SAINT JOHN VIANNEY CATHOLIC CHURCH

VIANNEY HOUSE, 1 BISHOPTON CLOSE, MOUNT NOD, COVENTRY, CV5 7GW

Our Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham (Registered Charity Number 234216)

SUNDAY 23RD AUGUST 2026
TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

PARISH CLERGY
Parish Priest Rev. Fr. Alex Taylor
Deacon Rev. Mr. Andy Lansberry

PARISH OFFICE
Parish Secretary & Hall Bookings
Mrs. Louise Cawley
Parish Office
Tuesday & Thursday 9.00am – 4.00pm

CONTACTS
Telephone 02476 466332
Email stjohnvianney.covty@rcaob.org.uk
Website www.st-john-vianney.org.uk
Livestream www.youtube.com/@sjvcov

PARISH HALL BOOKINGS
www.st-john-vianney.org.uk/hall-for-hire
Bookings Forms
Form A for One-Off Hire
Form B for Regular Hire

PARISH SAFEGUARDING NOTICE
Our Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies & procedures at all times.
Our Parish Safeguarding Rep is Tricia Towner, who can be contacted at **sg.stjohnvianney.covty@rcaob.org.uk** or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on **0121 230 6240** or **safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk** if you have any concerns.

Coventry foodbank

NEEDED: Cooking Sauce, Vegetarian options, Cereal, Tinned Vegetables, Rice, Instant Mash Potato, Tinned Tomatoes, Instant Coffee, Tea Bags, Soup, Fruit Juice or Squash, Jam, Tinned Fruit, Tinned Meat. No water, fruitshoot-type drinks, Fizzy Pop or alcohol. Ensure all donated items are long-dated. **SJV has a donation deposit box located in the porch area. Your help is much appreciated.**

RECOGNISING JESUS AS THE CHRIST, THE SON OF GOD
In the gospel this Sunday, Jesus asks the same question in two different ways: "Who do people say that I am?" But most importantly for our own reflection, Jesus asks us personally: "Who do **you** say that I am?" Peter goes on to make the famous profession of faith, acclaiming: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God". One of the most important ways of recognising Jesus as the Christ, the Son of the living God, is by coming before him, recognising him in the Eucharist, he who is "the source and summit of the Christian life" (CCC 1324). Saint Francis composed this beautiful letter and prayer to his Franciscan brother, which captures the essence of not only recognising Jesus but loving him in your life. *"Let everyone be struck with fear, let the whole world tremble, and let the heavens exult when Christ, the Son of the living God, is present on the altar in the hands of a priest! O wonderful loftiness and stupendous dignity! O sublime humility! O humble sublimity! The Lord of the universe, God and the Son of God, so humbles Himself that for our salvation He hides Himself under an ordinary piece of bread! Brothers, look at the humility of God, and pour out your hearts before Him! Humble yourselves that you may be exalted by Him! Hold back nothing of yourselves for yourselves, that He Who gives Himself totally to you may receive you totally!"*. (Saint Francis of Assisi, A Letter to the Entire Order II)

THIS SUNDAY: FRIENDS OF THE HOLY LAND APPEAL
On 22nd/23rd August, Peter Rand of Friends of the Holy Land , will visit our parish and speak about the work of the Friends and the difference it makes to the small Christian population in Palestine, Israel, and Jordan. There will be a retiring collection and he will bring some leaflets/newsletters about the work of FHL. For more information, visit www.friendsoftheholyland.org.uk

CHURCH VOLUNTEERS THANKSGIVING RECEPTION
THURSDAY 3RD SEPTEMBER 6.30PM TO 8.00PM
On 1st September, it will be one year since Fr. Alex arrived in the parish. As a token of his gratitude and appreciation, Fr. Alex warmly invites parish volunteers to a parish Thanksgiving Reception. On this occasion, Fr. Alex asks nothing of you except the pleasure of your company! Even if you can pop in for half an hour, come along, but please remember to sign up. A sign-up sheet will be available soon. We look forward to celebrating and thanking you for all that you do. **Sign-up sheet available from this weekend.** Many thanks, *Fr Alex*

FIRST THURSDAYS – COMING IN OCTOBER
After the evening Mass on the first Thursday of each month, you are warmly invited to share supper in the parish hall. To help us plan catering and avoid unnecessary food waste, please sign up in advance before each event. More details coming soon.

SUPPORT ALEKSANDRA'S CANCER RESEARCH 10K NIGHTWALK
Please support Aleksandra, who is walking 10km on 4th September for Cancer Research UK's Shine Night Walk, raising funds for early detection research — so more women can catch it early and have that same hope.
https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/aleksandras-giving-page-702

PARISH DIARY

Month of August Dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary
Sunday Year A | **Parish Mass Book** pg. 120 | **Weekday Year** 2 | **Psalter Week** 1

MASS DIARY		
TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Sat 22nd	6.00pm **Vigil Mass –** Intentions of Jack Keogan
	Sun 23rd	9.30am **Sunday Mass –** Max Gorman RIP *Tea and Coffee after Mass in the Parish Hall*
Feast of St Bartholomew	Mon 24th	No Mass
Feria	Tue 25th	9.00am **Mass** – Breda Spurgeon RIP *Tea and Coffee after Mass in the Parish Hall*
Feast of Blessed Dominic Barberi	Wed 26th	9.00am **Mass** – Deceased Members of the Larkin and McNeil and Extended Families
St Monica	Thu 27th	9.30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 10.00am **Mass** – Elizabeth Coyle RIP
St Augustine	Fri 28th	9.00am **Mass** – Andrew Duncan RIP
The Beheading of St John the Baptist	Sat 29th	9.00am **Mass at Our Lady's Altar** – For the People of the Parish 9.30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Rosary until 10.00am. Confessions available.
TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Sat 29th	6.00pm **Vigil Mass** – Anne Mullen RIP
	Sun 30th	9.30am **Sunday Mass** – Neil Fitzpatrick RIP *Tea and Coffee after Mass in the Parish Hall*

EVENTS DIARY

26th Aug – 9.00am – Mass for the Feast of Blessed Dominic Barberi

1st Sept – 9.00am – Mass for Beginning of the Season of Creation
2nd Sept – 6.30pm to 7.30pm – Prayer, Scripture and Study Group
3rd Sept – 6.30pm to 8.00pm – Parish Volunteers Thanksgiving Reception
4th Sept – 9.00am – Whole SJV School Mass for the Beginning of Term
8th Sept – 9.00am – Mass with the Anointing of the Sick on the Feast of Our Lady's Birthday
11th Sept – 9.30am – SJV Pastoral Care Group AGM. All welcome.
12th Sept – 6.00pm – Sunday Vigil Mass for Fr. Alex's 6th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood
25th Sept – Macmillan Coffee Morning in Parish Hall
26th Sept – 9.30am to 1.00pm – Cursillo Encounter Morning for Coventry & Nuneaton Deanery
27th Sept – 9.10am – Recommencement of Sunday Morning Prayer
30th Sept – 6.30pm to 7.30pm – Prayer, Scripture and Study Group

1st Oct – 5.30pm – Mass followed by Fish and Chip supper (1st Thursday)
3rd Oct – 12 Noon – Guild of St Stephen Altar Servers Mass at St Chad's Cathedral
3rd Oct – 6.00pm – Sunday Vigil Mass – Year 6 Commitment & Reception Welcome
4th Oct – End of the Season of Creation
14th Oct – 6.30pm to 7.30pm – Prayer, Scripture and Study Group
17th Oct – 6.00pm – Sunday Vigil Mass – Year 3 Commitment
28th Oct – 6.30pm to 7.30pm – Prayer, Scripture and Study Group

5th Nov – 5.30pm – Mass followed by Homemade Lasagna and Salad (1st Thursday)
14th Nov – 3.00pm – Blessing of Graves at St Andrew's Cemetery, Eastern Green
14th Nov – 6.00pm – Sunday Vigil Mass – Annual Parish Remembrance Mass
20th Nov – 9.30am – SJV Pastoral Care Group Meeting
28th/29th Nov – 1st Sunday of Advent

3rd Dec – 5.30pm – Mass by Candlelight followed Sandwiches/Soup (1st Thursday)
8th Dec – 9.00am – Mass for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception
10th Dec – 6.00pm – KS2 SJV Primary School Carols and Readings. All parishioners welcome
12th Dec – 7.15am – Rorate Caeli Mass (by Candlelight) – followed by breakfast in Vianney House
12th/13th Dec – Bambinelli Sunday – Blessing of Crib Figures

ONGOING CHURCH MAINTENANCE FUND
£1,000 has been raised so far.
Our target is £5,000.

This is an ongoing fund to help towards new lighting and decorating in the Church due to take place in summer 2027. Donations can be made through second collections and by the MyDona Machine in the porch area. We already have £1k towards the target of £5k. Thank you for your generosity.

DEANERY NEWS AND EVENTS

COVENTRY COACH TO MARCH4LIFE 2026

Please join us in a peaceful, joyful March in London on Saturday 5th September – celebrating life and challenging abortion. 2 months ago abortion in the home, up to birth, was decriminalised. Around 1,000 unborn babies are legally killed every day in our country. Please join one of the few ways we can peacefully challenge all this – and the suffering it causes to every family. Coach leaves from Corpus Christi CV3 2QP at 9am, after 8.30am Mass, and returns about 7.30pm. £20 adults, £10 children.

HARVINGTON HALL PILGRIMAGE

St Thomas More have spaces available on a coach for the Harvington Hall Pilgrimage on Sunday 6th September. Cost per person will be £20. Anyone wishing to book a space needs to phone 02476 411900 or can email stm.covty@rcaob.org.uk. The coach will leave around 12.15pm/12.30pm from the car park in St Thomas More

CURSILLO ENCOUNTER MORNING
SATURDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER 9.30AM TO 1.00PM

An encounter with God, self and others held at St John Vianney. You are warmly invited to a time of reflection and fellowship led by Cursillo. Through talks and discussion, discover how Cursillo can help you and your parish deepen, renew and share our Catholic faith. To book your place, email paul.northam@rcaob.org.uk or for more information about Cursillo visit www.cursillouk.org.

DEANERY CHILDREN'S LITURGY

There will be a meeting for anyone in the Deanery involved in Children's Liturgy on Saturday 3rd October from 9.30am – 1.30pm. There will be Mass and two talks with a light lunch to follow at Corpus Christi Church and Parish Centre. All welcome.

CHARIS EVENING AT ST JOHN FISHER

Every fourth Friday from 6.00pm to 8.00pm

ANNUAL DEANERY BLESSING OF GRAVES

Canley - Sunday 27th September at 3pm
St Paul's - Sunday 4th October at 3pm
London Road - Sunday 11th October at 3pm
Lenton's Lane - Sunday 18th October at 3pm

PARISH VOLUNTEER VACANCIES

Parish Gift Aid Coordinator
Children's Liturgy Leaders
Readers for the Liturgy of the Word
Welcomers/ Stewards
Sunday Teas & Coffees

BOOKING MASSES AT SJV

Thank you for your Mass intention requests. Please remember that Church law allows only one Mass intention to be offered at each Mass, so we kindly ask that intentions are booked in advance to avoid disappointment. Mass intentions can be handed to Fr. Alex or placed in the grey post box as usual. If you require a specific date, please give as much notice as possible (weeks or months ahead) and include a contact phone number so we can confirm availability. We will always do our best to accommodate your request, but we cannot always guarantee specific dates.

ARCHDIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM EVENTS

SAINT CHAD'S CATHEDRAL FREE ORGAN RECITALS

At 1.15pm on 27th August: Stephen Disley
Recitals last 40 minutes and are admission free with a retiring collection towards the care and maintenance of the organ

TRUSTEE AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNIES

The Archdiocese of Birmingham is seeking practising Catholics with professional experience to serve as Trustees and committee members, particularly in safeguarding, property, governance, heritage and the work of Harvington Hall. For further information visit www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/jobs

DIOCESAN NOVENA TO BLESSED DOMINIC BARBERI

The Novena of Prayer Tuesday 18th to Wednesday 26th August.

Novena Prayer:

O God, who so lovingly raised Blessed Dominic
to the heights of holiness, learning and apostolic zeal
and made him a powerful minister of your mercy,
listen to our humble request.

We pray that you will in your goodness,
grant a miracle through the intercession of Blessed Dominic,
so that the Church may further honour him on earth
and that many more people will come to know
and invoke the help of this faithful servant of the Church.
We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Mary, Mother of Holy Hope, Pray for Us.
Saint John Henry Newman, Pray for Us.
Blessed Dominic Barberi, Pray for Us.

LOCAL EVENTS

TOWARDS A NEW CATHEDRAL

Is an exhibition offering an insight into how the new Coventry Cathedral was designed after the original medieval building was bombed in the Second World War. It will showcase entries from the 1951 design competition won by the Scottish architect Basil Spence, many of which have not been displayed since they were judged. More than 200 architects from around the world entered, submitting plans that ranged from traditional to modernist. The exhibition will run from 8th August – 21st September from 10.00am – 4.00pm in the Chapel of Christ the Servant.

WARWICKSHIRE WATERCOLOURS EXHIBITION 2026

Berkswell Reading Room, CV7 7BE
Saturday 29th August to Monday 31st August
10.00am to 5.00pm
See poster for more details.

FRIDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER 2026

10.00am gather at Godiva Statue in Broadgate Coventry City Centre Procession, 10.20am arrive Priory Gardens, Performances in Priory Gardens 11.30 finish. Lady Godiva and the Godiva Sisters will weave a colourful musical procession from Broadgate, by Godiva Statue, at 10.30am we will walk through to Priory Gardens, each wearing their traditional costume that make up the Godiva Family of Coventry followed by a blessing of the small tokens of different foods offered by each Godiva sister, representing different cultures and faiths, all will be shared among us. People may stay longer to chat and socialise if they wish and everyone is invited to bring a picnic to share if staying till 12 noon. We really look forward to welcoming you on Friday 11th September to our Dame Goodyvers Daye event.

BERKSWELL MUSIC FESTIVAL:

St. John the Baptist Church, CV7 7BJ,
25th to 27th September.
See poster for more details.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY

John Hoban, Breda Spurgeon and Anne Mullen, Elizabeth Herlihy and Deacon Gerry O'Reilly.
Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND OF THE PARISH AND OUR FAMILIES

Terence Cassidy, Steve Ward, Peter Hughes, Sylvia Flynn, Laura Crowe, Jean Carver. Doreen Cadden and Maura O'Neill.

MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTION OF THE HOLY FATHER AUGUST 2026

For evangelisation in the city

Let us pray that in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community.

PARISH PRAYER INTENTION: AUGUST 2026

For Priests

God, please give to your Church today many more priests after your own heart. May they be worthy representatives of Christ the Good Shepherd. May they wholeheartedly devote themselves to prayer and penance; be examples of humility and poverty; shining models of holiness; tireless and powerful preachers of the Word of God; zealous dispensers of your grace in the sacraments. May their loving devotion to your Son Jesus in the Eucharist and to Mary his Mother be the twin fountains of fruitfulness for their ministry. Amen.

HIRE THE PARISH HALL

Looking for a welcoming, versatile venue for your next event or regular activity? Our parish hall is available to hire for both one-off occasions and regular bookings, providing a comfortable and well-equipped space for a wide variety of community, private, and family events.

Our hall is ideal for meetings, community groups, clubs, exercise and dance classes, workshops, training sessions, children's activities, coffee mornings, birthday parties, family celebrations, anniversaries, charity events, and other special occasions.

With a fully equipped kitchen, toilet facilities, and on-site parking, our hall offers everything you need to help your event run smoothly. We welcome individuals, community organisations, charities, and local groups, and we'd be delighted to help you find the perfect space for your event.

BOOKING FORM A – One-Off
BOOKING FORM B – Regular

If you need more information and rates for hire, please contact Louise Cawley (Tuesday and Thursday 9.00am to 4.00pm) by email: stjohnvianney.covty@rcaob.org.uk
or by phone: 024 7646 6332.

GOOGLE: https://maps.app.goo.gl/RXjUhjq59qEaj6nB8