



# St. Joseph the Worker Bidford-on-Avon

Website: [sjtw-bidford.org.uk](http://sjtw-bidford.org.uk)

Parish Priest: Canon Garry Byrne [father.garry@gmail.com](mailto:father.garry@gmail.com)

The Presbytery Quinney's Lane Bidford on Avon

Tel: 01789 773291

EMERGENCY ONLY: Fr Christopher Draycott 01386 442 468

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## Times of Mass & Services

31<sup>st</sup> Dec./1<sup>st</sup> Jan. 2017

### SOLEMNITY OF MARY THE MOTHER OF GOD

<b>Saturday</b>	5.30 pm	Mother Regina CP Int.
<b>Sunday</b>	11.00 am	Brian Holberry RIP
<b>Monday</b>	10.00 am	Peace
<b>Tuesday</b>	6.15 pm	People of the Parish
<b>Wednesday</b>	10.00 am	Maria Conway RIP
<b>Thursday</b>	6.15 pm	Teresa Conway RIP
<b>Friday</b>	9.00 am	Margaret Ruddy Int
<b>Saturday</b>	5.30 pm	Mother Monica CP Int
<b>Sunday</b>	11.00 am	People of the Parish

**CONFESSIONS: Saturday after 5.30pm Mass**

### NEXT SUNDAY IS THE SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

**OUR THANKS** to those who enabled us to worthily and joyfully celebrate the mystery of Christmas; the readers, choir, altar servers, Eucharistic Ministers, Children's Liturgy Leaders, church wardens; those who cleaned the cloths, brasses and church; arranged the Crib and flowers, and to all who took part.

**PERSONAL THANKS** Thank you sincerely for your generous Christmas Offerings and Christmas greetings.

**HOLY HOUR THIS THURSDAY** before The Blessed Sacrament from 5.15 pm to Mass at 6.15 pm. Many are praying for peace at this time.

**THE HOLY FAMILY MAC** Our local Catholic Schools: Our Lady's Alcester, St Mary's Broadway, St Mary's Henley in Arden, and St Benedict's Alcester, will become a Multi Academy Company called "The Holy Family" this year. This Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> January, all the staff will meet together. The day will begin with a Service of Prayer at 9am, to which all the existing Governors are invited. I will be attending as a Governor of the Federation of the Junior Schools.

### CHRISTMAS PRESENT FROM 'AWARDS FOR ALL'

Our Building Committee, with help and advice from the Diocese, recently applied to The Big Lottery 'Awards for All' Scheme. We sought funding to undertake a professional feasibility study of the needs of the local community, and how we could be equipped to meet them. On the Monday before Christmas we received a letter from 'Awards for All' confirming that we would be receiving a grant of £9,400 for this purpose. This will help to inform our decisions about developing our parish and site.

### DECEMBER ISSUE OF CATHOLIC TODAY

Please take a copy of the December Issue of 'Catholic Today', our own Diocesan Newspaper. Read about Fatima House, providing shelter for vulnerable asylum seekers in Birmingham; an account of Archbishop Bernard's Ecumenical Pilgrimage to the Holy Land with Bishop John Inge of Worcester etc.

### KNOTWEED REMOVED

The knotweed in a part of the former allotment behind the church has been removed. In tracing it, the contractors excavated at the deepest point to about 2 ½ meters. In all, around 30 square meters of soil was processed. The largest roots were about 1 ½ inches thick, breakable by hand, and showing an orange interior, which greatly helps to identify them. The cost, with a 10 year guarantee, is £12,000, plus VAT-£14,400, which we will now have to raise.

### Please pray for the sick, housebound and those who care for them:

Niamh Coyne, Pat Hopkins, Betty Gowers, Mary Normoyle, Clive Stanbrook, David Ryan, Michael Moore, Archie Parsons, Heather Gerard, Chris Browne, Mary Palmer, Emily Parker, Shelly & Margaret Gray, Phil Palmer, Liz Gowers, Mary Lamming, Martin Prickett, Mel Roberts, Bridget Parkin, Julie Kelly, Tommy McAloon, Gabrielle Edwards.