



**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

**Drop down dew from above, you heavens,  
and let the clouds rain down the Just One;  
let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.**

**COLLECT**

Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord,  
your grace into our hearts,  
that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son  
was made known by the message of an Angel,  
may by his Passion and Cross  
be brought to the glory of his Resurrection.  
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**FIRST READING**

A reading from the Prophet Micah.  
*'From you shall come forth one who is to be ruler in Israel.'* 5:2-5a  
Thus says the Lord:  
You, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,  
who are too little to be among the clans of Judah,  
from you shall come forth for me  
one who is to be ruler in Israel,  
whose coming forth is from of old,  
from ancient days.  
Therefore he shall give them up until the time  
when she who is in labour has given birth;  
then the rest of his brothers shall return  
to the people of Israel.  
And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD,  
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.  
And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great  
to the ends of the earth.  
And he shall be their peace.  
The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Psalm 80(79)

**Bring us back, O God;  
let your face shine forth, and we shall be saved.**

O shepherd of Israel, hear us,  
enthroned on the cherubim, shine forth.  
Rouse up your might and come to save us. **R.**

God of hosts, turn again, we implore;  
look down from heaven and see.  
Visit this vine and protect it,  
the stock your right hand has planted,  
the son you have claimed for yourself. **R.**

May your hand be on the man at your right hand,  
the son of man you have confirmed as your own.  
And we shall never forsake you again;  
give us life that we may call upon your name. **R.**

**SECOND READING**

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.  
*'Behold, I have come to do your will.'* 10:5-10

Brothers and sisters:  
When Christ came into the world, he said,  
'Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,  
but a body have you prepared for me;  
in burnt offerings and sin offerings  
you have taken no pleasure.  
Then I said, "Behold, I have come to do your will, O God,  
as it is written of me in the scroll of the book."'

When he said above,  
'You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings  
and burnt offerings and sin offerings'  
(these are offered according to the Law),  
then he added, 'Behold, I have come to do your will'.  
He does away with the first in order to establish the second.  
And by that will we have been sanctified  
through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ  
once for all.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL**

**Alleluia, alleluia.  
Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord;  
let it be to me according to your word.  
Alleluia.**

**GOSPEL**

The Lord be with you.  
**And with your spirit.**  
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**  
*'Who is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me?'* 1:39.44

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.  
In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country,  
to a town in Judah,  
and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.  
And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary,  
the baby leaped in her womb.  
And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit,  
and she exclaimed with a loud cry,  
'Blessed are you among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of your womb!  
And why is this granted to me  
that the mother of my Lord should come to me?  
For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears,  
the baby in my womb leaped for joy.  
And blessed is she who believed  
that there would be a fulfilment  
of what was spoken to her from the Lord.'

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

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

May the Holy Spirit, O Lord,  
sanctify these gifts laid upon your altar,  
just as he filled with his power the womb of the  
Blessed Virgin Mary.  
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

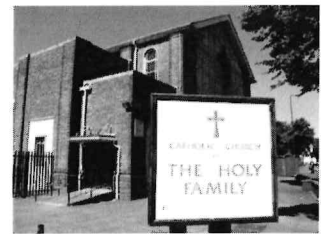
**Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son;  
and his name will be called Emmanuel.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Having received this pledge of eternal redemption,  
we pray, almighty God,  
that, as the feast day of our salvation draws ever nearer,  
so we may press forward all the more eagerly  
to the worthy celebration of the mystery of your Son's Nativity.  
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen**



**Archdiocese of Birmingham**  
**Holy Family RC Parish**  
 763 Coventry Road, Small Heath  
 Birmingham, B10 0HT



**MASSES AND INTENTIONS FOR THE COMING WEEK**

Sat 21 <sup>st</sup>	4.00 pm	Mary, Aidan & Chris Dillon RIP	<b>22<sup>nd</sup> December 2024: 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent</b>
Sun 22 <sup>nd</sup>	10.30 am	Kathleen Yallop (Anniversary)	
Mon 23 <sup>rd</sup>	10.00 am 6.00 pm	Society of Divine Vocations Parish Carol Concert	
Tues 24 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am 5.00 pm	Sharkey, Brennan & Boyle Families RIP People of the Parish (Christmas Vigil)	
Wed 25 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	McAndrew & Moane Intentions	
Thurs 26 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	Eddie Dunne Intentions	
Fri 27 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	Martina Foley (Anniversary)	
Sat 28 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am 4.00 pm	Kevin Williams RIP Theresa & Alec Fullerton & Alec Jnr RIP	
Sun 29 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	Mary McBrearty (Anniversary)	
<b>OFFERTORY COLLECTION: £481.48</b> <b>SECOND COLLECTION: £151.03 (Church Maintenance)</b>  <b>SECOND COLLECTION this weekend: Christmas Flowers</b>			

**RECENTLY DEAD:** Margaret Elizabeth Burke RIP. Requiem Mass Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2025, 10.15 am.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Findley Dickson, Terence Clarke, Christina Donnelly, Margaret Rafferty, John Breslin, Margaret Doherty, Patrick Canning, Kathleen Yallop, Margaret Taaffe, Roy Humphries, Jack Higgins, Margaret Smythe, Simon Boyce, Ken Abrams, Patrick O'Neill, James Patrick, Howard Finden, Mark Anderson, Patrick Ryan, Eileen Callard, Annie Bolton, Mary (Nancy) Doyle, Martina Foley, Kevin Goulder, Brendan Corbett, Anthony Kennedy, Pauline Doyle, Frank Watson.

**SICK LIST:** Anselm John Baptiste, Jim Deards, Fr Morty O'Shea, John Garvey, Cath McGrath, Amie Faulkner, Clare Bergin, Mary Bergin, Fr Tony Rohan, Tommy Flynn, Maureen Carton, Tony McLoughlin.

**POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR DECEMBER 2024:** For pilgrims of hope: We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthens our faith, helping us to recognise the Risen Christ in our daily lives and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

**CHURCH CLEANING:** On Tuesday the 24<sup>th</sup> of December from 11.00 am – 1.00 pm, we will be having a parish general cleaning in preparation for our Christmas celebrations. All are welcome to help. Thank you.

**REQUEST FOR POINSETTIAS:** We're now happy to receive poinsettias to brighten up our Church for Christmas. Thank you.

**FUNDRAISING CAROL CONCERT** in Holy Family Church this Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December at 6.00 pm. Tickets available in the porch.

**COLLECTION** on **Christmas Eve** and **Christmas Day** is your Christmas gift to our Parish Priest. Thank you so much.

**WISHING ALL PARISHIONERS A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND EVERY BLESSING FOR THE NEW YEAR.**

**PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS**

Divine Jesus, Son of the eternal Father and Mary Immaculate, grant us and all the faithful true generosity in following your call and bestow on us the grace of your Holy Spirit to persevere in overcoming all obstacles to our vocations. Give the Church in this Diocese and throughout the world many holy priests, fervent religious and committed lay people. Through the intercession of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary, all the Angels, Saint Justin, and all Saints, we humbly ask you to hear our prayers and multiply the ministries by which we may serve You and one another in faith and love. Amen.

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

“O my God and my all, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, may your will be done, your love reign, your glory shine always more in me and everyone as in yourself, O my God and my all.” (Saint Justin Russolillo, SDV)

**Fr Fretch Ballesteros SDV**

**Tel: 0121 772 0059 (Holy Family Parish)**

**Emergency/Evening Contact: 0121 783 2792 (CorpusChristi)**

**Email: [holyfamily.bham@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:holyfamily.bham@rcaob.org.uk) Website: [www.holyfamilyparishbirmingham.co.uk](http://www.holyfamilyparishbirmingham.co.uk)**

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies and procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Barbara Conneely. She can be contacted at [sg.holyfamily.bham@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.holyfamily.bham@rcaob.org.uk), or alternatively, the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted at [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) if you have any concerns.

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