



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

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. The-Quang Nguyen
124 Warren Farm Road, Kingstanding, Birmingham B44 0QN



Parish Deacons: Rev. Mr. Dominic Fahey, Rev. Mr. Jack Foxall & Rev Mr. Gary O'Brien

Tel: 0121 373 0988

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

Websites: www.christ-theking.org.uk & <http://www.maryvale.org.uk>

Responsorial Psalm – Ps 137(138):1-5,7-8 R: *Before the angels I will bless you, O Lord.*

(CTK: 116; - ; 498; 145

OLAM: 105; 563; 455; 122)

MASSES THIS WEEK

| | | | |
|--------------|-------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| Sat 05/02/22 | 12:30 CTK | 5th Sunday in OT | John Mitchell (Anni.) |
| | 18:00 OLAM† | | Frank King (RIP) |
| Sun 06/02/22 | 10:00 CTK | | Nancy Byrne (RIP) |
| | 11:30 OLAM | | James McDonald (RIP) |
| Mon 07/02/22 | 09:30 Mon | Feria | Veronica Finnerty (RIP) |
| | 12:00 CTK† | | Mr & Mrs E Kerrigane & family |
| Tue 08/02/22 | 09:30 Mon† | Feria | Anne Whelan |
| | 12:00 CTK | | Mr & Mrs K Byrne & family |
| Wed 09/02/22 | 08:00 Con† | Feria | Gary Taylor (RIP) |
| | 09:30 Mon | | John Roche (RIP) |
| Thu 10/02/22 | 09:30 Mon† | St Scholastica, Mem | Marie Brady |
| | 10:30 OLAM | | PEOPLE OF THE PARISHES |
| | 12:00 CTK | | Christine Barrett (RIP) |
| Fri 11/02/22 | 09:00 CTK | Feria World Day of the Sick | Clare Cooper |
| | 09:30 Mon | | Marek Bartoszczyk (RIP) |
| | 10:30 CTK | | Funeral Service - Leslie Richardson |
| Sat 12/02/22 | 10:00 Mon | Feria | Alice O'Toole |
| | 12:30 CTK† | | Joe McKeown (Anni.) |
| | 18:00 OLAM | | Stephen Cusack (RIP) |
| Sun 13/02/22 | 10:00 CTK | 6th Sunday in OT | Jackie Conway (RIP) |
| | 11:30 OLAM | | Joan McGrath |

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

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

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, Kyle Billing, Jo Teece, Nicola Jones, Daniel Kelly, Sean Butler, Sr Marie, Patricia Nash, Mandy Hawkes, Alberto Bolongaro, Arjun Paul, Teresa Webb, Mary Hickey, Sean Mulkeen, especially Vera Whelan and our deacon, Jack, whose kidneys have started to fail. Please pray for them and their families.

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.

Laundering of Altar Linens

If you can help with the laundering of Altar linens please speak to Fr The-Quang after mass.

Gospel Reflection (Fr Donagh O'Shea OP)

Among the many books written by Henri Nouwen (1932-1996), one stands out as an enduring little classic, *The Wounded Healer*. For those who knew him, this book is especially powerful because, without expressly intending to, it describes so well the man himself. It was because of his own wounds that he was able to touch the lives of so many people. "By his wounds we have been healed," St Peter wrote of Jesus (1 Peter 2:24). However, there was a different reaction to Nouwen's book from a fundamentalist Christian who reviewed it and announced that a Christian minister should not come before people as a wounded healer but as "a prophet of God and as a helper in their afflictions." These different reactions show a gulf between Christians that is probably deeper than most of the issues that divide Christians Churches.

Are you helped by someone who defines himself as a helper? Can you feel cared for by someone who defines himself as a prophet? If the Christian life were only a matter of external prescriptions, then probably yes - in the way that you can get help from an accountant or a lawyer. But since it touches the innermost places in us - the very springs of our thoughts and actions - this approach is less than helpful. From Nouwen, a contrasting approach (in *Out of Solitude*): "When we honestly ask ourselves which persons in our lives mean the most to us, we often find that it is those who, instead of giving much advice, solutions, or cures, have chosen rather to share our pain and touch our wounds with a gentle and tender hand. The friend who can be silent with us in a moment of despair or confusion, who can stay with us in an hour of grief and bereavement, who can tolerate not-knowing, not-curing, not-healing and face with us the reality of our powerlessness, that is the friend who cares.... By the honest recognition and confession of our human sameness we can participate in the care of God who came, not to be powerful but powerless, not to be different but the same, not to take our pain away but to share it. Through this participation we can open our hearts to each other and form a new community."

In the first reading at today's Mass, God's call made Isaiah aware of his own weakness and unworthiness, exactly as Jesus' call to Peter made Peter blurt out, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" If Christians do not carry the precious knowledge of their own weakness and sinfulness, then all their attempts to help you are nothing but an ego-trip: by 'helping' you they are feeding on your strength and making you weak; by 'loving' you they are seeking ways to snare you and make you dependent on them; by 'caring' for you they are preening their own image.

Back to Henri Nouwen: "We tend to look at caring as an attitude of the strong toward the weak, of the powerful toward the powerless, of the have's toward the have-not's....[But] the word 'care' finds its roots in the Gothic 'Kara' which means lament. The basic meaning of care is: to grieve, to experience sorrow, to cry out with."

Prayer Intentions for the month:

6th - For all women going through unexpected pregnancies, that they would experience peace and support in their situations, and enjoy the many blessings that motherhood brings.

13th - For all unborn children diagnosed with disabilities, we pray for their protection and that of their mothers from the pressures of society to have an abortion, and that they would instead experience overwhelming love and support from all who surround them.

20th - For our society. That as a culture we would promote the value of life, and that we would seek the protection of all humans from the point of conception to natural death.

27th - For all considering abortion. We pray that the love and kindness of those around them would support pregnant women everywhere to continue with their pregnancy and find peace and joy in what the future holds.

Synod Conversations: we are encouraged to get engaged in dialogue within the parish community so that everyone can express their concerns about their spiritual well-being. Meetings will be arranged for parishioners, who are serious about their existence in the Church, to come for dialogue. The areas we need to look at are Evangelisation, Formation, Worship, and Social Outreach. You may find the following questions helpful for composing your thoughts: In what situation am I? How did I get here? Am I happy with it? What impact has it on the parish community? Am I concerned about it? To where do I want to get? What do I want to see practised in the parish? If I want to move on, what am I prepared to leave behind? Of what sort of promised land do I dream? The first meeting for the parishioners of:

1). Our Lady of the Assumption and the parents of the children in Maryvale Primary School is on **Mon 07/02/22 at 7:00pm in Maryvale Community Centre.**

2). Christ the King and the parents of the children in Christ the King Primary School is on **Wed 16/02/22 at 7:00pm in New Heights Centre.**

Look Up Project: People in the Diocese are invited to the online relaunch of this project which started six years ago when the Archdiocese joined forces with the Medaille Trust to raise awareness of modern slavery in our communities. The relaunch will be on the feast day of St Josephine Bakhita, Patron Saint of Victims of Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking. The online event takes place on Tue 8th February from 6pm to 7pm. A number of parishes were visited by a representative of the Trust and awarded a 'Make the Pledge' certificate. Find out more about the Project on: <https://www.medaille-trust.org.uk/news/article/the-look-up-project>.

FORGET ME NOT SING-ALONG

Sing-along for people with Dementia, other disabilities and anyone else who'd like to come along. 1 hour of fun, singing and socialising. **£5 PER SESSION (CARERS FREE) NO BOOKING REQUIRED. JUST TURN UP WHEN?** Every Monday at 1:15pm Doors Open 1pm

1 Hour Session at St John's Centre, Christ The King Church, Warren Farm Road, Kingstanding, B44 0QN
kidz likedanny@blueyonder.co.uk | 07544393523

<https://www.facebook.com/Forget-Me-Not-Sing-A-Long-112375976947846/>