



## Holy Trinity Catholic Church

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Holy Trinity is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham Trust

### Sunday 1 December 2024 – First Sunday of Advent

#### Readings: Year C

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#### Dear Parishioners

We have arrived at the beginning! The First Sunday of Advent marks the start of a new liturgical year, this time Year C, with St Luke as our designated Gospel until this time in 2025 (which is a Jubilee year but more about that towards the end of December).

People usually say that Advent (which is literally The Coming) is the preparation for the Christmas baby of Bethlehem. That is half correct. The first dominant theme of Advent is the Second Coming of Christ our Saviour to judge the world. A much more sobering prospect!

In our Gospel, Jesus warns us: "that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap." Whether it is the end of all things or our own demise...we will be called to account for our actions and our words. We can use Advent not only as a time to prepare for Christmas but also to ensure that we are "match fit" to meet God face to face. Christians have no need to fear this as Jesus says in the same passage: "hold your heads high because your liberation is at hand."

As we draw closer to Christmas so Our Lady comes more into view as we journey with St Joseph and her to Bethlehem and the birth of the Saviour. For now, we are called upon to prepare for the End when Christ will return not as a Suffering Servant but as the King of Kings. Come, Lord Jesus!

This Sunday we are hearing the readings from the new Lectionary, in the English Standard Version, with the Abbey Psalms and Canticles. This is the first new translation for Catholics since 1969. Catholic Truth Society seem to be handling the new editions so that is the place to purchase on-line new Bibles and Missals.

**God bless  
Fr Clive**

## Parish Notices

**Masses this week: Holy Trinity** - 9:15am Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Praying the Holy Rosary for Peace Friday 9:15am.

**Holy Trinity First Communion Class** Friday 4:15pm **Confirmation class after Sunday Mass Holy Trinity**

**St Teresa's** – 9:15am Wednesday, Friday and Sunday

**Please pray for all our housebound and home communions.**

In December we pray with Pope Francis that the forthcoming Jubilee may strengthen us in our faith, helping us to recognise the Risen Christ in the midst of our lives, transforming us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

**Please continue to pray for our sick, housebound and frail parishioners of both our Parishes.**

**In addition to your own daily prayers please remember:** All those who mourn the loss of loved ones: The repose of the souls of those who have died: People whose anniversaries occur at this time: The people of the Middle East, Morocco, Ukraine, Turkey and Syria.

**The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese policies and procedures at all times.** Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is **Tammy Lawson**. Alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or at [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) if you have any concerns.

