

Church and Family

The Third Week of Advent invites us to pause and reflect on joy, not the fleeting kind that depends on circumstances, but the deep and steady joy that grows when people choose to care for one another. As we move closer to Christmas, we remember that God chose to enter the world not in isolation, but into a family, a village, and a community. From the very beginning, the story of Christ is woven through with the lives of ordinary people supporting, encouraging, and standing alongside each other.

In this season, we are reminded that our church family is one of God's great gifts. We are called to be more than people who gather in the same building once a week; we are called to be companions on the journey, sharing burdens, celebrating joys, and offering comfort, warmth, and welcome to all.

Advent teaches us that waiting is easier when we wait together. When one person's light flickers, the surrounding candles help it shine again. When someone struggles, the love of the community lifts them. And when someone rejoices, that joy multiplies throughout the fellowship.

As we light the third candle, may it inspire us to look outward as well as inward, to notice who needs a kind word, a listening ear, or a helping hand. May we choose compassion in our words, generosity in our actions, and patience with one another, knowing that Christ's love is made visible through the way we care.

May we be a people who bring joy simply by being present with each other

May we reflect the hope, peace, and coming joy of Christ.

And may we welcome the Christ-child by welcoming, supporting, and loving one another.



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This week

Sat 13th Dec	Memorial St. Lucy, Virgin, Martyr	4.00pm
Sun 14th Dec	Third Sunday of Advent	9.30am
Mon 15th Dec	Advent Feria	10.00am
Wed 17th Dec	Advent Feria	10.00am
Thur 18th Dec	St. Benedict's School Mass	9.30am
Fri 19th Dec	Advent Feria	10.00am
Sat 20th Dec	Advent Feria	4.00pm
Sun 21st Dec	Fourth Sunday of Advent, Mass Intention – Val Dickens R.I.P.	9.30am

Christmas Masses at St. Benedict's
Christmas Eve: 4pm & 7pm
Christmas Day Morning: 10am.

Safeguarding: The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the national and Archdiocese policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is **Mrs. Jo Currie** who can be contacted at sg.stbenedict.atherstone@rcaob.org.uk

'The Prince of Peace'

is on sale today.

This delightful little book has been produced by two members of our parish.

Brian Ingram has written the text and Rosa Brown has illustrated the book beautifully.

An ideal Christmas present for young children!

£5.99

2nd collection - Holy Spirit MAC

This week there will be no 2nd collection, there will be a retiring collection in its place for Holy Spirit MAC and their incredible work feeding the most needy of our community in Atherstone / Nuneaton.

Please be as generous as you can, we should be very proud of our children and young people who drive this much needed initiative.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries fall at this time;

Marie-Ann Bottrell, Elizabeth Murphy, Arthur Cooke, John Francis Collins, Charles Underhill, John Fegan, Harry Collins, Sean Connel, Florrie Killian, Dr. Egan & Alan Wilkins,

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord...

FRIENDS OF ST BENEDICT'S

A great day for our community on Sunday December 7th.

In the morning, Tombola and Cake Sale raised £173

In the afternoon the Musical Entertainment with the Arden Ensemble raised £158 . 50.

Enhanced with mulled wine and mince pies .

Thanks to all those who helped to make these occasions a success.

The Bible Time-line

7:00pm

*Every Monday Evening
St. Benedict's Community Hall*



*Requiem Mass for Rosemary Noble R.I.P.
at St. Benedict's at 11.15 a.m.
on Tuesday, 16th December.*

Collections

1st Collection	£109:79
2nd Collection	£ 80:81
Candles	£. 42:41
Total	£233:01