



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

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Responsorial Psalm – Ps 147:12-15,19-20

R: *The Word was made flesh and lived among us.*

MASSES THIS WEEK

Sat 01/01/22	12:30 CTK†	2nd Sunday after Christmas	The Rice & Wood families
	18:00 OLAM		Jim McCarthy (Anni.)
Sun 02/01/22	10:00 CTK		Luke Crann & Thomas Beirne (RIP)
	11:30 OLAM		Seamus Finnerty (Anni.)
Mon 03/01/22	08:00 Con.	Christmas Feria	Christine Barrett (RIP)
	09:30 Mon		Mary A Gniadkowski
	12:00 CTK†		Frances, Irene, Christdina & Gemma Ormsby (RIP)
Tue 04/01/22	09:30 Mon†	Christmas Feria	Janina Mikula
	12:00 CTK		Special Intentions
Wed 05/01/22	08:00 Con†	Christmas Feria	Jack & Kathleen Foxall
	09:30 Mon		Eileen, Robert & family
Thu 06/01/22	09:30 Mon	The Epiphany, Solemnity	Elizabeth, Henryka, Lucien, Christopher Czapiewski
	10:30 OLAM		Tony Wright (RIP)
	12:00 CTK†		Michael Madigan (Birthday Anni.)
Fri 07/01/22	09:00 CTK	Christmas Feria	Kathleen McCarty
	09:30 Mon. †		Sr Suniva
	12:00 CTK		Julia Casey & Joyce McCarty
Sat 08/01/22	10:00 Mon	Christmas Feria	Gill Carter
	12:30 CTK		Alfie Bourn (RIP)
	18:00 OLAM		Jozef Gniadkowski (Anni.)
Sun 09/01/22	10:00 CTK†	Baptism of the Lord, Feast	Teresa Keogh (RIP)
	11:30 OLAM		Maria Dermody

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

RIP: Please pray for Jillian Diane Mary Boradbert who died recently. May she rest in peace

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

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://www.catholicireland.net/sunday-homily/>)

Lord, we thank you for the deep moments of Bible reading when we knew that we were in the presence of a Word which existed from the beginning before time began, which was with you before you created the world, which was truly divine, with you from the beginning, and which was made flesh and was living among us.

*"In meditation I pass through my body which exists in time and space,
and beyond my thoughts which reflect my body-consciousness.*

I discover my ground in the Word, my real Self which exists eternally in God and with God."**Bede Griffiths**

Lord, we thank you for the moments of deep prayer when we knew that we have life in your Word, that Word which was in the beginning, which was with you and was you.

Lord, humanity today wants to live independently of you, and even Christians speak as if you created the world and then left it to its own devices. We thank you for the teaching of St John reminding us that all things come to be only because you speak a Word, and that every single thing that exists today has its being because that Word continues to be spoken in it, and the only way that anything which has come to be has life today is because your Word lives within it.

"Perestroika shows that there are some live cells still left in our society, battling against the disintegration of the Spirit." **A Russian writer**

Lord, we thank you that the human spirit is unconquerable, it is a light that comes from you, a light that continues to shine even when there is great darkness, a light that no darkness can overcome.

"Far from being the ultimate measure of all things, human beings can only realize themselves by reaching beyond themselves." **Paul VI, Populorum progressio**

Lord, how true it is that we can only find our dignity as your sons and daughters if we believe that there is more to us than a human birth, the urges of the flesh and the human will and that within us your love is at work.

"Of all the crimes of colonialism there is none worse than the attempt to make us believe that we had no indigenous culture of our own."**Julius Nyerere**

Lord, we pray that as Christians we may live the message of the Incarnation, that your eternal Word was made flesh, so that in every culture you are at work, and if we look at our past in the light of faith we will see your glory, Jesus at work in our history, full of grace and truth.

Lord, a conversion experience is always a home-coming:

- turning away from an addiction,
- being reconciled with our family,
- forgiving an old hurt,
- going to confession after a long absence.

Once we are there we look back and wonder at our resistance. Here was something that we needed in order to live, and yet we did not recognise it; the truth of ourselves demanded it, and yet we did not accept to do it. Now, Lord, by your grace, we know that your Word has been made flesh and found a home in us. Thank you, Lord.

Lord, we thank you for times when we have the deep satisfaction of knowing that we were working for a noble cause, one that we know is far greater than ourselves, even though we are making a contribution to it, so that we can say like John the Baptist that what comes after us ranks before us because it existed before us.

"There is nothing in my former ministry that I would repudiate except my many sins and shortcomings. My becoming a priest in the Roman Catholic Church will be the completion and right ordering of what was begun thirty years ago." ... **Richard Neuhaus, Lutheran pastor, on entering the Catholic Church and asking for ordination as a priest; October 1990**

Lord, we pray for all those who are becoming members of our Church, that they may experience their life up to now as being fulfilled, as having received from your fullness, the grace of the present fulfilling the grace of the past.

Thank you for your generous Christmas offering.

Sign up: Volunteer-led balance programme for older people

Parishes are invited to participate in a volunteer-led balance programme for older people.

Dr Sheeba Rosewilliam is a physiotherapist and lecturer at the University of Birmingham and has developed a programme to prevent falls in older members of church congregations, which can be run by volunteers after they have received appropriate training.

The programme, which initially involved a number of churches in the Wolverhampton area, was very successful but has been interrupted by the pandemic.

An expansion of the programme is now underway and it is hoped even more churches will take part.

For more information please see the attached document from Dr Rosewilliam and contact her via email:

s.b.rosewilliam@bham.ac.uk