



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

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## Responsorial Psalm – Psalm 125(126)

**R:** *What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.*

## MASSES THIS WEEK

Sat 23/10/21	12:30 CTK† 18:00 OLAM	<b>30<sup>th</sup> Sunday in OT</b>	Paddy Flannery (RIP)
Sun 24/10/21	10:00 CTK 11:30 OLAM		Margaret Bierne
Mon 25/10/21	08:00 Con† 09:30 Mon 12:00 CTK		Michelle Ormsby (RIP)
Tue 26/10/21	09:30 Mon† 11:00 CTK	<b>Feria in OT – Wk 30</b>	Mr & Mrs Connelly (RIP)
Wed 27/10/21	08:00 Con† 09:30 Mon	<b>Feria in OT – Wk 30</b>	Maria Chau Thi Nhut (RIP)
Thu 28/10/21	09:30 Mon† 10:30 OLAM 12:00 CTK	<b>Feria in OT – Wk 30</b>	Dominic Van Thuc Nguyen (RIP)
Fri 29/10/21	09:00 CTK 09:30 Mon†	<b>Feria in OT – Wk 30</b>	Nancy Byrne (RIP)
Sat 30/10/21	10:00 Mon 12:30 CTK 18:00 OLAM†	<b>Feria in OT – Wk 30</b>	Chris Leadbetter (RIP)
Sun 31/10/21	10:00 CTK 11:30 OLAM	<b>Feria in OT – Wk 30</b>	<b>Requiem Mass - Anne Frances Byrne</b>
		<b>Ss Simon &amp; Jude, Apostles Feast</b>	Sandra Meegan (B'day)
			Peter Van Nhu Nguyen (RIP)
			Joseph The Binh Nguyen (RIP)
			PEOPLE OF THE PARISHES
			Paul Wilding (RIP)
			Jane McCarty (RIP)
			Peter & Maria Le (RIP)
			Thanksgiving
			Mary Josephine Fahey
			Kitty Heaney
			James & Elizabeth Ormsby (RIP)
			Josie Deasy (RIP)

**Bible Study** with Deacon Dominic Fahey in the church of Our Lady of the Assumption every Tuesday at 7:00pm.

**Rosary Group**; meeting every Wednesday in Christ the King Church at 3:30pm.

**Journey in Faith** for young Catholics meeting monthly at the Church of Our Lady of the Assumption in Maryvale at 2:00pm, starting on Saturday 30/10/21. If interested please come along. All welcome.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Ron & Monique Hunt, Jean McCabe, Luke Byrne, 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, Vanda Strlkovska-Czeczko, Alberto Bolongaro, Mandy Hawkes, Arjun Paul.

**RIP:** Please pray for Thomas Graham who died recently. May he 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.

### Gospel Reflection (<https://goodnews.ie/calendar.shtml>)

This is the second of two cures of blind men in Mark's gospel. Opening the eyes of the blind was prophesied as one of the works of the Messiah: "The eyes of the blind will see" (Is 29:18; see also 32:3). In fact, in the very next scene he is being proclaimed by the crowds as Messiah.

They are approaching Jerusalem (15 miles away), where the story will reach its climax with his death and resurrection. In Jerusalem all eyes will be fixed on him, most of them still blind to what he is; or worse, they will be watching him with malevolent intent. In the meantime, Bartimaeus, the blind beggar, having received his sight, followed him to Jerusalem. This gospel passage is a meditation on the different kinds of blindness.

I have a friend who has become blind in her old age, but her mind is as bright as a button. She still gives lectures, but she said that what pains her especially is being unable to see people's faces. Not till we lose our sight do we know how much we depend on it: for getting around objects, yes, but also for getting on with people. The human face speaks by every feature, not only by the mouth; we know how something is meant because we see the other's face: I have a deaf friend who says she "face-reads."

A blind *beggar's* misery is compounded: worse than the sum of the misery of a blind person and a beggar. He is totally at our mercy, stretching out his hand into the darkness, unable to gauge our mood, not knowing if we even see him.

Every believer is that man, most of the time. Faith is *dark knowledge*. Often we lift up our hands in prayer, and we feel no presence of the Other; we hear neither a promise nor a refusal. That is the time to remember Bartimaeus. He is placed here in the gospel story as an encouragement for us.

Let's watch him. When he heard that Jesus was passing by he began to shout, "Have pity on me!" People told him to shut up, he was making too much noise. But he shouted all the more. "Call him," Jesus said.... "Cheer up!" they told him. "On your feet, he's calling you." Then, the account continues, "*throwing* his cloak aside, he *jumped* to his feet and *came* to Jesus." He came, of course, still in the dark. Did you notice that he *threw* aside his cloak? It was a strange thing for a blind person to do: would he find it again? Blind people have great trouble finding things, they need the world to stay put. See how carefully they place things, caressing them almost. But sighted people are forever throwing things around. In throwing his cloak aside Bartimaeus acted like a sighted man. While all the sighted people held their cloaks and their possession around them with careful fingers, he alone leaped up, threw aside his cloak and ran to meet the Lord.

It is a very powerful symbol of the life of faith: he walked in the dark. Faith is a kind of knowledge, yes, but it is *dark* knowledge. Still, this dark knowledge sets us free, somehow, to move with confidence. How good it would be to move without timidity, to travel through our life with freedom and joy! A blind beggar shows us how.

We say seeing is believing. We put great stress on seeing. "Sight is our principal source of knowledge," said Aristotle, twenty-five centuries ago. And western culture has followed him particularly in this; it has a marked preference for sight over the other senses. Seeing is believing, we say. The meaning of today's gospel reading is best expressed by turning that phrase around. *Believing is seeing*. There is a kind of seeing that is even more basic than the sight of our eyes. That is the kind of sight that Jesus restores.

#### Last Week's Collection CTK

Envelopes	£ 109.75
Loose	£ 243.97
St. Orders	£ 206.69
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 560.41</b>

#### Last Week's Collection OLAM

Envelopes	£ 153.50
Loose	£ 123.53
St. Orders	£ 33.46
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 310.49</b>

**Thank you for your generosity**

**This Week: Second Collection for the APF**

**Certificate of Catholic Practice:** required by oversubscribed Catholic Secondary Schools can only be signed by Fr The-Quang for those children who have been attending mass with their families in the parish church at weekends and on holydays of obligation over the five years prior to the application to the school. If you intend to ask Fr The-Quang to sign one please make sure that your child sign the attendance book from year 1.

**Forget me not Sing-along** every Monday, 1:15pm at St John's Centre: for people with Dementia, other disabilities and anyone else who would like to come along for 1 hour of fun, singing and socialising. £5 per session (carers free). No booking required.

#### Training and Formation for those called to the service of the Church at prayer

Sat 6<sup>th</sup> Nov – Day for Ministers of Holy Communion; Sat 4<sup>th</sup> Dec – Day for Leaders of Prayer. The days take place at St Nicholas, 243 Jockey Road, Boldmere, B73 5US, 10:00am till 4:00pm.

Further details and booking forms are available at [www.stnicholasboldmere.co.uk/training-for-ministers](http://www.stnicholasboldmere.co.uk/training-for-ministers)

#### Prayer Intention this month:

**24/10/21** - This week, we celebrated the feast of Pope St John Paul II, patron saint of the pro-life movement. We ask for his intercession as we, the church, seek to support all pregnant mothers through their pregnancies, and that, like him, we would become models of support and charity to all in society.

**31/10/21** - As we celebrate all Saints, and their lived examples of loving and supporting the most vulnerable in society, we pray for the courage to follow in their footsteps, by supporting the poor, the helpless and the unborn.