



The Newman Cluster

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr Simon Ellis

Parish Office for the Cluster

Email: christ-theking.bham@rcaob.org.uk

Tel: 0121 373 0988

Opening Hours: Mon-Fri 8.30am- 3pm

The Newman Cluster is a growing into a united Catholic community comprising the following places of worship

Christ the King ("CTK")
124 Warren Farm Road
Kingstanding
B44 0QN

Our Lady of the Assumption ("OLAM")
82 Old Oscott
Maryvale
B44 9SP

St Margaret Mary ("SMM")
59 Perry Common Road
Perry Common
B23 7AB

Other Clergy in the Cluster

Assistant Priest: Fr Leonard Cox fr.leonard.cox@rcaob.org.uk

Parish Deacons: Rev. Mr. Gary O'Brien dcn.gary.obrien@rcaob.org.uk
and Rev. Mr. Dominic Fahey dcn.dominic.fahey@rcaob.org.uk

Convent of the Sisters Minor of St Francis
192 Hawthorn Road Kingstanding B44 8PU
Phone +44 121 3500 716

Email: smsfbirmingham@gmail.com

Welcome to Mass on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

Today's Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7 *Behold my servant, in whom my soul delights.*

Responsorial Psalm: The LORD will bless his people with peace.

Second Reading: Acts 10: 34-38 *God anointed Jesus with the Holy Spirit.*

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia! Alleluia! The heavens were opened and the voice of the Father thundered: "This is my beloved Son; listen to him" Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17 *When Jesus was baptised he saw the Spirit of God coming to rest on him.*

LITURGIES AND EVENTS THIS WEEK: Con: Convent; CTK: Christ the King; OLAM: Maryvale; SMM: St Margaret Mary's; MPS Maryvale Primary School

Sat	10/01/26	Feast of the Baptism of the Lord (Vigil Masses)	12.00 CTK	Recitation of the Rosary
			12:30 CTK	Baby Alfie Bourn (RIP)
			18:00 OLAM	Maureen & Ken Levell (RIP)
Sun	11/01/26	Feast of the Baptism of the Lord	09.30 CTK	Gerry Gorman (Anniv)
			11.00 CTK	Baptism of Lena Sieradzka
			11.15 SMM	Martin O'Connor (RIP)
			12.15 SMM	Baptism of Nancy-Lou and Jaxon Hall
Mon	12/01/26	Feria of Week One Ordinary Time	07:30 SMM	Sister Simeon
			08:00 Con.	Jacque Carron (RIP)
			12.00 SMM	Funeral Service: Maureen Costello (RIP)
Tue	13/01/26	Feria	09.30 MPS	Constantine John O'Neil (RIP)
			16.00 CTK	Catechesis for FHC and Confirmation (CWS)
			19.00 SMM	Youth Club
Wed	14/01/26	Feria	08:00 Con.	John Roche (RIP)
			09.15 SMM	Martin Farrell
			17.30 SMM	Sycamore: "The search for happiness"
Thu	15/01/26	Feria	12.30 CTK	Requiem Mass: Virginia Anne Grace
Fri	16/01/26	St. Anthony, Abbot Memorial	09.00 CTK	Sister Maria
			11.30 SMM	Requiem Mass: Julia Fleming (RIP)
Sat	17/01/26	Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (Vigil Masses)	12.00 CTK	Recitation of the Rosary
			12.30 CTK	Jozef Gniadkowski (Anniv)
			18.00 OLAM	Kathy Connor
Sun	18/01/26	Second Sunday in Ordinary Time	09:30 CTK	David & Anne Middleton & Family
			11:15 SMM	Celebrant's Intention
			12.15 SMM	Baptism of Theodore and Arabella Cunningham

The Sacrament of Reconciliation: A priest will be available to hear Confessions from 11.45 am on Saturdays (CTK) 5.15 pm on Saturdays (OLAM), 08.45 am on Sundays (CTK) and Wednesdays 08.15 (SMM) or by prior appointment.

Weekday Masses at Maryvale Primary School (MPS): The school is close to the junction of Old Oscott Hill and Old Oscott Lane B44 9AG. The School has confirmed that parishioners are most welcome to come into School for Mass.

Sycamore Course: The Sycamore Course offers an opportunity to get to know our faith better and to reflect on it. Sessions take place in the Newman Gallery at SMM You reach the Newman Gallery by going into the Church (B23 7AB), going through the double doors at the back and climbing the stairs on your left. Parents of children preparing for First Holy Communion and Confirmation are especially encouraged to attend.

Tuesday Catechesis: This is the continuation of the programme which Deacon Gary began last term mainly for Cardinal Wiseman students. New enquirers who are not in our Cluster primary schools are asked to contact Deacon Gary.

Sanctuary Lamp Dedication throughout January at CTK is dedicated to the Flynn and Rice families, and at OLAM to Gheorghe Andries (Bobby)

The parishes in the Cluster are part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No. 234216

Christ the King/OLAM



St Margaret Mary / POLW



Next second Collection: 17/18 January

Next weekend, to mark Peace Sunday, there will be a voluntary Second Collection for Pax Christi which spreads the Gospel values of peace, reconciliation and non-violence. To read a message from Pope Leo for this year's Peace Sunday go to: [Peace Sunday 2026 – Pax Christi England and Wales](#)

No Count This Week

Last Week's Collection CTK

Loose:	Loose:	TBC
Envelopes:	Envelopes:	TBC
S/O	S/O	TBC
Total:	Total:	TBC

Mass attendance: 148

Last Week's Collection SMM

Loose:	190.45
Envelopes:	127
New Building Fund:	120.06
Total	£437.51

No Count This Week

Last Week's Collection OLAM

Loose:	£	TBC
Envelopes:	£	TBC
S/O	£	TBC
Total:	£	TBC

Fr. Simon writes: I would like to ask for prayer at this time for Fr Jude Mbonu who is to join our Newman Cluster sometime in February. There will be an opportunity to welcome Fr Jude at some informal gathering in February which will be announced in due course. I include below a short biography of Fr Jude who is teaching law at Newman University here in our city. His work at the University will continue to be his main work, but Fr Jude has also graciously agreed to help the Cluster at the weekend and at other key moments in the liturgical and pastoral life of the three Cluster parishes. Fr. Jude offers the following information about his background: *'My name is Fr. Jude Mbonu, and I was ordained a priest on 8 July 2006 at the Basilica of the Most Holy Trinity in Onitsha, Nigeria, in the Catholic Archdiocese of Onitsha. I arrived in the United Kingdom in 2017 to pursue postgraduate studies in Law at Bangor University and Queen Mary University of London, respectively. Alongside my academic journey, I served as Assistant Parish Priest at St. Joseph, Maidenhead, and later as Parish Priest at St. Thomas More, Twyford, and St. Joseph's, Tilehurst, all in the Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth. I am currently privileged to serve as a member of staff at Birmingham Newman University. I have been at St Michael and Holy Angels Church in West Bromwich since October last year, supporting pastoral work and parishioners.'* As we celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord, we remember Christ's baptism in the river Jordan. Sometimes people are baptised today in the river Jordan or at their home parish with water collected from the Jordan, but that might actually miss the point, that Jesus Christ's baptism has hallowed all waters and that includes our UK streams, rivers, reservoirs and seas! This is sometimes witnessed in the east as 'The Blessing of Waters' at this time. As for the significance of Christ's baptism for us, St Gregory Nazianzen writes that *Christ 'wants you to become living force for all mankind, lights shining in the world. You are to be radiant lights as you stand beside Christ, the great light, bathed in the glory of him who is the light of heaven.'*

Pray For The Sick: Jean McCabe, Paul Cowan, Gerald, John, Josephine Brown, John/Sandra Mageean, Sadie Pulido, Sarah McCallion, Claire/Mark, Carole Smith, 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, Elizabeth Teague, Christine Stephens, Margaret Coogan, Sadie Kennelly, Michael Deane, Peter Hadland, Margaret Head and Anne Cunningham.

RIP: Please pray for Margaret Costello (Peggy), Eddie McGuire, Sarah Deane, Marid Horfe, Maureen Costello and Fr David Keniry who died recently and for Mark Coupe, Esa Susan Morton, John Joseph Riordan, Terence Stephens, Alan Collins, Joseph Thomas, Dave Edgington, Jamie Arrowsmith, Jadzia Zarzycka, Averil Cozens, John Driver, Catherine Ivy Byrne, Dom Kevin Taggart OSB, Joyce Holloway, Fr. Simon Hall, Christopher Calland, Eddie Walsh, Jennifer Harrison, Grazyna Grunau, Brenda Jones, Hughie Patricik Underwood, Val Lennon, Danny McCrossan, Peggy Jackman, Julia Geradete Fleming, John Murtagh, Michael Patrick O'Donoghue, Anthony Crear, Ruth Black, Michael Coffey, Fr. Osmond Abbott, and Christopher Diggle. **Forthcoming Funerals:** Fr. David Keniry's Requiem Mass will be celebrated on 14th January at 12 noon at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, 123 Cannock Road, Burntwood WS7 0BB; Teresa Mary Doyle's Funeral Service will be celebrated on 23rd January at 11 am at St Mary and St John's Catholic Church Gravelly Hill, Erdington. May the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace!

Altar Servers' Retreat: We have a Cluster youth event at Alton Castle 27 Feb - 1 Mar, which is for altar servers. The cost is (subsidised) at £45 per child for the weekend. If you are interested please deliver £45 cash to me clearly marked with child's name to church office or to me direct. Please also fill in young person consent form on: <https://www.tfaforms.com/5196821> And let Fr. Simon, know you have done so!

Mass Intentions: We will do our best to respect specific dates and requests for particular places of worship, but we cannot absolutely guarantee it. In particular, we cannot necessarily ensure that a weekend Sunday Mass will be available. Please continue to put your envelope and stipend into the parish office so that we can keep a record of all Masses requested. There will need to be a discussion at the next Parish Pastoral Council meeting about the best long term solution in the circumstances.

Reorganisation of our ministry of Holy Communion to the sick and housebound: we will need to integrate this absolutely vital ministry across the Cluster and this will inevitably require new Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHC) to be commissioned. Please pray about whether this is a ministry you could undertake or if you have already been undertaking it, please pray about whether you are able to continue. In the New Year we will call a meeting of all existing EMHC along with any parishioners willing to offer themselves for this ministry.

Christmas Jumpers: We are now collecting any unwanted Christmas Jumpers, Cardigans, wrapping paper and gifts. If you have any unwanted items, please call Claire in the parish office on 0121 3730988 to arrange drop off between Monday-Friday 8.30am-3pm

Job vacancy: The Newman Centre on the Boldmere Road managed by St Nicholas, Boldmere, has a vacancy for a part-time Supervisor working c.10 hours a week at £12.72 per hour. Further details are at the back of Church.

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and National and Archdiocesan policies and procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives in the Cluster are Caroline Gorman (CTK), Angela Hooker (OLAM) and Renata Olkowska (SMM). To report concerns or issues email Caroline on sg.christ-theking.bham@rcaob.org.uk; Angela on sg.ol-assumption.bham@rcaob.org.uk and Renata on sg.margaret.mary.bham@rcaob.org.uk Alternatively concerns or issues can be reported to the Diocesan Safeguarding Team on **0121 230 6240** or safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk