



## St John the Evangelist RC Church

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### 1<sup>st</sup> December 2024 – First Sunday of Advent Year C

In the Franciscan tradition, Advent is often referred to as the Minor Lent, a time of fasting and abstinence in preparation for Christmas. With this in mind, we will be serving a soup lunch in the parish hall after the Midday Mass on Fridays during Advent this year. Any donations received at these lunches will be given to Friends of the Holy Land to support Christian communities in Gaza and Israel who are caught up in the dreadful conflict there. Your support will be greatly appreciated. If you would like to join us for lunch, please add your name to the list at the back of church.

Many thanks to all who supported our Christmas Fayre this weekend and to those who helped organise it. The total amount raised will be published in our newsletter next week.

Tea and coffee will be served in the parish hall after the 11.00am Mass this Sunday. Please come and join us.

The funeral of Carmel Garner will take place in church on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December at 11.00am. Please keep Carmel and her family in your prayers at this sad time.

Lourdes Pilgrimage 2025, a Jubilee Year, will be launched with a special Mass at the Cathedral in Shrewsbury on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 12.15pm. Refreshments will be served in the parish rooms afterwards. Everyone is welcome to attend.

At the 11.00am Mass on Christmas Day, our Children's Liturgy Group will be dramatizing the Gospel reading. We will prepare for this during Advent. If you know you will be attending this Mass with children, please let one of the leaders know so that your children can be included in this special celebration.

### Mass Times This Week

Sat 6.30pm Parishioners

Sun 9.00am Thomas Winwood

11.00am Ailsa Freemantle

Mon 9.30am Priests Intention

Tue No Mass

Wed 12.00pm Priests Intention

5.00pm Reception of Sarah Burton RIP

Thurs 11.00am Funeral of Sarah Burton

Fri 12.00pm Michael Wainwright

Sat 6.30pm Parishioners

Sun 9.00am TBC

11.00am Int. of David Client

Confessions are heard on Saturday from 5.30pm until 6.00pm, and on request.

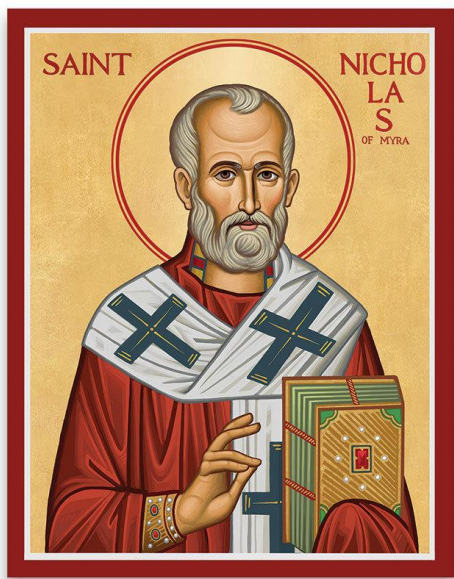
In December, Pope Francis asks us to keep in mind the following prayer intention: We pray that this Jubilee Year will strengthen our faith, helping us to recognise the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

We will be producing a new rota for Church Cleaning before the end of December. If you would like to join, please leave your name and contact details (phone number or email) personally or in an envelope at the back of church marked for the attention of Sue Morris. If any existing member of the team needs to change their commitment, please use the same process before 15<sup>th</sup> December.

New Sunday Missals have arrived, and I have received a discount reducing the price to £18. However, there are only enough copies for those who ordered them. Please collect your copy as soon as possible. It would be helpful if you have the correct amount of money.

First Holy Communion will be celebrated next year on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June at 10.30am. We will begin preparing for from Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> March. If you have a child aged 7 or older who would like to join us and they are not at St Johns School, please let me know as soon as possible so that we can order enough books.

**Bridgnorth Food Bank** would be grateful for donations of pasta sauce, biscuits, squash, cereals, shampoo, dog and cat food, washing up liquid, egg boxes. Please be aware that the food bank cannot accept items that contain alcohol. If you have items to donate, collection may be arranged if you contact John Gilbert. Alternatively, you may choose to make a cash donation. Your support is much appreciated.



Saint Nicholas

Feast Day 6<sup>th</sup> December

We humbly implore your mercy, Lord, protect us in all dangers through the prayers of the Bishop Saint Nicholas, that the way of salvation may lie open before us. Through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Finally..... please sign my petition: Dog Owners against Doorbells on TV.

The parish of St John the Evangelist, Bridgnorth, sometimes collects personal information about parishioners. All personal information is collected, processed and stored in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations. This is retained only as necessary and used by the Parish/Diocese for the benefit of the Parish and for legitimate reasons such as administrative and religious purposes. You can read our full privacy notice at [www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/privacy-notice](http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/privacy-notice).

Safeguarding: Parish Rep. Andrew Basford 01746 767850 Diocesan Co-ordinator Andrew O'Brien 0151 652 9855