



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



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Hymns: (OLAM: Ent: 382; Off: 179; Com: 49; Rec: 100)

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 71(72): 1-2,7-8,12-13,17.

R: *In his days justice shall flourish, and peace till the moon fails.*

MASSES THIS WEEK

SUNDAY OBLIGATION HAS BEEN REINSTATED BY THE BISHOPS

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|---------------------|------------|--|--|---|
| Sat 03/12/22 | 10:00 Mon | St. Francis Xavier, Mem | Denis Doyle (RIP) | |
| | 12:30 CTK | 2nd Sunday of Advent | Mary Hall (Anniversary.) | |
| | 18:00 OLAM | | Alan Maxwell & Stephen Cusack (RIP) | |
| Sun 04/12/22 | 10:00 CTK | | Kay Ollerenshaw (Birthday) | |
| | 11:30 OLAM | Vincent Jordan (Illness) | | |
| Mon 05/12/22 | 08:00 Con. | St. Birinus, Bishop, Feast | Fr. Patrick Byrne (RIP) | |
| | 09:30 Mon. | | Private Intention (AX) | |
| Tue 06/12/22 | 09:30 Mon. | Advent Feria | Marie Wright (RIP) | |
| | 12:00 CTK | | Katy Connor | |
| Wed 07/12/22 | 08:00 Con. | St. Ambrose, Mem | Teresa Webb (B'day) | |
| | 09:30 Mon. | | Eileen Gilsean (RIP) | |
| | 12:00 OLAM | | Margaretta Campbell - Funeral Service | |
| Thu 08/12/22 | 09:30 Mon. | Immaculate Conception Solemnity | John & Frances Murray (RIP) | |
| | 10.30 OLAM | | PEOPLE OF THE PARISHES | |
| | 12.00 CTK | | Teresa Watts (Ann) | |
| Fri 09/12/22 | 09.00 CTK | Advent Feria | Marie Ray & family | |
| | 09.30 Mon. | | Paul Burton & Noel Ryan (RIP) | |
| Sat 10/12/22 | 10:00 Mon | Advent Feria | Andy Comeford (Ann) | |
| | 12:30 CTK | | 3rd Sunday in Advent | Pauline Biffin (Anni.) |
| | 18:00 OLAM | | | Margaret & Peter Harvey & Tommy Murtagh (RIP) |
| Sun 11/12/22 | 10:00 CTK | John Cassidy (Anni.) | | |
| | 11:30 OLAM | Mary & Mick McDonald (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, following Church cleaning at 2.30..

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, Mary McGee, Margaret Gasson, Claire & Mark, Jo Teece, Mary Ann Gniadkowski, Niamh O' Reilly, Carole Smith, Alan Rowan, Kyle Billing, Nicola Jones, Daniel Kelly, Patricia Nash, Alberto Bolongaro, Arjun Paul, Teresa Webb, Mary Hickey, Sr Marie, Carol Timmis, Carlos Beckford, and Ian Kennedy. Please pray for them and their families.

Funerals: Gerry Jones: Mon 05/12/22, Perry Barr Crem.; Margaretta (Rita) Campbell: Wed 07/12/22, OLAM, 12:00; Margaret Bennett: Wed 14/12/22, OLAM, 10:30; Julia German: Fri 16/12/22, OLAM, 14:30; Henrietta Nesbitt: Mon 19/12/22, OLAM, 12:00. May they rest in peace.

Are You Planning To Have Your Child Baptised? If so, please come to the next monthly meeting, to be held at Christ the King Church this Sunday 4th December at 3:00pm.

Xmas Craft Fayre: A sincere thank you to everyone who helped at/supported our annual fundraising event last weekend in any way whatsoever. Your sterling support, particularly in the current financial climate, is a credit to the spirit of our parishioners to think of and pray for others, particularly those in need, and will enable our combined parish churches and school to continue to foster pastoral care/kindness. We couldn't have done it without you all, so **THANK YOU SO MUCH** for showing your support for the Parish and for each other.

2nd Collections: There will be a second collection **THIS WEEKEND** for the poor parishes of the Diocese.

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|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Last Week's Collection CTK | |
| Loose: | £ 343.95 |
| Envelopes: | £ 100.60 |
| Standing Orders: | £ 206.69 |
| Total: | £ 651.24 |

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|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Last Week's Collection OLAM | |
| Loose: | £ 139.24 |
| Envelopes: | £ 120.40 |
| Standing Orders: | £ 51.92 |
| Total: | £ 311.56 |

Thank you for your generous support

Ministries For Next Weekend:

| Christ the King | | |
|------------------------|--|------------------------|
| Sat 12:30 | Minister Of the Word | Kathleen Foxall |
| | Ordinary Minister of Holy Communion | Deacon Gary |
| Sun 10.00 | Minister Of the Word | Theresa |
| | Ordinary Minister of Holy Communion | Angela Hooker |

| Our Lady of the Assumption | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|-----------------------|
| Sat 18:00 | Minister Of the Word | Graham Green |
| | Extraordinary Minister of HC | Kitty Thomas |
| Sun 11.30 | Minister Of the Word | Ian Kennedy |
| | Ordinary Minister of Holy Communion | Deacon Dominic |

New Heights Community Christmas Carols: Tue 6th Dec, 5:00-6:30pm, at St John's Centre, B44 0QN. Weather permitting, this will take place outside St John's Centre/Christ the King Church and will be followed by mince pies and hot chocolate in St John's Centre. If the weather is not so favourable it will be inside.

Free Community Christmas Eve Meal offered to residents of Kingstanding on Christmas Eve (Sat 24/12/22). Due to demand, spaces will be limited and must be booked by Fri 09/12/22, priorities to those most vulnerable, isolated and suffering from financial hardship. Meals are DELIVERY ONLY between 1:00pm and 3:00pm. No specific time can be given. Please call 07555 496 614 for booking or email enquiries@new-heights.org.uk.

Bishop Challoner Training School Alliance works with Catholic schools in the Birmingham area to help new trainee Teachers into this rewarding profession. Primary and Secondary School Direct places are available. Information Event is on **Thursday 1st December 10am** or **Thursday 5th January 10am** (online). School Experience Days are also offered for an insight into life in a school and they will be on **Wed 7th Dec 22** and **Wed 4th Jan 23**. If interested please visit www.bctsa.org for details, or email trainingschool@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk.

Escorted Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine, Ireland, 27th March 2023. £699.00 per person sharing. Price includes flight, all transfers, 4 nights' in Knock House Hotel with full board. All entertainment and excursions included. Day trips to Westport, Ballintubber Abbey, Croagh Patrick, Fr. Peyton Centre & National Museum. Single supplement £150.00. Contact Patricia on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com.

Celebration of the ministry of our Altar Servers

On 26th December, the Church keeps the Feast of St Stephen who was one of the first seven deacons to be ordained and who is the patron saint of the Altar Servers' Guild. There will be a Mass in Christ the King for all altar servers whether they serve at OLAM or CTK, followed by nibbles and hot and cold soft drinks. All altar servers present will be invited to sit in the sanctuary. We would like to make the Mass a full solemn high Mass for the Feast to offer as many specific roles as possible. Any altar servers planning to attend are asked to give their names to Deacon Gary and (if they are under the age of 18) Gary will need their parents' telephone number as well. All parishioners are, of course, also heartily encouraged to attend.

Gospel Commentary – Fr Donagh O'Shea, OP

The voice of prophecy had been silent for four hundred years. John the Baptist spoke with such fire that people believed God had now broken the long silence. Even many of the Pharisees and Sadducees were convinced, or at least willing to consider it. We are more aware of the Pharisees - they get such a bad press in the New Testament. It must have taken an immense force to lift their heads from their study of the Torah, the Law. The Torah was God's definitive word, according to their belief. But here they were, listening for a new word from God.

God's new prophet did not flatter them. "Brood of vipers!" Pit of snakes! Don't rely on your Scriptures, your past (he told them); God is able to do a new thing.

But, in fairness to them, they had put aside their commentaries and come to listen. St Paul had been a Pharisee, and it took the power of God to cast out his old certainties. These seem more amenable. John could have thanked them for coming! But he didn't begin, 'We are gathered here...' or 'Welcome to our celebration.' John is a rough diamond, an uncut diamond. He has the hardness, but there is little beauty, and not much light coming through. Take away the rhetoric and his message is conventional: "Tax collectors came to be baptised, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation and be satisfied with your wages.'" (Luke 3:12-14).

But there would be another diamond, an Immortal Diamond, and John's greatness was that he pointed to him "He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire" - he, the Immortal Diamond formed in the crucible of earth's suffering. He did not insult or berate us; he joined himself to us. With him, every mortal sufferer can be immortal diamond, can say with Hopkins: "I am all at once what Christ is, since he was what I am."