



# The Parish of Moseley

## St Mary's & St Anne's



### Parish of Moseley - Third Sunday of Advent

#### Our Services for Sunday 14th December - Third Sunday of Advent

- 8.00am - Holy Communion at St Mary's
- 10.00am - Sung Eucharist at St Mary's
- 11.00am - Sung Eucharist at St Anne's
- 5.00pm - Community Carols at St Anne's

**Please note there is no 6.30 pm service at St Mary's.**

**Morning Readings for the Third Sunday of Advent:** Isaiah 35.1–10, James 5.7–10, Matthew 11.2–11

#### Thought for the Day by Debbie Barwell

Whilst seeking inspiration for this week's thought for the day, I stumbled upon the fact that 14<sup>th</sup> December is the feast day of St John of the Cross. Having never heard of this 16<sup>th</sup> Century Spanish saint, I decided to find out more.

John, or Juan, was born into poverty and raised in an orphanage. He became a Catholic priest and a Carmelite friar and was imprisoned for months as the result of a misunderstanding. John was incarcerated in a tiny cell in Toledo for nine months with the only light coming through a small slit

high up in the wall. While John could have fallen into despair, instead he chose to spend the time in prayer, listening to God and deepening his understanding of God's love. On his release, John willingly forgave those who had imprisoned him. When asked how he was able to forgive those who had persecuted him so cruelly and unjustly, he simply said, 'where there is no love, put love and you will draw out love.'

These words seem to have a special resonance at this time of year. Our world feels threatened by darkness but, perhaps, in sharing God's love in small ways we too can bring a little light to the darkness this Christmas.

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## **Future Services**

### **Sunday 21st December - Fourth Sunday of Advent**

- 8.00am - Holy Communion at St Mary's (BCP)
- 10.00am - Sung Eucharist at St Mary's
- 11.00am - Sung Eucharist at St Anne's
- 6.30pm - Service of Nine Lessons and Carols at St Mary's

### **Wednesday 24th December - Christmas Eve**

- 5.00pm - Christingle at St Mary's
- 11.00pm - Midnight Mass at St Mary's

### **Thursday 25th December - Christmas Day**

- 8.00am - Holy Communion at St Mary's
- 10.00am - Sung Eucharist at St Mary's
- 10.00am - Sung Eucharist at St Anne's (please note the earlier service time)

### **Sunday 28th December - First Sunday of Christmas**

- 11.00am - Sung Eucharist at St Anne's

**Please note there are no services at St Mary's.**

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## **Our Regular Worship**

- Details of our regular pattern of worship can be found on the Services page of our website [here](#).
  - Details of how the pattern relates to Children's Worship can be found on the Children and Youth page of our website [here](#).
  - Details of specific services can continue to be found in the Calendar.
  - Morning Prayer is at **9.00am** in the Lady Chapel at St Mary's on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday and at **9.00am** in St Anne's on Tuesday.
  - The Thursday Midweek Communion service is at **12.15pm** in the Lady Chapel at St Mary's.
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## **Notices - please continue to the bottom of the bulletin for events which are coming up**

### **Advent Sessions: Do not be Afraid: The joy of waiting in a time of fear**

Our Advent Sessions this year are based on Rachel Mann's book "Do Not Be Afraid: The joy of waiting in a time of fear". The final session will take place as follows:

- 17th December at United Church of St Paul's Balsall Heath 7.30 - 9.00pm

For those of you who would like to get an overview of the theme please watch this short video clip - [Bing Videos](#). Photocopies of the next chapter of the book will also be available to collect from the welcome desk.

If you would like to order your own copy of the book it is:

*Do Not Be Afraid: The joy of waiting in a time of fear* by Rachel Mann

### **Advent Quiet Morning: Saturday 13th December**

Our Advent Quiet morning will take place on Saturday 13th December from 9.30am-12.30pm at St Anne's Church, beginning with pastries and good coffee. The theme for the session is "The Spirituality of Winter".

### **Blue Christmas: 3.00pm Saturday 13th December, Lady Chapel, St Mary's Church**

A short service for those mourning and remembering loved ones who have died, or for those who do not find the festive season easy.

The service will last about 40 minutes and will be followed by hot drinks, mince pies and conversation in the West Room. All are welcome to come, regardless of faith.

### **An invitation!**

If you've been involved in helping with anything at either church this year, we'd like to say a big thank you! Ange and Magdalen would like to say thank you by inviting you to Christmas drinks and nibbles at St Anne's Hall on Saturday 20th December from 7-9pm. If you can come, please email either vicar or the office.

### **Christmas Cards this Year**

In accordance with our Eco Church status and to save paper, we are encouraging members of our church to send ONE card to everyone in the church again this year. You can still donate to a chosen charity if this is a way you give money. Cards will be displayed in church so everyone can enjoy them.

### **Crafty Pippa raises money for Moseley Christmas Day Together**

Huge thanks to Pippa from Moseley C of E Primary School, who used her amazing crafting skills to make beautiful Christmas hair scrunchies, which she then sold to raise funds for Christmas Day Together. Pippa raised £100 in total, which is a wonderful achievement.

### **Christmas Day Together**

Christmas Day Together is at St Anne's Hall, Park Hill on Christmas Day from 12.00 - 2.30pm, offering a hot Christmas lunch and friendship to those in the local community, who would be on their own at

Christmas. If you'd like to contribute something towards this, we'd be very grateful. **You can donate [here](#).**

We are aiming to raise £500 to cover the costs of heating, food and a gift for everyone.

We could still do with a few more volunteers to cook and deliver roast potatoes on Christmas Eve and to collect /drive guests home on Christmas Day.

If you can help or if you'd like to attend, please contact 0121 449 2243 or email [office@moseleychurch.org.uk](mailto:office@moseleychurch.org.uk) to book a place.

### **Parish Safeguarding Survey**

We have been asked by the Diocese to circulate their Safeguarding Survey across our parish. The Diocese are hoping to catch a 'snapshot' of safeguarding culture in order to help their processes and structures.

Everyone is invited to complete this online survey before December 14<sup>th</sup>. Many thanks for your assistance. Please [click here](#) to complete the survey.

### **Restore Training Course**

Restore will be holding their next training course at St Johns Church, Harborne on 7th February 2026. The course is for anyone interested in learning more about refugees, or those considering volunteering as a befriender with Restore. The training will start at 9.45am and finish at 4pm. Contact Jasmine at Restore for more information on [jasmine@restore-uk.org](mailto:jasmine@restore-uk.org) or [click here](#) to sign up.

### **Keeping safe in church**

We are currently reviewing our lone working policy. If you come in to church on your own during the day, please do let the office know that you are there.

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## **This week in the Parish**

### **We continue to pray for:**

Sheila Perks, Trish Burt, Jane, Laurie Flood, Elizabeth, Ros Long, Betty Clarke, Christine Guest, John Dowell, Philip Mills, Angela Sones and family, and Christina Brown.

**Souls of the Departed:** Phil Burt

### **The Parish also prays and gives thanks for:**

- Those in our congregations who work with vulnerable people, including migrants and refugees.
- Everyone who lives in our parish - this week praying for all our neighbours who live on Sandhurst Road.

Church of England Birmingham Praying Together: The December edition is [here](#).

Inclusive Church Newsletter: The November edition is [here](#).

**We celebrate the Birthdays of:** Mark Simons.

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## Future events

### Advent Quiet Morning

Saturday, 13 December 09:30

Advent Quiet Morning Our Advent Quiet morning will take place on Saturday 13th December from 9.30am-12.30pm at St Anne's Church, beginning with pastries and good coffee. The theme for the session is "The Spirituality of Winter"



### Blue Christmas

Saturday, 13 December 15:00

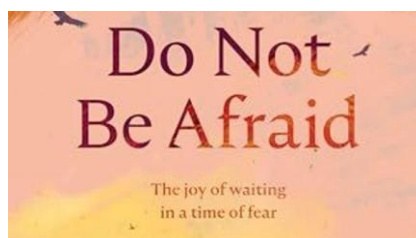
Blue Christmas 3pm Saturday 13th December 2025, St Mary's Church, Moseley A service of Blue Christmas in the Lady Chapel at 3pm followed by hot drinks, mince pies and conversation in the West Room.



### Advent Group at St Paul's Balsall Heath

Wednesday, 17 December 19:30

Advent Sessions Our Advent Sessions this year will be based on Rachel Mann's book "Do Not Be Afraid: The joy of waiting in a time of fear". The final session will take place on 17th December at United Church of St Paul's Balsall Heath 7.30 - 9.00pm.



### **Carol singing in Wetherspoons**

Thursday, 18 December 18:00

Come and sing Christmas Carols in the Elizabeth of York (Wetherspoons), 12A St. Marys Row Moseley, Moseley, B13 8JG. All are welcome!

