



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. Pending formal appointment, our Parish Safeguarding Representative for CTK is Caroline Gorman and our acting rep for OLAM is Angela Hooker. To report concerns or issues at CTK email Caroline on sg.christ-theking.bham@rcaob.org.uk. Until the paperwork has been completed, any concerns or issues at OLAM should be reported to the Diocesan Safeguarding Team on **0121 230 6240** or safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk

Hymns: E: 410; O: 114; C: 49; R: 336

MASSES THIS WEEK

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

Sat	18/10/25	Feast of St Luke, Evangelist	12:30 CTK	Aloysius Gonzaga Ikwuka (RIP)
			18:00 OLAM	Mary Wright (RIP)
Sun	19/10/25	29 th Sunday in Ordinary Time World Mission Day	09:30 SMM	Celebrant's Intention
			10:00 CTK	Bridget Walsh (Anni.)
			11:00 SMM	Celebrant's Intention
			11:30 OLAM	Mary Teresa Duffy (RIP)
Mon	20/10/25	Feria in Ordinary Time	08:00 Con.	Eileen McDermott (RIP)
			11:00 SMM	Funeral: Esa Susan Morton
Tue	21/10/25	Feria in Ordinary Time	09:15 SMM	John Riordon (RIP)
			09:30 MPS	Hugh & Teresa McHugh (RIP)
Wed	22/10/25	Feria in Ordinary Time	08:00 Con.	Pauline Whithero (Anni.)
			09:15 SMM	Joseph Thomas (RIP)
Thu	23/10/25	Feria in Ordinary Time	12:00 CTK	Pat O'Neill (RIP)
Fri	24/10/25	Feria in Ordinary Time	09:00 CTK	Ann Curtis (RIP)
			09:15 SMM	Betty Mulhall (RIP)
Sat	25/10/25	Feria in Ordinary Time	12:30 CTK	Sue Byrne (Birthday)
			18:00 OLAM	Brigid Moyles (RIP)
Sun	26/10/25	30 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	09:30 SMM	Joyce Anderson & John Glasgow (RIP)
			10:00 CTK	Muriel & Fabian Cowan (1st Anni)
			11:00 SMM	Barnabas Agendia (RIP)
			11:30 OLAM	Kathy Lowe

Pray For The Sick: Jean McCabe, Paul Cowan, Gerald, John, Josephine Brown, 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, Joanne Fields, Caitlin Hodgetts, Joan/Alan Horton, Peggy O'Donovan, Pauline O'Brien, Chris & Eddie Walsh, Elizabeth Teague, Christine Stephens, Margaret Coogan, Sadie Kennelly, Michael and Sarah Deane, Peter Hadland, Margaret Head.

Sanctuary Lamp Dedication throughout October at CTK is dedicated to the Moloney family, and at OLAM to the Ikwuka & Ubah Families.

Appointment of new Parish Safeguarding Rep: The Parish is very grateful to Caroline Gorman who has now completed the lengthy process for becoming the new PSR for Christ the King. Please pray for her as she takes up her responsibilities. We are imminently expecting the news that Angela Hooker has likewise completed the process and become the new PSR for Our Lady of the Assumption, Maryvale.

Safeguarding Notice: Our Safeguarding Officers have asked Deacon Gary to remind us all that when there are altar servers under the age of 18 in the Servers' Sacristy at CTK only parishioners such as Sacristans, Stewards and others with necessary and legitimate business should go into the Servers' Sacristy. Parishioners should not gather in there for conversation and even those with necessary and legitimate business should exit as soon as their business is complete. If you need to speak to Fr. Thé or Deacon Gary before Mass, please catch them whilst they are out in the main body of the Church or at the door after Mass. Please bear in mind that responsibility for Safeguarding is shared by us all.

Rosary in Polish: Zapraszamy wszystkich polskojęzycznych parafian, ich rodziny i przyjaciół do wspólnej modlitwy różańcowej w języku polskim w kościele CTK w niedzielę 19 października o godzinie 11:30 (po Mszy Świętej). Spotkajmy się razem, by w duchu wspólnoty i rodziny powierzyć nasze intencje Matce Bożej.

November Grave Blessings: Oscott Cemetery: 1 November, 3pm; Erdington Abbey: 2 November, 2pm; New Hall Cemetery: 2 November, 2pm; Witton Cemetery: 9 November, 2 pm; Rectory Rd Cemetery: 9 November, 2pm

Last Week's Collection CTK

Loose: £ 131.00
 Envelopes: £ 393.00
 Standing Orders £ 247.23
Total: £ 771.23

Second Collection
 This Week: Missio

Last Week's Collection OLAM

Loose: £ 190.90
 Envelopes: £ 265.20
 Standing Orders £ 94.69
Total: £ 550.79

Christ the King		18 th /19 th Oct	27 th /28 th Oct
Sat 12:30	Minister of the Word	Maxine	Aoife
	Minister of Holy Communion	Sue	Sue
Sun 10.00	Minister of the Word	Angela	Thabani
	Minister of Holy Communion	Sister	Marian



Proper procedure for reserving Mass intentions: The Mass stipend which goes to the priest who celebrates the mass must be kept separate from the Sunday Offering which is the income of the parish. Please do not put Mass offerings in the Sunday collection. Please use the brown envelopes to request a Mass for your intentions **and, in addition, please sign the book in each Sacristy to confirm that your Mass request has been made.**

Little Vinnies Stay and Play: The Society of St Vincent de Paul (SVP) are launching a new Stay and Play session for pre-school children in the parish (Hence "Mini Vinnies"). It began on **10th October and will be on Friday mornings in the school term from 9 am until 11 am at Maryvale Community Centre Old Oscott Hill B44 9SR.** There is a poster at the back of Church explaining how you can support this initiative.

First Meeting of the new Parish Pastoral Council: The new Parish Pastoral Council will meet for the first time on **Thursday 23rd October at 7 pm** -venue to be confirmed nearer the date.

Next Meeting of the Merger Advisory Group: This will take place on 12th November at 7 pm in the St John's Centre.

Formation for the Ministry of the Word: the Cluster is very fortunate to have a number of new people coming forward to offer themselves as Ministers of the Word. Formation for this ministry in the Church will take place both on 16th November and on 23rd November in each case starting at 3 pm in the St John's Centre. Anyone who has not yet made themselves known to Deacon Gary but would wish to be considered for this ministry is very welcome to attend these sessions and get a taste of what the ministry involves both in terms of preparation before Mass and the exercise of the ministry during it. The intention is to commission new ministers for service on the 1st Sunday of Advent.

Lost Property: We have a number of glasses cases and pairs of glasses in the CTK Sacristy. If you have lost yours recently, please see Deacon Gary.

New Heights: New Heights are running their usual Food Pantry on Friday 31st October at St John's Centre from 11:30 am – 12:30 p.m. Please bring your own carrier bag along with a £3 donation. Everyone is welcome. No sign-up required. New Heights also host the following activities free of charge. Family Boxercise for school aged children and their families each Wednesday 3.30pm-4.45pm and Girls Active Club each Thursday 3.30pm-4.30pm. Both activities are held in the St John's Centre.

Gospel Commentary: Fr Donagh O'Shea

There is a puzzle here. "I tell you, God will quickly grant justice to them." So why then do we have to "pray always and not lose heart?" Why do we have to persevere? If God is willing, even eager, to give us what we want, why do we have to keep on asking?

It isn't about God. There is no reluctance on God's side. Even nature gives you everything it is able to give at the time. The trees don't begrudge you fruit or shelter, the fields give you crops, the rivers flow willingly for you, "life pours ordinary plenty." Likewise our Father in heaven: "If you who are evil, know how to give your children what is good, how much more will your Father in heaven give good things to those who ask him!" (Matthew 7:11).

It isn't about God, it is about us. I once knew someone who would never accept an invitation until he had been asked twice. He said he wanted to make sure that the invitation wasn't given out of mere politeness. This probably freed up his diary remarkably, but he was happy to know that he was wanted when he was invited a second time. We wouldn't want to say that God is being precious when we are left to ask again and again. But there is a parallel all the same. I'm afraid we do often ask God for things out of mere politeness and for the sake of good form. In the 'Prayers of the Faithful' at Mass, especially, we slip easily into this, gently reminding 'him' of his obligations and appealing to his better nature. "For the poor, the old, the lonely...." How could we take in such a vast swath of human misery in one smooth phrase? I imagine God simply unable to hear smooth phrases. God listens to the heart, and there is sometimes no echo of heart in the things we pray for.

We don't really want what we pray for. We want half of it. We want the bit that will make us comfortable. Or we want to be rid of the things that challenge us, the very things we prayed for yesterday, thinking they would make us comfortable. So we have to ask many times before we know what we want, or before we know with our whole being that we want it. Would I go through fire and water for it? If not, I don't really want it; I would like it but I don't want it. It's the difference between starving and being ready for your supper. If I really wanted it, God would give it immediately, granting that it was God's providence for me. "Truly I tell you, if you say to this mountain, 'Be taken up and thrown into the sea,' and if you do not doubt in your heart, but believe that what you say will come to pass, it will be done for you" (Mark 11:23).

We want half of what we ask for, because we want to remain in control. If we threw ourselves fully behind something we would feel too vulnerable. We don't want to lose our grip. But faith means losing our grip, entrusting ourselves, not just a few details of our affairs, to God.