



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

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Responsorial Psalm – Psalm 24(25):4-5,8-9,10,14

R: *To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.*

MASSES THIS WEEK

Sat 27/11/21	12:30 CTK 18:00 OLAM†	1 st Sunday of Advent	Paddy Fahey (RIP)
Sun 28/11/21	10:00 CTK 11:30 OLAM		Vera Whelan
Mon 29/11/21	09:30 Mon 12:00 CTK†	Advent Feria – Wk 1	Desmond, Rose and Paul Byrne (RIP)
Tue 30/11/21	09:30 Mon† 11:45 CTK	St Andrew, Apostles, Feast	Anthony McAndrew (RIP)
Wed 01/12/21	08:00 Con† 09:30 Mon	St Edmund Campion, M, Feast	Private Intention
Thu 02/12/21	09:30 Mon† 11:00 OLAM	Advent Feria – Wk 1	Chris & Eddie Walsh
Fri 03/12/21	09:00 CTK 10:15 Mon	St Francis Xavier, Mem	The Czapiewski (RIP)
Sat 04/12/21	10:00 Mon 12:30 CTK† 18:00 OLAM	Advent Feria – Wk 1	Erin Male & Karen Jenson (RIP)
Sun 05/12/21	10:00 CTK 11:30 OLAM	2 nd Sunday of Advent	Sheila Cassidy (RIP)
			Gleen Cafferkey
			Michael Smith (RIP)
			Funeral Service - Kenneth Griffiths
			James Fisher (RIP)
			PEOPLE OF THE PARISHES
			The Mikula family (RIP)
			Mary Hall (RIP)
			John Roche (RIP)
			Tom Murphy & family
			Martin de Klerk (RIP)

RIP: Please pray for Joe Callaghan who died recently. May he rest in peace.

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.

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 Strlikovska-Czeczko, Alberto Bolongaro, Mandy Hawkes, Arjun Paul, Teresa Webb, Mary Hickey, Sean Mulkeen.

Altar Servers who started serving before the pandemic and would like to serve again please contact Andrew Leadbetter on ctkliturg@outlook.com

Blessing of Graves: Witton: 28th Nov 14:30.

Dates for your diary: Parish Visit to Oscott College: on Sunday 13th February afternoon, from 3:00pm – 7:15pm.

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>)

The Advent liturgy is shot through with a great longing for Christ. But John the Baptist is constantly putting in an appearance – almost to the point of irritation. What is the meaning of this?

We have to experience the *absence* of Christ in order later to experience his presence. We need to learn how to wait. Waiting is one of the hardest things for us nowadays. There is such urgency about even the smallest things in our modern world, and this of course is greatly aggravated by commercial advertising. But Advent is a four-week course on waiting.

“Zero wait state,” the computer manual said the goal was. It means no waiting at all: you press the key, and the programme (or whatever) is instantly on the screen. Computers are the great accelerators of all sorts of processes (banking, accounting, shopping, etc.) and they themselves are becoming faster and faster. But for the ordinary user, such high speed is required only to run games – which are themselves the greatest time-wasters in the world! The speed of our world today is full of contradictions. We *rush* to save time in order to waste it! Time is money, we say. And sure enough, we do with money what we do with time: many rush to save more and more of it in order to waste it on things they don't need or even want.

Can the equation be carried even farther? Time is money; but what is time? What is your time? It is *you*, it is yourself, your life. *Time is life*. Do we save our life in order to waste it? It seems we do. “Whoever tries to save his life will lose it,” said Jesus (Luke 17:37).

We rush headlong into the future: it is a kind of greed for more and more life, or at least for more and more experience. The future, we feel, will fulfil us, where the past and present have failed. But we rush at it so fast that it gets no chance to fulfil us! We rush past it in the same instant that it becomes the present: because we are forever hurtling ourselves into the future. We badly need to study waiting.

No one can say with full clarity what the reason is (or the cluster of reasons) for the high incidence of suicide in modern western societies. People have made various suggestions. One suggestion is that we no longer know how to wait for anything. In older times, struggle and working for something and waiting for it to be realised, were the normal experience. It may be that ‘zero wait state’ has really got into us. Advent, the season of waiting, has something to teach us.

“Prepare the way of the Lord!” shouted Isaiah. He meant “Repair the road!” Jerusalem is surrounded by desert, and ancient roads quite easily became buried in sand. When some great person was expected, the roads had to be prepared.

Roads are about communication and getting around. The roads that need attention now are *inner* ones. The underlying problem is a spiritual one. The Western world is seen by many to be spiritually lost – clogged with material possessions and confused with too much information about everything. Advent is the season for unclogging the path and for putting up clearer sign-posts. It is a season for repairing the roads. And learning to wait.

Last Week's Collection CTK

Envelopes	£ 117.00
Loose	£ 251.27
St. Orders	£ 206.69
Total	£ 574.96

Last Week's Collection OLAM

Envelopes	£ 135.20
Loose	£ 130.40
St. Orders	£ 33.46
Total	£ 299.06

Second Collection next week for Poor Parishes

Thank you for your generosity

Christmas Cards and Calendars are available in Piety Stall of both churches. Please do take a look.

Parish Open Meeting: following on from the recent open meeting we will be publicising a list next week of 10 activities where we need more volunteers to help grow and strengthen our parish community.

Monthly Community Meal (Funded by Aylesbury Surgery) in St John's Centre on Sunday 28th Nov 21. Please book in with Sandra on 07985607091.

Free Community Christmas Eve Meal in place of Christmas Day Meal, offered by New Heights to Kingstanding residents. Spaces are limited and meals must be booked in advance. All bookings must be made by Fri 10th Dec 2021 by phoning 07555 496 614 or emailing enquiries@new-heights.org.uk

Quarterly days for re-sourcing and refreshing ministers of the Word and Holy Communion:

- 5th March (Saturday after Ash Wednesday)
- 4th June (Saturday before Pentecost)
- 10th September (Saturday, one week into the new school year)
- 3rd November (Saturday before the 1st Sunday of Advent)

The day would begin at 10am and finish by 3pm.

All of the resources used at the recent ministers' days have been put online and can be freely shared.

- Ministers of Holy Communion resources at <https://catholicprayersblog.wordpress.com/2021/11/03/resources-for-ministers-of-holy-communion/>
- Ministers of the word resources at : <https://catholicprayersblog.wordpress.com/2021/10/09/resources-for-readers/>