



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

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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
Alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk

Hymns: E: 54; O: 396; C: 345; R: 517

MASSES THIS WEEK

SMM: St Margaret Mary's; MInst: Maryvale Institute

Sat 27/07/24	Feria in Ordinary Time	12:30 CTK†	Dotty Teague (RIP)
		18:00 OLAM	John Roche (RIP)
Sun 28/07/24	17 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	09:30 SMM	Ronald Palmer (RIP)
		10:00 CTK	Tony Levell (RIP)
		11:30 OLAM	John Neville (RIP)
Mon 29/07/24	Ss Martha, Mary and Lazarus, Feast	08:00 Con.†	John Fitzgerald (RIP)
		19:00 SMM	Celebrant's Intention
Tue 30/07/24	Feria in Ordinary Time	09:15 SMM	Celebrant's Intention
		10:00 OLAM	Requiem: Sarah (Sadie) Bessant
Wed 31/07/24	St Ignatius of Loyola, Mem.	08:00 Con.†	Ronald Levell (RIP)
		09:15 SMM	Thomas Harvey
Thu 01/08/24	St. Alphonus Mary de Liguori, Feast	12:00 CTK	Teresa Hanley
		09:15 SMM	Peter Dodds
Fri 02/08/24	Feria in Ordinary Time	09:30 CTK	David Byrne (get well)
		19:00 MInst.	First Friday Mass
		12:30 CTK	Richard O'Gorman (RIP)
Sat 03/08/24	Feria in Ordinary Time	18:00 OLAM†	Olive Howkins (RIP)
		09:30 SMM	Rosalinda Trinidad (RIP)
Sun 04/08/24	18 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	10:00 CTK	Debbie Davis (RIP)
		11:30 OLAM	Smith and McMahon families (RIP)

Bible Study with Deacon Dominic Fahey finishes for the Summer on Thursday 25/07/24 and will resume on Thursday 12th September.

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, Jo Brown, Sr Marie, John/Sandra Mageean, Sadie Pulido, Sarah McCallion, Claire/Mark, Carole Smith, Alan Rowan, Jo Teece, Mary Ann Gniadkowski, Niamh O'Reilly, Alberto Bolongaro, Kyle Billing, Nicola Jones, Patricia Nash, Teresa Webb, Angela Madigan, Carol Timmis, Joanne Fields, Caitlin Hodgetts, Joan/Alan Horton, Fr Michael Ho, Peggy O'Donovan, Pauline O'Brien, Annette Molloy, Chris & Eddie Walsh, Elizabeth Teague.

Pray for the Repose of the Souls of Tomo Pat Leek, John Foley, John Godwin and Edward Broadbent who died recently. May they rest in peace. **Funerals:** Sadie Bessant: Tue 30/07/24, 10:00 OLAM; Tomo Leek: Tue 13/08/24, 11:30 CTK; Edward Broadbent: Thu 15/08/24, 10:30 OLAM; John Godwin: Fri 28/08/24, 11:30 CTK.

THE SANCTUARY LAMP, which is lit to indicate the presence of the Blessed Sacrament in the Tabernacle, is dedicated throughout **July** for the **Filkin/Green Family Circle** and the **Gasson Family Circle at OLAM**. And in **August**, for the Deceased members of the **Canavan/Stapleton/Hayden Families** and for **Family members of Faustina (both living at deceased) at OLAM**.

Last Weeks' Collection CTK

Loose: £ 335.48
 Envelopes: £ 94.00
 Standing Orders: £ 247.23
Total: £ 676.71

**Thank you for
 your generous support**

Last Weeks' Collection OLAM

Loose: £ 233.44
 Envelopes: £ 119.00
 Standing Orders: £ 94.69
Total: £ 447.13

Christ the King		27/28 JULY	03/04 AUGUST
Sat 12:30	Minister of the Word	Tracy	Aoife
	Minister of Holy Communion	Sue	Theresa
Sun 10.00	Minister of the Word	Steve	Theresa
	Minister of Holy Communion	Isy Moss	Joyce

Newman Cluster Social Event (1): On 14th August after the Mass at 18.00 (Vigil Mass for the Assumption), St Margaret Mary will host a barbecue for the Cluster. If you would like to go and/or have skills when it comes to barbecues and are willing to help please email Fr. Simon Ellis on fr.simon.ellis@rcaob.org.uk.

Newman Cluster Social Event (2): On 31st October after the 18.00 Mass for the Vigil of All Saints at OLAM, we would like to put on a social event in the Newman Room with drinks and food. We are looking for people to come forward and form a hospitality committee to plan this event so that it can actually happen. If this is something you think you can help with, please let Fr. Thé or Deacon Gary know.

Deacon Gary's commitments for the remainder of July and the whole of August: Deacon Gary and his wife are away on holiday from 21st to 29th July inclusive. Any messages or emails sent to him during that time will be reviewed when he returns to the parish on 30th July. During August, Deacon Gary's workload as a Judge of the Tribunal and as Vice-Delegate for Marriage has to take priority over parish matters, So please bear with him if it takes him longer than usual to reply to any message you send him.

Volunteers Required: Could you spare an hour to help with cleaning the chapel at Maryvale House in advance of this week's First Friday Mass in honour of the Sacred Heart? If you have willing hands and any availability between 10:00 and 11:30am on Wednesday 31st July, your assistance would be gratefully appreciated: simply meet in the car park on the morning or contact 0780 329 3351 if more information is required. The postcode is B44 9AG. Thank you in advance to anyone who might be able to spare us just a little of your time . . . there may be biscuits!

GOSPEL COMMENTARY: FR D. O'SHEA: In this story, everything is on a huge scale. Even the setting for the story is immense: it is the first mention of Jesus crossing the sea of Galilee. At the far side, is a wide space where "a huge crowd" can gather. Jesus feeds the thousands; they not only have plenty, they have twelve baskets of bread left over.

It all speaks to us about immensity, about *abundance*: not the kind of abundance that comes from careful gathering and accounting (the people had come with no food); still less the kind that comes from defrauding one's neighbours; but the abundance of God's providence. "Lifting up his eyes, he saw the crowd..." (verse 5). It seems he wants us too to lift up our eyes, and not to live our lives by addition and subtraction when he is able to multiply goodness towards us.

Contrasted with the immensity of everything in that scene, is the poverty of resources: five barley loaves and two fish to feed thousands of people. Why this sharp contrast?

Miracles seem to happen in situations of scarcity rather than plenty. Why? Because where there is plenty there is no need of miracles. Where there is plenty, you don't have to struggle, you don't have to come up against realities too painfully, you ease your way through everything with a credit card. But, in the story, they had almost nothing. There were only five loaves to feed thousands; and they were *barley* loaves. This was the cheapest kind of bread; in fact barley was really considered animal-feed; it is only the very poor who would eat barley loaves. To be poor, is to have no resources. That can have one of two effects: it can turn people in on themselves, filling them with resentment and self-pity; or it can turn them outwards to a real experience of God's Providence. Poverty can break people's spirit, that is why it is so urgent to fight against it. But equally, or more so, riches can destroy the human spirit, muffling it against reality and against God. Here is a rule of thumb: if you want a miracle, give something away, to make room for it.

Sitting on the ground is also a symbol of poverty and even powerlessness. We don't often sit on the ground nowadays, and hardly ever at Mass, but when we are at Mass we are those disciples in John 6, sitting on the ground (figuratively), in humility and simplicity, sharing our poverty and (because of it) sharing the Lord's gift.

In John's Gospel, there is no account of the institution of the Eucharist at the Last Supper. Instead, Jesus washed the disciples' feet, and said, equivalently, "Do this in memory of me". It is another kind of communion. Without that communion, which is the service of others, the communion of the Eucharist is robbed of its fruit in one's life. Martin McNamara noted that, in 11th-century Irish homilies, the three elements for the celebration of any solemnity were: the liturgy of the word, the sacrifice of the Body and Blood of Christ, and concern for the poor and destitute.

Disciples in every century have continued to recognise him in service of others and in "the breaking of bread".