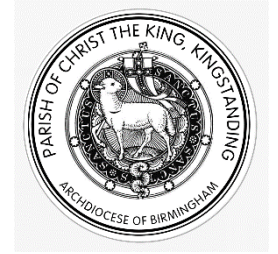




**The Parishes of  
Our Lady of the Assumption, Maryvale  
and  
Christ the King, Kingstanding**



Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. The-Quang Nguyen  
124 Warren Farm Road, Kingstanding, Birmingham B44 0QN

Monastery: 99 Old Oscott Hill  
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Email: sistersofthebvm@gmail.com

Fr. The-Quang Nguyen:  
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Tel: 0121 373 0988. Email: Admin:  
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Parish Deacons: Rev. Mr. Dominic Fahey, Rev. Mr. Gary O'Brien  
Websites: [www.christ-theking.org.uk](http://www.christ-theking.org.uk) & <http://www.maryvale.org.uk>

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and National and Archdiocesan policies and procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Stephen Clarke. He can be contacted at [sg.christ-theking.bham@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.christ-theking.bham@rcaob.org.uk)  
Alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk)

Hymns: E: 40; O: 488; C: 113; R: 129

**MASSES THIS WEEK**

<b>Sat</b> 20/04/24	Easter Feria	10:00 Mon.	Private Intention
		12:30 CTK	Pat & Gill Walsh (Anni.)
		18:00 OLAM	Dipiro family (RIP)
<b>Sun</b> 21/04/24	4th Sunday of Easter	10:00 CTK	Michael Canavan (RIP)
		11:30 OLAM	Shane Nangle (RIP)
<b>Mon</b> 22/04/24	Easter Feria	08:00 Con.	John Spencer (RIP)
		09:30 Mon.	HRH Princess of Wales (get well)
<b>Tue</b> 23/04/24	Feast of St. George, Martyr	09:30 Mon.	Annie McDonnell (Anni)
		12:00 CTK	Lawrence & Patricia Tams (RIP)
<b>Wed</b> 24/04/24	Easter Feria	08:00 Con.	Tom Murphy & Family
		09:30 Mon.	Freda Jones (RIP)
<b>Thu</b> 25/04/24	Feast of St. Mark, Evangelist	09:30 Mon.	John Massey (Thanksgiving)
		12:00 CTK	Annie R/Rose L/Mary C/Nancy B (RIP)
<b>Fri</b> 26/04/24	Easter Feria	09:00 CTK	Marion & Tony Savage
		10:30 Mon.	William, Kate & children
<b>Sat</b> 27/04/24	Easter Feria	10:00 Mon.	Private Intention
		12:30 CTK	Kevin Berns (Anni.)
		18:00 OLAM	Grace Deane (Anni.)
<b>Sun</b> 28/04/24	5th Sunday of Easter	10:00 CTK	Andy Holden (Anni)
		11:30 OLAM	William Donnelly (Anni)

**Bible Study** with Deacon Dominic Fahey in the Guild Room at Christ The King **every Thursday** at 7:00pm.

**Rosary Group:** meeting **every Wednesday** in Christ the King Church at 1:30pm.

**Pray For The Sick:** Monique Hunt, Luke Byrne, Jean McCabe, Muriel/Paul Cowan, Gerald, John, John/Sandra Mageean, Sadie Pulido, Arjun Paul, Sr Marie, Mary McGee, Sarah McCallion, Claire/Mark, Carole Smith, Alan Rowan, Jo Teece, Mary Ann Gniadkowski, Niamh O'Reilly, Alberto Bolongaro, Kyle Billing, Nicola Jones, Elizabeth Teague, Daniel Kelly, Patricia Nash, Teresa Webb, Angela Madigan, Carol Timmis, Joanne Fields, Caitlin Hodgetts, Debbie Davis, Jo Brown, Joan/Alan Horton, Fr Michael Ho, Peggy O'Donovan, Pauline O'Brien, Annette Molloy, Chris & Eddie Walsh.

**RIP:** Pray for the repose of the souls of Mary Beirne, Audrey Clements and Fr John Warnaby (Mrs Anna Moloney's brother) who died recently. May they rest in peace.

**Funerals:** M Beirne: Thu 09/05/24, 11:00, OLAM; A Clements: Fri 10/05/24, 10:30, CTK.

**THE SANCTUARY LAMP**, which burns to indicate the presence of the Blessed Sacrament on the Altar, is dedicated throughout **April** for **Wesley Patrick Bye and other deceased members of the Bye/Campbell family Circle** at Christ The King and for the **Ranahan Family Circle** at Maryvale.

**Farewell:** The Sisters of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Maryvale are moving to Aston Hall, Staffordshire shortly. They would like to thank people in the area for their love, friendship and support during the last ten years. A full letter from Mother Winsome is available for viewing on the parish websites. Any support given to the Sisters would be much appreciated. Please pray for the Sisters' move and their future.

**Community Meal:** Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April. If you would like to attend, please book a place with Sandra (M: 07985 607091).

**Diary Dates.** Parish Council next meets on Wed 24<sup>th</sup> April in the Guild Room.

The parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No. 234216

**Last Weeks' Collection CTK**  
 Loose: £ 330.61  
 Envelopes: £ 62.00  
 Standing Orders: £ 247.23  
**Total: £ 639.84**

**Thank you for  
 your generous support**

**Last Weeks' Collection OLAM**  
 Loose: £ 142.07  
 Envelopes: £ 164.50  
 Standing Orders: £ 109.15  
**Total: £ 415.72**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection:** There will be a 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection this weekend for the Clergy Training Fund.

Christ the King		20/21 APR	27/28 APR
Sat 12:30	Minister of the Word	Theresa	Tracy
	Minister of Holy Communion	Sue Nugent	Theresa
Sun 10.00	Minister of the Word	Oscottian reader	Steve
	Minister of Holy Communion	Marion	Sr Michale

**Thanksgiving Mass for Marriage:** Are you celebrating a significant wedding anniversary in 2024? Are you engaged to be married this year? Or would you simply like to give thanks to God for your marriage, and ask for His ongoing blessings? If so, we would like to invite you to attend this year's Thanksgiving Mass for Marriage. It will take place at St Chad's Cathedral, the Diocesan Mother Church, on Saturday 4 May at 12noon. The Celebrant will be Archbishop Bernard Longley. Please **register your attendance by Sunday 21 April** on [www.vocations.org.uk/marriage-mass](http://www.vocations.org.uk/marriage-mass)

**Next meeting of the Cluster Clergy:** Fathers Thé, Simon and Leonard and Deacons Dominic and Gary will next be meeting on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2024. If anyone has any thoughts/comments/concerns about the development of the Cluster which they would like us to put on the agenda, please contact Deacon Gary ([dcn.gary.obrien@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:dcn.gary.obrien@rcaob.org.uk)).

**Worship in the African style:** On Pentecost (19<sup>th</sup> May 2024) the Offertory Hymn and the Offertory Procession at the 10.00 am Mass at Christ the King will be in the African style. The same afternoon at 4 pm there will be a Mass for Pentecost for all led by the African communities in the Cluster. The Mass will fulfil the Sunday obligation. The Mass has been advertised in the Newsletter of the Archdiocese and we shall be welcoming Monsignor Danny McHugh, the Ethnic Chaplaincy Coordinator for the Archdiocese as one of the concelebrants along with Fathers Thé, Simon and Leonard.

**Corpus Christi Procession:** On 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2024 in the afternoon, there will be a Procession from St Margaret Mary to Christ the King with Liturgies in both Churches. The finer details are still being worked out. Thank you to the parishioners who have volunteered to assist Deacon Gary with the planning. Pending more information, please save the date in your calendar.

**Trustee Vacancy with Marriage Care:** Marriage Care is a Catholic organisation providing marriage preparation and relationship counselling services across England, Wales and Gibraltar. We are looking for Trustees to strengthen our board and to help us continue to provide vital relationship support services to the Catholic community and beyond. For more information please visit: [www.marriagecare.org.uk](http://www.marriagecare.org.uk) or email: [volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk)

**GOSPEL COMMENTARY: FR D. O'SHEA:** Shepherds did not have sheepdogs in Jesus' time. They didn't need them, because sheep would *follow* their shepherd of their own free will. Jesus called himself a "Shepherd": the People of God are not to be driven by fear but led freely by love. In the early centuries, the figure of Jesus as a shepherd was a favourite one, and the earliest representation of him (some art historians claim) shows him as the "Good Shepherd". Shepherds were humble folk. If Jesus had been born in the Inn at Bethlehem, rather than in the stable, the shepherds would not have been allowed in to visit him; this was the first signal of his accessibility. St Thomas Aquinas saw the same wisdom in the incarnation itself: the Word became flesh, he said, so that God would be *accessible* to us in Jesus.

The "Good Shepherd", Jesus said, "lays down his life for his sheep". Who were the bad shepherds, then? Not the literal shepherds, the simple men on the hillside looking after their sheep. Not these, but the 'shepherds of the people', the leaders. In the Old Testament, the term was applied to kings, royal officers, the elders, all who had any kind of authority. In nearly all Scriptural passages, such 'shepherds' were being faulted for neglecting their responsibilities to the 'flock' - the people. In Ezekiel 34, for example, they are being severely reprimanded for neglecting "the weak, the sick, the wounded, the strayed, the lost", for fattening themselves instead of tending to the needs of the flock. It is in contrast to these and to the religious authorities that Jesus calls himself the "Good Shepherd". On every page of the Gospel, we find him seeking out these marginalised people: public sinners, lepers, Samaritans, the sick, the tormented .... He stood up to the authorities for their sake, he defied the systems that made them outcasts, he laid down his life rather than turn his back on them and "kow-tow" to the Authorities.

The imagery of shepherding has become so much part of the Christian mind that it becomes almost invisible. The words 'pastor' and 'pastoral' come from the Latin for shepherd. A bishop's crozier is really a sort of stylish shepherd's stick. Those ancient shepherds carried a stick not to beat and prod their sheep, but to beat off any wild animals that threatened the sheep.

In today's reading, mention of the shepherd's death seems very sudden and unexpected, but in its own setting perhaps it was less so. This fidelity of the shepherd to his flock continues even into modern times. W.M. Thomson, describing his travels in the Holy Land, wrote, "A poor faithful fellow last Spring, between Tiberias and Tabor, instead of fleeing, actually fought three Bedouin robbers until he was hacked to pieces with their khanjars, and died among the sheep he was defending".

Yes, your Bishop and your Pastor are expected to die, if necessary, in your defence. Your Parish Priest too. In fact, all Christians are challenged to lay down their lives, if necessary, for others. The cross of Christ is not an ornament to hang on the wall, but a pattern of Christian life.