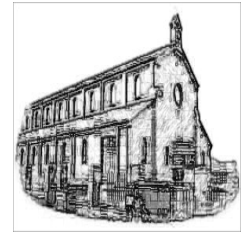




**St Bernard of Clairvaux Mission of Parishes:  
Our Lady and St Benedict & St George and St Martin**


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**Parish Priest : Fr Adrian MacNamara.**

Archdiocese of Birmingham [birminghamdiocese.org.uk](http://birminghamdiocese.org.uk) Registered Charity Number  
2342176 [www.northstaffordshire-catholicdeanery.org.uk/](http://www.northstaffordshire-catholicdeanery.org.uk/)




**First Sunday of Advent**  
November 29th and 30th 2025  
Psalter Week 1 Year A: Year of St. Matthew



**Our Lady and St Benedict's Mass and Service Times**  
 Saturday: 5.00 pm Stephanie Tatton  
 Thursday 9.15 am Elizabeth Clowes  
 Friday 9.45 am Margaret Bloor (Int)  
 Saturday 5.00 pm Walter and Winifred Cliff  
Sacrament of Reconciliation 4.30 pm Saturday OLSB  
Rosary 6.50 pm Tuesday SGSM Rosary Friday 10.15 am OLSB  
 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Saturday 9.45 am SGSM

**St George and St Martin's Mass and Service Times**  
 Sunday 9.30 am James and Gladys Tomkinson/  
 Don and Beryl Griffiths.  
 Tuesday 7.00 pm Peace in the Middle East  
 Wednesday 9.45 am Pope Leo  
 Saturday 10.15 am Mary and John Brennan  
 Sunday 9.30 am Camille Mumbe (BD)

**Faithful Departed:** please pray for those who have died recently: Winnie Morton, Fr Simon Hall, Ann Lloyd, Raymond Godwin, Bernard Casey, Christopher Rush, Maureen Lea, Roger Mayer and Bob Woodward, Elizabeth Joynes. May they rest in peace.  
**Bellcote Appeal:** We need to raise £60,000 for the Bellcote and roof repairs; Please remember: We have three envelopes you can use to donate. *Existing users* of offertory envelopes & S/O's who gift aid. *Tax payers* who wish to make a *one off* gift aid donation. *Non-taxpayers* who wish to make a donation. Please ask for guidance. Alternatively you can donate using your bank card at the terminal in Church or by scanning the QR Code above.



**Bonus Ball** (Saturday's Lotto draw), is being revived. There is £1 a week for a number with £30 prize money Please see Carolyn/Diane after Mass. 1st draw will be on 6th December. There are just 25 numbers to go.  
**Parish Merger Consultation** The proposal to merge our two parishes was presented to the Council of Priests last Wednesday. We now await the decision of Archbishop Bernard and a decree to be issued.  
**Mass Intentions:** Booking now for 2026. Anyone may request a Mass to be offered for a variety of reasons. These reasons may include thanksgiving, praying for someone's intentions (such as on a birthday), for the repose of the soul of a deceased person, for the well-being of someone who is ill, or nearly any other intention. Please use the envelopes provided to make a donation, fill in a date on the calendar.

**Advent Carol Service:** Our Advent Carol Service will take place on Wednesday December 10th at 6.30 pm in St George and St Martin's, Birches Head. Tickets are now on sale. They cost £5.00 per person. Under 16s are free  
**Our Lady and St Benedict Academy:** are launching their Advent Appeal shortly and are making bags for the homeless. The items needed can be found at the back of Church. As a thank you for your help the school invites to mince pies and tea and coffee on December 4th after Mass.  
**Safeguarding:** The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies procedures at all times. Mel Shaw is the Safeguarding Rep for both parishes. Contact Mel on 07857973468 or [sg.sgam.stokeontrent@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.sgam.stokeontrent@rcaob.org.uk). You can contact the Diocesan Safeguarding Team on 0121 230 6240 or [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) if you have any concerns  
**Come Dine with.....Madre Teresa:** Three places left for the delicious three course Italian Meal. Costs £30.00. All proceeds to the Bellcote Appeal  
**LiveSimply** We have now submitted evidence to CAFOD for our Livesimply Award. This is an opportunity for Catholic communities – parishes, schools, and chaplaincies – to answer the call for us to care for our common home and stand in solidarity with our sisters and brothers.  
**CAFOD World Gifts** Catalogues are now available at the back of the church or via the HRT. There will be a second collection next weekend to buy one of the gifts.