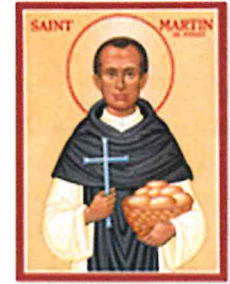




St John the Evangelist and St Martin
de Porres Parish



31 George Street, Balsall Heath, Birmingham B12
9RG

0121 440 3025 for Parish Office –
Opening times: Tues, Wed & Friday 9:30am-2:30pm
07566278332 (**Office Out of hours TEXT MESSAGE ONLY**)

Third Sunday of Advent Reflection.

The messiah's coming requires every man and woman to choose to "repent" or not. Repentance translates a Greek word, metanoia (change of mind). In the Scriptures, repentance is presented as a twofold "turning" away from sin. This "turning" is more than attitude adjustment. It means a radical life change. It requires good fruits as evidence of your repentance. We should examine our lives, asking from our hearts as they did: What should we do? Our repentance should spring not from our fear of coming but from a joyful sense of the nearness of our saving God.

Parish Priest: Fr Baburao Pureti MF		Website:https://www.ssjohnmartinandcatherines.org/ Email: ssjohnandmartin.bham@rcaob.org.uk Parish Twitter: @SSJohnandMartin.org.uk		Deacon: Dominic Kerr
Month/Year Dec 2024				
Sun	15 th	09:30am	Third Sunday of Advent	+RIP John
Tues	17 th	09:00am	St Martin De Porres Christmas School Mass	
Thurs	19 th	09:15am	St John and Monica School Mass	Intentions of Theresa Cafferky
Sat	21 st	03:00pm 18:00pm	Parish Christmas Celebration	
Sun	22 nd	09:30am	Fourth Sunday of Advent	Intentions of Geraldine Wheatley

Please pray for those within our Parish who are sick: Fr Dominic Innamorati, Catherine Ling, Elizabeth Keene, Anne Murphy, Dawn McGhie, Beatrice Akomanyi, Alan & Tess Sheppard, Jan Waterson, Lola Rayson, Margaret Ozanne, Naomi Gardner, Margaret Walker and Sr Christina. Geraldine Wheatley

Please pray for those who have recently died:

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Joseph O'Connor, Rev.Fr.Micheal McKiernan, Joan Stimpson, Beatrice Davies, Hilda Mary Wasdell, Elsie Howard, Kathleen Ferguson, Patrick Henry Griffiths, Joseph Fahy, Francis Murray, John Keating

Prayer for the dead:

Eternal rest Grant unto them, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them.

May they rest in Peace. **Amen**

And may their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God, Rest in peace.

Amen

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Chris Packham. He can be contacted at: sg.ssjohnandmartin.bham@rcaob.org.uk or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 / Safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concern.

Please take this newsletter home to read.

Please join after Sunday Mass for tea and coffee in the hall

Thank you to everybody who helps to run the parish smoothly:

Fr Babu

Parish Notices:

If anyone who requires Confessions, the Priest is available upon request.

Sick Visit: Anyone who needs a sick visit or knows of anyone who requires one, please contact Fr Babu on 0121 4403025

Mass intention: For anyone who would like to book for a Mass intention, please find envelopes available from the porch and pop them in our "Letter Box" in the church or through the Presbytery door.

Parish Library: Books covering, scripture, prayer, spirituality, and theology. They are for the use of all parishioners to borrow and to return them at your leisure. There are also books for children's use during Mass. These should be returned after Mass. Thank you.

Children's room: At the back of the church, please use with your children if you need time out during mass.

Parish Shop Christmas Card's & Gifts from Bethlehem on sale in the Porch.:

Parish Christmas Celebration 21st Dec: All is welcome to our Christmas Party. 3pm-6pm

This coming week

Collections: 08th Dec 2024 £114.83 split (£47.83 Lose, £67 Gift aid Envelopes **2nd Collection** £58.90 split (£7.40 Lose, £51.50 Gift aid)

Christmas Tree: Children and parents are invited to help us decorate the church Christmas tree after 9.30am Mass today. Come along and help us create a beautiful tree. You can choose from our decorations or make one specially.

Christmas Party at St Paul's School for Girls:

Invitation for Senior Citizens, All welcome to join us on **Monday 16th December** at 1pm for this year's SPG Afternoon Tea Party. If you would like to attend please call 0121 4540895 to book your seat.

What's coming up!

Sunday Missal with new Translation of Readings: If you are interested in buying the new version of the Sunday Missal, which has the new translation of the readings, then we can gain a small discount by completing a parish order. If you are interested then please let David Blower know after mass today.

RCIA Programme: RCIA Programme At St Catherine of Siena. From 7pm-8pm. These sessions will alternate every Thursday until Christmas excluding school half term, and Christmas holidays. The RCIA Programme is for anyone interested in becoming a Catholic or who is interested in learning more about catholic faith. Please kindly email stcatherine.bham@rcaob.org.uk to register.

Cathedral Carol Service: St Chad's Cathedral, Sunday 22nd Dec 5pm. Please come along and listen to our magnificent cathedral singers. Singing a variety of Christmas carols and motets interspersed with reading from the scriptures. No booking required. Refreshments in the Grimshaw Room afterwards.

IN OTHER NEWS.....

New Lectionary from Advent: Many thanks to those members of the parish who have very generously provided donations for the new set of lectionaries. It is very much appreciated.

Christmas Gift for your clergy: Collection on 24th-25th December as personal gift to the Parish Priest's, a thank you for all the work they do.

Worldwide Synod:

The synodality process which began three years ago and involved parishes, like our own, meeting and seeking to discern the needs of the church came to a close at the end of October with the second synod meeting in Rome. Pope Francis has published the report of the synod. We will produce a summary of that report in due course for you to read. Some issues such as the ordination of women have been handed to commissions to research and discuss further. It did however recognise the importance of giving all the baptised a greater voice in the decision making of the Church including the choice of Bishops. There is a good summary here via the US website, National Catholic Reporter.

[Synod's final report calls for all baptized Catholics to shape future church | National Catholic Reporter](#)

Advent Scripture Verses:

Try reading and reflecting on one verse a day during Advent

Sun, 15th Dec- John the Baptist said to the people: Anyone who has two tunics must share with whoever has none, and anyone with something to eat must do the same. Luke 3:10-18

Mon, 16th Dec- The Lord God says: Look, I shall rescue my people, gathering them from east and west. They will be my people and I shall be their God, Faithful and just. Zechariah 8:7-9

Tue, 17th Dec- Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every kind of spiritual blessings. Ephesians 1:3-10

Wed, 18th Dec- Paul writes: Christ Jesus was never yes-and-no; his nature is all Yes. 2 Corinthians 1:18-22

Thu, 19th Dec- Jesus said: I am the light of the world. Anyone who follows me will not be walking in the dark but will have the light of life. John 8:12

Fri, 20th Dec- Mary said: The Lord has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty-handed. Luke 1:39-56

Sat, 21st Dec- You do well to pay attention to the world of the prophets, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your heart. 2 Peter 1:19-21

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Fr Babu