



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

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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: 410; O: 101; C: 197; R: 175

MASSES THIS WEEK

Con: Convent; CTK: Christ the King; OLAM: Maryvale; SMM: St Margaret Mary's

Sat	23/11/24	Feria in Ordinary Time	12:30 CTK	Teresa Webb
			18:00 OLAM	Jacqui Carron (RIP)
Sun	24/11/24	Christ the King, Solemnity	09:30 SMM	(Mario Romeiro RIP)
			10:00 CTK	Peter Myles (RIP)
			11:30 OLAM	Aileen & Larry McEntee
Mon	25/11/24	Feria in Ordinary Time	08:00 Con.†	Mary Hevehan
			10:30 CTK	Requiem: Kathleen Rice
Tue	26/11/24	Feria in Ordinary Time	08:00 Con	Mary and Francis Murray
			09:15 SMM	Barnabas Agendia (RIP)
Wed	27/11/24	Feria in Ordinary Time	08:00 Con†	Michelle Di-Perrie
			09:15 SMM	Thanksgiving
Thu	28/11/24	Feria in Ordinary Time	12:00 CTK	Kathleen McCarty
Fri	29/11/24	Feria in Ordinary Time	09:00 CTK	Holy Souls
Sat	30/11/24	St Andrew, Apostle, Feast	12:30 CTK	Mary Hall (Anni.)
			18:00 OLAM	Maura Ranahan (RIP)
Sun	01/12/24	First Sunday of Advent, Year C	09:30 SMM	Mary Keogh (RIP)
			10:00 CTK†	Etta Family
			11:30 OLAM	Eileen Harte (RIP)

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

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

RIP: Please pray for Kathleen Rice, Joseph Michael O'Leary and Elizabeth (Betty) Guest, Patricia McGuire, Elaine Douglas, Terrence McGuire, Mary Keogh who passed away recently. May they rest in peace.

Funerals: B Guest: Wed 04/12/24, 11:30, OLAM; T McGuire: Mon 09/12/24, 11:00, OLAM; J O'Leary: Thu 12/12/24, 10:45, OLAM; M Keogh: Tue 17/12/24, 11:00, OLAM; P McGuire: Wed 18/12/24, 10:00, CTK.

THE SANCTUARY LAMP is dedicated throughout November for the **Ollerenshaw family** at CTK and for the **Frank King and McBride family** at OLAM.

CLUSTER ADVENT SERVICE: There will be a service in preparation for the Christmas Season at St Margaret Mary on **Sunday 15th December 2024 at 4 pm**. Fr. Leonard will preside. Frs. Simon and Thé and Deacons Dominic and Gary will all lead short reflections on the Psalms we will have been using in Advent.

PARISH CAROL SERVICE: The parish carol service will be on Sunday 22nd December at 6 pm at Christ the King. Mulled wine and mince pies will be served afterwards.

Walk With Me Booklet and Calendar are available for use during Advent this weekend.

SYCAMORE COURSE - AUTUMN MEETINGS AT ST MARGARET MARY'S CHURCH (in the upstairs Newman Gallery on Wednesdays from 5.30pm – 6.30pm. Forthcoming themes are as follows: 27th Nov – "Finding Freedom"; 4th Dec – "The Sacraments"; 11th & 12th Dec – "Forgiveness" and 18th Dec – "The Mass".

Last Week's Collection CTK

Loose: £ 469.64
 Envelopes: £ 108.00
 Standing Orders £ 247.23
Total: £ 824.87

Last Week's Collection OLAM

Loose: £ 134.64
 Envelopes: £ 271.23
 Standing Orders £ 94.69
Total: £ 510.56

**Thank you for
 your generous support**

Christ the King		23/24 Nov	30 Nov/01 Dec
Sat 12:30	Minister of the Word	Theresa	Kathleen
	Minister of Holy Communion	Susan	Theresa
Sun 10.00	Minister of the Word	School	Angela
	Minister of Holy Communion	Joyce	Marion

GENERAL MEETING OF THE CLUSTER: The next General Meeting of the Cluster will be on Sunday 24th November 2024 at 3 pm in the St John's Centre. After an update from Deacon Gary on the development of the sacramental programmes, the sole item for discussion will be becoming a Divine Renovation Cluster.

PRAYER VIGIL TO STOP ASSISTED SUICIDE: On Thursday 28th November until Friday 29th November at Sacred Heart and Holy Souls, 1151 Warwick Road Acocks Green Birmingham B27 6RG, there will be an all-night prayer vigil to pray for the rejection of the Bill currently before Parliament. The Vigil will begin with Mass at 8 pm on Thursday 28th November and end with Mass at 07.30 am on Friday 29th November. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed between the Masses. You are welcome to attend for whatever part of the Vigil you can manage.

CATHOLIC AFRICAN COMMUNITY IN CHRIST THE KING AND ACROSS THE CLUSTER: Our African brothers and sisters have discerned that there is a need for an association within the parish community specifically in which all the members contribute to each other's spiritual support. Patience Ikwuka has taken up the role of acting Chair until there can be a general meeting and officers elected. Please speak to her after Sunday mass or text her on 07424 162754 for further information.

ENROLMENT FOR THE SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION FOLLOWING BAPTISM: Please pray for the children from Christ the King Primary School who on 23rd/24th November will be enrolled onto the preparation programme for First Holy Communion and Confirmation and for their parents and Godparents. Those not in Christ the King school who are catechised after Mass on Sundays will be enrolled on Sunday 15th December at the 10.00 Mass.

CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE: According to the Diocesan guidance for clergy, 'for the purposes of the Certificate of Catholic Practice, a person is a practising Catholic if they observe the Church's precept of attending Mass on Sundays and holidays of obligation. It is also clear that fortnightly or monthly attendance does not constitute the practice required by the canons.' In order to make the signing of this certificate transparent, all children need to have their school planner signed by the parish clergy every weekend during the time they are in primary school.

GOSPEL COMMENTARY: Fr Donagh O'Shea

Do you know the word 'Maranatha'? Don't be too hard on yourself if you don't: it's an Aramaic word. Aramaic was the language that Jesus spoke. Depending on how you read it, the scholars tell us, it means "Come, Lord!" (marana-tha) or 'The Lord is come' (maran-atha).

'Maranatha' was an early Christian prayer for the return of Christ. St Paul used it in 1 Cor. 16:22. And it occurs in Rev. 22:20,21: "He who testifies to these things says, 'Surely I am coming soon.' Amen. Maranatha! The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you all. Amen." Those are the closing words of the Bible. In 1883 an early Christian book called the Didachè was discovered, which caused immense excitement; it was written in the first century, and was an additional and unexpected glimpse into the early days of the Christian faith. Among other things, it contains an account of the Eucharist. I quote a small part. Look out for the word maranatha.

"Lord, remember your Church; deliver it from evil, perfect it in your love, sanctify it, and gather it from the four winds into the kingdom you have prepared for it. Response: Yours is the power and the glory for ever and ever!

Let Grace [Jesus] come, and this present world pass away. Response: Hosanna to the God of David!

Whoever is holy, let him approach. Whoever is not, let him repent. Response: Maranatha. Amen."

Did they say maran-atha, or marana-tha? Either would make sense, and the Christian faith needs both senses. The kingdom of God is here and at the same time it is yet to come; it is present but not completed. The gospels tell us that "the kingdom of God is among you" (Luke 17:21). They also say that it is still to come: in the Our Father we say "May your kingdom come!" (Matthew 6:10).

The kingdom of God is already here in the sense that Jesus lives within and among us now. But we know also that his presence is obscured by the continued presence of evil in the world. Individuals and institutions are very far from being aligned on the will of God, and so the kingdom is incomplete. St Paul imagines Christ eventually handing over a perfect kingdom to God his Father (1 Cor. 15:24), but since it is not yet perfect, his ultimate triumph is delayed. Origen (born in 185 A.D.) wrote the following: "Christ said, 'I will not drink wine until the day I drink the new wine with you in the kingdom of my Father' (Matthew 26:29). For as long as we fail to rise to his level he cannot drink this wine all alone.... We delay his joy. Until I hand over my life to the Father his life is not fully handed over. Without you he cannot receive his full glory. Without you: that is, without his people, who are his body and his limbs."

We are more inclined to think of the kingdom as still to come: a region beyond the grave. This is reinforced by the phrase 'kingdom of heaven.' The situation is even worse in some other languages, such as French and German, where the one word means 'sky' and 'heaven'. We are tempted to think of God's kingdom as up there somewhere. That phrase 'kingdom of heaven' comes from Matthew's gospel; the other gospels say 'kingdom of God.' Matthew was writing specifically for Jews, and Jews did not like to use the name 'God', out of respect. Instead, Matthew wrote 'kingdom of heaven'. But this should not suggest to us that it is somewhere above the clouds. Christ wants to be king here, not king of the clouds.