pm	Growing in Holiness	
WED 10 th Dec	OLQP	9.15 am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Rosary	Advent FERIA
	OLQP	10 am	Sr Lucille (Rosamma) RIP	
	St G	11-11.45 am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions	
	St G	12 noon	Soul of Theresia-Kutty Joseph	
THU 11 th Dec	St J (Warndon)	9 am	St. Joseph's School Mass (Yr 3 & Yr 2) – Mark Powis	Advent FERIA
	St G		Jim O'Shea RIP (Anniv.)	
FRI 12 th Dec	St G	10 am	Requiem Mass for Jenny Parsonage RIP	Advent FERIA
	St G	12 noon	The Galvin Family followed by Advent Soups in the Parish Centre	
	St J (Warndon)	5.45 pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions	
	St J (Warndon)	6.15 pm	Ruzica Kos RIP (recently deceased) followed by Divine Mercy Chaplet	
SAT 13 th Dec	St G	11.00 am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions	
Vigil Mass	St G	12.30 pm	Mariyamma Ulahannan (2nd Death Anniversary)	
Vigil Mass	OLQP	6 pm	Fr Ron Cosslett (RIP)	
SUN 14 th Dec	St G	8.45 am	Pro Populo	Third Sunday of Advent 
	OLQP	9 am	Jerry Diaz	
	St J (Warndon)	10.30 am	Anabel Jobi (Thanksgiving)	
	St G	11 am	Kitty Mulvey RIP (15th Anniversary)	
	OLQP	12.15 pm	Polish Mass	
	St J (Warndon)	5.30 pm	Mary Liddy	

The Rosary is prayed from 9.30am before the 10am Weekday Masses at St. George's.

Tea and Coffee at St. George's and Our Lady's after the Sunday Morning Masses



PLEASE PRAY FOR: The Sick and Housebound of the three parishes. We include those in hospitals, nursing homes and their own homes.

Our Lady, Health of the sick, Pray for them ☩

The Recently Baptised: Chamerika Chimdikey Ndulue, Farah Wren Robinson

Welcome to the family of Christ. ☩

The Recently Deceased: Jenny Parsonage RIP -Requiem Mass on Friday 12th December at 10am at St.George's

May she rest in peace ☩

Clergy Anniversaries incl: Mgr Canon Francis Drinkwater, Revs Horace Ralph, Michael Knight, Anthony Kane, George Rafferty, Thomas McMorro, Jerome O'Flynn, Hugh Molloy, Vincent Lucas, William Browne, John Ellis, Cyril Barlow

May they rest in peace ☩

Parish Anniversaries incl: Dora Mikitzuk (30/11), John Halpin, Rogero Silva, Emily Witherick, Rosanna Hassan, Margaret Webb, Agnes Casserly, Diane Webb

May they rest in peace ☩

Second Sunday of Advent

First reading

'With righteousness he shall judge the poor.'

Isaiah 11:1-10

On that day:

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.

And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;

and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them.

The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.

They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples — of him shall the nations enquire, and his resting-place shall be glorious.

The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

In his days shall justice flourish, and great peace for ever.

Ps 72(71):1-2. 7-8. 12-13. 17. R cf. 7

Second reading

'Christ saves humanity.'

Romans 15:4-9

Brothers and sisters: Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, 'Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name.'

The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight
all flesh shall see the salvation of God. **Alleluia**

Gospel

'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.'

Matthew 3:1-12

In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.' For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, 'The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight."'

Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptised by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our father", for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

'I baptise you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

THE ORDER OF MASS

Priest In the name of the Father....
People **Amen**

Priest The Lord be with you.
People **And with your spirit.**

Penitential Act

People: **I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done, and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God**

Gloria

Priest: Glory to God in the highest,
People: **and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.**

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Liturgy of the Word

After the first and second readings

Reader The Word of the Lord
People **Thanks be to God**



The Gospel Acclamation is:
Alleluia

Before the Gospel reading

Priest: The Lord be with you.
People: **And with your spirit.**
Priest A reading from the holy Gospel according to.....
People: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

After the Gospel reading

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Homily

Profession of Faith

THE NICENE CREED

People: **I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.**

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Bidding Prayers

People: **Lord, hear our prayer**



People: **Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou amongst women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.**

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Preparation of the Gifts

Priest Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

People: **May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his Holy Church.**

Preface Dialogue

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with your spirit.**

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right and just.**

Holy, Holy, Holy

Everyone: **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Memorial Acclamation

Priest: The mystery of faith.

People: ONE OF THESE:

- A **We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection, until you come again.**
B **When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.**
C **Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection, you have set us free.**

Doxology and Great Amen

Priest: Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours, for ever and ever.

People **Amen**

Priest At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say: **Our Father, who art in heaven,....**

Priest: Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,

People: **For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.**

Rite of Peace

Priest The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People **And with your spirit.**

Deacon or Priest: Let us offer each other the sign of Peace

To each other: Peace be with you

Breaking of Bread / Lamb of God

People: **Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. (2)**

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

Invitation to Communion

Priest: Behold the Lamb of God, behold him.....

People: **Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

Concluding Rites

Blessing - Priest The Lord be with you.
People **And with your spirit**

Dismissal - Deacon or Priest: Go forth the Mass is ended
People: **Thanks be to God**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Lectio Divina (Zoom meeting)	Mondays from 7.00pm to 7.40pm - Meeting ID: 91915833192 - Passcode: 6ukZCd
Knights of St. Columba	7.30pm for 8pm Start - Wed 10/12 (Note: changed from 3/12)
Catholic Worcester Youth Group	Sunday 7 th December at 5.30pm in St George's Parish Centre
University Students Meeting	TBC
Sung Vespers	First Sunday of each month at 5pm at St George's Church

****EMAIL ADDRESS FOR ST GEORGE'S PARISH CENTRE BOOKINGS****

centre.stgeorge.worcester@rcaob.org.uk

PARISH GIVING –

Ideally please arrange a regular payment by **Monthly Standing Order** through your bank to:
 Acc 07099460, Sort 55-81-36, RCA of Birmingham St George's Worcester
 Acc 06477135, Sort 55-81-57, RC Parish of Our Lady Queen of Peace Worcester
 Acc 07010745, Sort 55-81-36, RCA of Birmingham St Joseph Warndon Worcester
 and if you are a UK income or capital gains tax payer then please sign a **Gift Aid**
Mandate via the office. Alternatively give via the DONA machines in church, the QR
 code on the front of the Newsletter or the links below:

<https://donate.mydona.com/st-georges-catholic-church>

<https://donate.mydona.com/our-lady-queen-of-peace-worc>

Sun 30/11/25	Standing Orders	Offertory Collection	Second Collection	Dona Digital Collection Plate 1st + 2nd	Total
St. G	£ 480	£ 715	£ -	£ 450 + £ -	£ 1645
OLQP	£ 97	£ 355	£ -	£ 44 + £ -	£ 496
St. J	£ 210	£ 190	£ -	-	£ 400
● 2 nd Collection this Sunday (7/12): Poor Parishes Fund					

ADVENT WALK WITH ME Booklets are still available at the back of church – suggested donation £1 (please put cash in the Newspaper Box or pay on the DONA machine using the Publications Tab). Children's Calendars for Advent are also available for free (Children attending the Catholic Schools will have already received them at school)

GROWING IN HOLINESS

Next meeting: Tues 9th December at 7.30pm at St. George's Church

"Advent of Grace: Preparing for Emanuel"

Theme: Reflections on Peace: "Jesus the Prince of Peace"

*** All are welcome ***

A JOURNEY IN FAITH – RCIA – "Enquiry is a time of discovery"

If you are thinking of becoming a Catholic or simply want to know more about the Catholic Faith, you are welcome to join me on Thursday evening's at 7pm in our Parish Centre for 'A Journey in Faith' sessions.

The next session is on Thursday, 11th December in St George's Parish Centre

FIRST CONFESSIONS & FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS IN MAY 2026:

A meeting for parents/guardians, who wish their children to make their First Holy Communion in May 2026, will be held this coming Thursday **11th December at 7pm** in the Parish Centre. **Enrolment forms** are available from the back of the Church, parish office and parish website. I look forward to welcoming you all.

WELCOMERS at St. George's: The Rota for the next few months is on the Red Notice Board at the back of the Church, please take a look and make a note of when you are on duty. I plan to have a meeting on Saturday 14th February at 10 am in Church, so that everyone knows what to do and how early you will need to arrive.

LITTLE SAINTS – OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE RC CHURCH

Children's Liturgy at OLQP will take place as part of the 9am Sunday Mass Sunday 7th, 14th and 21st December. We are looking for some people who can help support the leader with Children's Liturgy. The leaders organise the resources and lead the sessions. If you are interested in supporting the leader and can help support once a month please contact Gemma on 07584308173.

PARISH FAMILY MASS with Children's Liturgy at St. George's

– Sunday 14th December at 8.45 Mass. There will be Children's Liturgy at the 8.45 Mass every Sunday in Term Time starting in January.

BAPTISMAL COURSE IN 2026 At St George's Parish Centre - 10.15am

The course is for those who wish their children to be baptised in one of three Churches. Come along for the course and then fill out the necessary form and confirm the date.



Saturday 21st February
 Saturday 21st March
 Saturday 16th May
 Saturday 12th September
 Saturday 14th November

ADVENT SOUPS at St. George's:

The final Advent Soup will be this Friday 12th Dec – daily Mass is moved to 12.00 noon. Then after Mass, delicious homemade soups will be served in the Parish Centre to raise money for the Angel Tree Charity which provides presents for the children of prisoners in Long Lartin Prison. If you cannot attend, please leave a marked donation in the collection bag at any Mass or donate via the appropriate Tab on the Dona Machine. If you would like to make a soup for one of the nominated days, please then please contact Gordina on 07831 540523.

POLAND'S PHILHARMONIC – A Professional Choir of 30 exceptional musicians

from Poland's Philharmonic are going to sing Christmas Carols at St George's Church on Saturday 13th December at 5pm. All welcome.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS IN WORCESTER: Do you have a child born between 01/09/2021 and 31/08/2022? Applications for Reception Class September 2026 are open **NOW!** Contact the School offices at St George's, Our Lady Queen of Peace or St Joseph's (Contact details for each school can be found on the front of this Newsletter). Details of Open Days will be found on the school web sites. I encourage all parents to send their children to Catholic Schools. Good Education and Faith formation for all.

CAR PARK: Can I remind please **DO NOT PARK** in the bay with the sign saying : **"NO PARKING"**, since this space is reserved for the priest who comes back to the Presbytery after celebrating Masses at OLQP or St Joseph's. I look forward to your cooperation.

"DELEXI TE" (On Love for the Poor) is the first Apostolic Exhortation of the Holy Father Pope Leo VI. An inescapable challenge for the Church today. I am inviting people with interest to come along to the Centre to study the document and see how we can put it into practice. I will let you know the dates and times soon.

SOCIAL AND FUNDRAISING GROUP: I am looking for some of our parishioners to volunteer to form a Group to organise Social and Fundraising events to bring parishioners together and to raise funds for the parish as we will need raise a lot of money for the renovation of St George's church as well as to do some minor repairs at OLQP and St Joseph's. Please sign the list at the back of the Church with your details if you wish to volunteer. And thank you to those who have already put their name down.

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (Mon 8th Dec)

This Monday we will have three Masses here at St George's.

Mass Times as follows: 10 am, 12 Noon and 7pm.

ALTAR SERVERS: On Friday 26th December, we celebrate the feast of St Stephen, the Martyr, the patron saint of altar servers. There will be Mass at 11.30 am, during which all servers from our three Churches will renew their commitment and some of our new servers will be presented with Guild of St Stephen's Medals. Mass is followed by refreshments in the Parish Centre. New servers who have been serving regularly at the weekend Masses please contact one of the following people: **St Joseph's:** Deacon Kevin; **OLQP:** Deacon Tony and **St George's:** Jomin or Barry.

ADVANCE NOTICES:

NINE CAROLS AND LESSONS AT ST GEORGE'S: Sunday 14th December at 2.30pm.

CAROLS AND SOCIAL AT OLQP: Sunday 14th December at 2pm in School Hall

PENITENTIAL SERVICE & INDIVIDUAL CONFESSIONS

On Monday 22nd December at 7pm. Some visiting priests will be with us to celebrate this wonderful sacrament. I really would like everyone to have an amazing experience of God's forgiveness. Everyone will have an opportunity, so please be patient and follow the guidelines.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Wednesday 24th December 2025 – Christmas Eve

St Joseph: Mass @ 4.30 pm **Carols @ 7.30 pm** **Mass @ 8.00 pm**

OLQP: **Mass @ 6.00 pm** **Carols @ 8.30 pm** **Mass @ 9.00 pm**

St George: Mass @ 6.30 pm **Carols @ 11.30 pm** **Midnight Mass**

Thursday 25th December - Christmas Day

St Joseph: 10.30 am Mass

OLQP: 9.00 am Mass

St George: 8.45 am Mass & 11.00 am Mass

OLQP Primary School: Free Forest School Taster Session at 9am on 9th and 10th December. Also: Come along for free and meet Santa and his elves - Wed 17th December 3.45 – 5.15 Refreshments will be available, and children will leave with a gift and reindeer food. – see flyers on Church Notice board for details

A note from Emma Raine – Volunteer Safeguarding Rep at St. George's: SAFEGUARDING WEEKEND:

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, not just for the nominated person in a safeguarding role, and it is not a box-ticking exercise. Churches are encouraged to not just reflect but also act on improving safeguarding practices, learning from where they may have got things wrong. To build on the ways they are supporting those who have been hurt and highlight all the good work being done behind the scenes to protect vulnerable people. I will be saying a few words after the three St George's masses this weekend, about myself and the role.