



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

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Responsorial Psalm – Ps 102(103):1-4,6-8,11

R: *The Lord is compassion and love.*

(CTK: - 456 506 190 OLAM: 310 414 463 171)

MASSES THIS WEEK

Sat 19/03/22	12:30 CTK	Third Sunday in Lent	Dora McKeown (Anni.)
	18:00 OLAM		Josephine Keenan (RIP)
Sun 20/03/22	10:00 CTK		Felix Thomes Hughes (RIP)
	11:30 OLAM†		Michael Foley
Mon 21/03/22	08:00 Con	Lent Feria	Linden Kent (RIP)
	09:30 Mon		Margaret Oldham
	12:00 CTK		Jack & Kathleen Foxall
Tue 22/03/22	09:30 Mon	Lent Feria	Susanne Wait (RIP)
	12:00 CTK		John O'Connor
Wed 23/03/22	08:00 Con†	Lent Feria	Marcella Murrin
	09:30 Mon		Sylvia Brennan (RIP)
	11:00 OLAM		Requiem Mass - Josephine Whatton
Thu 24/03/22	09:30 Mon	Lent Feria	Krystyna Mikula-Deegan
	10:30 OLAM		PEOPLE OF THE PARISHES
	12:00 CTK		Olive Gorman (RIP)
Fri 25/03/22	09:00 CTK	The Annunciation, Solemnity	Rosaline A Ikwuka (Anni.)
	09:30 Mon.†		John Roche (RIP)
Sat 26/03/22	10:00 Mon	Fourth Sunday in Lent	Private Intentions
	12:30 CTK		Bridie Kelly (B'day Anni.)
	18:00 OLAM†		Anna Byrne (RIP)
Sun 27/03/22	10:00 CTK		Hilda Mann (RIP)
	11:30 OLAM		Michael Collins and family

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.

Stations of the Cross: At Christ the King Church every Friday during Lent 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, Sr Marie, Patricia Nash, Alberto Bolongaro, Arjun Paul, Teresa Webb, Mary Hickey, Sean Mulkeen, Jack Foxall, Rose Lewsley, Julia Casey. Please pray for them and their families.

RIP: Please pray for Josephine Whatton who died recently. May she rest in peace.

Dates for your diary: Gary will give three talks under the general heading of "What are deacons for?" on Saturdays 19th and 26th of March and 2nd April. We will meet for a coffee at 11 am in the St John's Centre and finish comfortably in time to get ready for Mass at 12.30. Each session will end with an opportunity for Q & A.

Red Mission Boxes: Could those who have a red mission box please bring it to church to be emptied next weekend.

Easter Cards: There is a lovely selection of Easter cards for sale at the church piety stall.

Gospel Reflection (Fr Donagh O'Shea OP)

In today's gospel reading we are brought up against the fathomless problem of evil. Is there any answer to it? We are lost for words when tragedy strikes at us – or near us. We use a lot of words, certainly, but we know that they all fall short. In that way it is similar to the dark mystery of God. On an ordinary day we can say pat things about God and about suffering and evil. But when we are touched by any of these we have to fall silent. Then the only word we have is the one word that expresses God and humanity to the full extent that they can be expressed in our flesh: Jesus, the Word made flesh. All the puffs of air that we call words are insubstantial beside him. He is present to us whether we are awake or asleep, whether speaking or silent, whether full of joy or full of pain.

The 13th century mystic, Bl. Angela of Foligno, had a deep experience of God, and when her confessor asked her to tell him about it, she said, "Father, if you experienced what I experienced and then you had to stand in the pulpit to preach, you could only say to the people, 'My friends, go with God's blessing, because today I can say nothing to you about God.'"

This could be a remedy for the excessive fluency we have when we speak about God. The word comes tripping off our tongue as if it were nothing mysterious about it at all. It was not so in the beginning. In the Old Testament God revealed his name to Moses: it was *Yahweh*. "That will be my name forever, and by this name they shall call upon me for all generations to come." The Jews regarded this name as so holy that it should never be pronounced. In Hebrew, vowels are not written - only consonants. So the name was something like YWH. When they came to this name in the Scriptures they said 'Adonai' instead (Lord). As time went by and no one had ever heard the word pronounced, no one knew any longer how it was meant to be pronounced. (Later, some people began to put the vowels of 'Adonai' with the consonants of YWH, and it yielded – more or less – the artificial name 'Jehovah'.)

It is somehow a wonderful thing to have a name for God that must never be pronounced. We Christians don't talk like that, but in fact we say something that is even more radical. For us it is not that there is some taboo word that must never be uttered, but that *all words* fall short of the mark. Use any words you like, we say, or as many as you like, but know that when you have said them all you have said nothing. This is something that is not stated clearly or often enough. So that you will be reassured that this is not some kind of trendy agnosticism, here are some brief extracts from the writings of St Thomas Aquinas (+1274) on this subject.

"God is ultimately known as unknown, because then the mind knows God most perfectly when it knows that his essence is above all that can be known in this life of wayfaring."

"Whatever is comprehended by a finite being [that is, us] is itself finite."

"God is honoured by silence, not because we may say or know nothing about him, but because we know that we are unable to comprehend him."

"Neither Christian nor pagan knows the nature of God as he is in himself."

"We only know God truly when we believe that he is above all that human beings can think about God."

God is a dark mystery. But isn't God light? "God is light and in him there is no darkness at all" (1 John 1:5). Yes, but excess of light, as St Augustine said, has the same effect as darkness.

Last week's collection CTK

Envelopes	£ 89.00
Loose	£ 311.71
St. Orders	£ 206.69
Total	£ 607.40

Last week's collections OLAM

Envelopes	£ 88.50
Loose	£ 173.88
St. Orders	£ 33.46
Total	£ 295.84

Formation of the Parish Council: If you think you can contribute to the parish by becoming a member of the Parish Council, please print off a copy of the Constitution in its amended version and a Nomination Form which you will also find on the website. All nomination forms with a signed copy of the Constitution must be handed in either to me or to Deacons Dominic and Gary after the Sunday Masses on 20th Mar 2022. If we need to hold elections, these will take place over the weekend of 2nd and 3rd April. The aim is to hold the first meeting of the new Parish Council on 25th April 2022 at 7pm (venue to be confirmed).

Your help to Ukrainian Refugees:

We know that we will need: Accommodation in people's own homes or homes that belong to individuals or to parishes/the Archdiocese. If you wish to offer accommodation, please contact Father Hudson's on (01675) 434000 between the hours of 8.30 – 5.00pm Monday to Thursday, and 8.30 - 4.30pm on Friday.

Or email Maria Gallagher on mariagallagher@fatherhudsons.org.uk providing a phone number that you can be contacted on. Or ring, text or WhatsApp 07966 935533 outside of these hours, please leave a voicemail and number if unanswered.

There are some important steps regarding accommodation: 1). Your offer - Father Hudson's will be the point of contact for this. 2). Matching - where the offer of accommodation is matched to a Ukrainian refugee family or individual. The national body, Caritas Social Action network, is recommending the use of an organisation called Reset, which has worked for a number of years supporting the Community Sponsorship scheme for refugees. Father Hudson's will assist you in contact with Reset. It is also possible as time goes on that Caritas organisations in Ukraine, Poland and other European countries will assist. 3). Support once a Ukrainian refugee individual or family is matched - at the moment it is unclear to what extent Local Authorities and other agencies will be able to assist. Father Hudson's, from its experience, knows that this ongoing support matters greatly. As central government, local government and other agencies clarify the nature of this support we will keep you fully informed. Language help - if you speak Ukrainian or Russian these skills will be of incredible value, even if you live a long way from where the individuals/families will live (phone/Zoom etc.) - contact as above. Other skills - as time goes on, some or all families will value support with developing their English-language skills (Esol), and possibly professional help, such as counselling - contact as above.