



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

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Responsorial Psalm 144 (145): 10-11, 15-18

R: *You open wide your hand, O Lord, and grant our desires.*

MASSES THIS WEEK

Sat 24/07/21	12:30 CTK 18:00 OLAM	17th Sunday in OT	Fr Michael White
Sun 25/07/21	10:00 CTK† 11:30 OLAM†		Jossie Deasy (Birthday)
Mon 26/07/21	09:30 Mon 12:00 CTK†		John McKenna (RIP)
Tue 27/07/21	09:30 Mon† 11:00 CTK		William, Margaret Paddy & John Roche (RIP)
Wed 28/07/21	09:30 Mon.† 12:00 CTK	Ss Joachim & Anne, Memorial	Nan McMahon (RIP)
Thu 29/07/21	09:30 Mon† 11:00 CTK	Feria in OT – Wk 17	Rita Casey (RIP)
Fri 30/07/21	09:30 Mon 12:00 CTK†	Feria in OT – Wk 17	Fr Patrick Joyce (RIP)
Sat 31/07/21	10:00 Mon 12:30 CTK† 18:00 OLAM	Feria in OT – Wk 17	Requiem Mass - Stuart Lee Paul Moss
Sun 01/08/21	10:00 CTK 11:30 OLAM†	St Martha – Memorial	Urszula Paszowska (RIP)
		Feria in OT – Wk 17	Margaret and Charles Butcher (RIP)
		St Ignatius of Loyola -Feast	Janina Mikula
		18th Sunday in OT	Edward (Ted) McKeown - Requiem
			PEOPLE OF THE PARISHES
			Margaret Stapleton (RIP)
			Dominic Van Thuc Nguyen (RIP)
			Bill Rice (RIP)
			Patricia Whelan (Birthday Anni.)
			Bill Taylor (RIP)
			Grace Deane (RIP)

Wedding: We pray for Victoria Williams and Christopher Rose who tie the knot before God and his Church on Saturday 31/07/21 at the Church of Our Lady of the Assumption, Maryvale. May they allow their commitment to each other to be made perfect by the love of God.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Ron & Monique Hunt, Jean McCabe, Luke Byrne, John Butler, Muriel Cowan, Paul Cowan, John & Sandra Mageean, Gerald, Sarah McCallion, Audrey Vickers, John, Sadie Pulido, Sheila Ferns, Mary McGee, Margaret Gasson, Claire & Mark, Mary Ann Gniadkowski, Niamh O' Reilly, Carole Smith, Alan Rowan, Doreen Lakin, Kyle Billing, Jo Teece, Nicola Jones, Deacon Jack, Daniel Kelly, Sean Butler, Sr Marie, Patricia Nash, Victorio Baudo, Vanda Strlkovska-Czeczko, Alberto Bolongaro.

RIP: Please pray for Ted McKeown, Jason Murphy and Stuart Moss who died recently. May they rest in peace.

Prayer of Spiritual Communion

Lord God, our light and our salvation, we praise you for your gifts of life and faith. We thank you for the desire you have planted in our hearts, our yearning to see your face. Help us to meet you in prayer, to walk in your ways, and to speak to others of our joy and consolation in your presence. Give us the wisdom to appreciate your Son's self-gift in the Eucharist, so that although we cannot now be at mass to receive this gift sacramentally we may still be able to receive him spiritually. Give us faithfulness in this present life so that we may come into full communion with you and with all that belong to you. We make this prayer through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

DO NOT come if you are infected with the virus or are sick.
You must **SOCIALLY DISTANCE** (1m+) whilst in Church and wear a mask.

STEWARDS will welcome you, and give instructions.

The **TOILETS** will **NOT** be open for use.

Gospel Reflection

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 cheque-book. 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." (Today's Good News – Fr. Donagh O'Shea)

Last Week's Collection Ctk

Envelopes	£ 139.50
Loose	£ 155.85
St. Orders	£ 206.69
Total	£ 502.04

Last Week's Collection OLAM

Envelopes	£ 112.00
Loose	£ 187.38
St. Orders	£ 33.46
Total	£ 332.84

Thank you for your kind donations.

Mission Boxes

Could those who have a red Mission Box please bring it to Church to be emptied.

Banns of Marriage between

Jordan Burrows and Stephanie Savage of the Parish of Christ the King.

If anybody knows cause or just impediment why these persons should not be joined together in Holy Matrimony, please declare it. This is for the third time of asking.

Breakfast Club

At St John's Centre, Monday -Thursday, 9:00-12:30pm, donation based, serving tea/coffee/squash with toast and one of the following: jam/beans/spaghetti/scrambled egg/fried egg. All welcome.

SVP Appeal

In the last week, a local school has referred two families needing chest of drawers or small wardrobes. If you know of anyone willing to donate an item we would be most grateful. Kind regards. Theresa.

Carer required

For elderly lady, initially for 07/08/21-31/08/21 inclusive. 2 COVID vaccinations and NOT travelling required please. £10 per hour, 2 hours per day. If interested please ring 0121 243 7707.

Summer Internship

Bishop Challoner TSA is currently offering a paid Summer Internship starting on **14th June** for 4 weeks for undergraduates in any year of their Maths or Physics degree.

A chance to see what is involved in a teaching career and broaden experience in an exciting and rewarding profession. Online delivery with a few days in a school.

See www.bctsa.org for details, or email teachingschool@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk.