



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



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Hymns: OLAM E: 377; O: 486; C: 550; R: 220.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 66(67):2-3,5,6,8 **R: O God, be gracious and bless us.**

MASSES THIS WEEK

SUNDAY OBLIGATION HAS BEEN REINSTATED BY THE BISHOPS

Sat 31/01/22	10:00 Mon	7 th Day within Octave of the Nativity	Theresa Mulvihill
	12:30 CTK		Annie Broth (Anni.)
	18:00 OLAM		Benny McGinn (RIP)
Sun 01/01/23	10:00 CTK†	Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God	Luke Crann & Thomas Beirne (RIP)
	11:30 OLAM		Eugeniusz Mikula (RIP) (Bday Ann)
Mon 02/01/23	08:00 Con.†	St Basil the Great & St Gregory Nazianzen, Mem.	Murphy Family
	09:30 Mon		Children drowned in the Lake & Their Families
Tue 03/01/23	09:30 Mon.†	Christmas Feria	Mary & Mick McDonald (RIP)
	12:00 CTK		Sandra & John Mageean
Wed 04/01/23	08:00 Con.†	Christmas Feria	Peter Hughes (RIP)
	09:30 Mon.		Theresa Mulvihill
Thu 05/01/23	09:30 Mon.	Christmas Feria	Sr Marie Inglis
	12:00 CTK†		Rose Lewsley (RIP)
	18:00 MCC		Gladys Nevitt (RIP)
Fri 06/01/23	09:30 Mon.†	The Epiphany, Solemnity	Tony Wright (RIP)
	10:30 MPS		PEOPLE OF THE PARISHES
	12:00 CTK		Michael Madigan (RIP)
Sat 07/01/23	10:00 Mon	Christmas Feria	Private Intention (AX)
	12:30 CTK†		Alfie Bourn (RIP)
	18:00 OLAM		Jozef Gniadkowski (RIP Ann)
Sun 08/01/23	10:00 CTK	The Baptism of the Lord	Jim McCarthy (Ann)
	11:30 OLAM		DiPiro Family

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 1:30pm.

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, Mary McGee, 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 and Ian Kennedy.
Please pray for them and their families.

RIP: Pray for the souls of Catherine Gunn, Margaret Gasson, Gladstone Reid and the Pope Emeritus, Benedict XVI who died recently and all whose anniversaries occur at this time. Eternal rest grant onto them, O Lord, may they rest in peace.

Funerals: Catherine Gunn: the Abbey, Tue 03/01/23, 11.30am; Gladstone Reid: CTK, Tue 10/01/23, 10:45am; Margaret Gasson: OLAM, Fri 13/01/23, 12:00.

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 on Sunday 8th January at 3:00pm.

Please pray for: Those who deprived themselves of the sacraments during Advent and Christmas.

Christ the King		New Year 2023	07/08 Jan 2023
Sat 12:30	Minister of the Word	Angela Madigan	Kathleen Foxall
	Minister of Holy Communion	Deacon Gary	Deacon Gary
Sun 10.00	Minister of the Word	Theresa Byrne	Angela Hooker
	Minister of Holy Communion	Deacon Gary	Deacon Gary

Many thanks to those who joined me in celebrating Christmas with the preparation of their souls and the Church. Thank you for your generous gifts and prayers. Thanks also to those who helped with donating presents, cooking Christmas meals (both from New Heights and from home), delivering and visiting the families who are struggling socially and financially. Your generous kindness is much appreciated.

Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School is currently under consultation to change their school admissions criteria for the intake year 2024/2025. All details of the proposed changes can be found on the school website www.cardinalwiseman.net under 'School Admissions' – 'Proposed Admissions Arrangements 2024-2025'. If you wish to comment on these changes, please contact the school admissions team directly at enquiry@cardinalwiseman.net.

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. A further online Information Event is to be held on **Thu 5th Jan 10am**, with an additional School Experience Day being held on **Wed 4th Jan 23**, to offer an insight into life in a school. 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 (with supplement of £150.00 for single occupancy). Price includes flight, all transfers, a 4-night stay at the Knock House Hotel on a full-board basis. All entertainment and day trip excursions to Westport, Ballintubber Abbey, Croagh Patrick, Fr. Peyton Centre and National Museum. Contact Patricia on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175 557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com.

Deacon Gary's study leave in the New Year: Gary will be away from 10th January to 4th February inclusive and then again from 11th February to 27th February inclusive.

Time to say goodbye

Andrew Leadbetter is leaving the parish to take up a post as Exams Officer and Data Manager at a School in the Falkland Islands. His last Sunday with us will be 22nd Jan 2023. Over the last 20 years, Andrew has served the parish in numerous ways, notably as Altar Server and MC, manager of the live-stream and through our pilgrimages to Lourdes. We are going to have a Farewell Mass for Andrew on Sun 22nd January, followed by a presentation in St John's Centre in which we can express our thanks more fully.

Gospel Commentary – Fr Donagh O'Shea, OP

"Who do people say I am?" Jesus once asked; and "Who do you say I am?" (Mt 16:15). It is a question that never goes away, and every believer faces it again and again. You can be quite clear in your mind about the Church's answer to the question, but every believer has to experience the force of the question addressed to him or herself. "Who do you say I am?" In a sense it cannot be fully answered with words but only with one's life. I could have the right formulation, but it has little significance if my life contradicts it or ignores it.

Through the centuries every possible answer has been given. Followers of Nestorius, the 5th-century archbishop of Constantinople said that Christ was two persons – the man Jesus and the divine Son of God. This view was rejected at the Council of Ephesus (431 AD), which insisted that Jesus was one person with two natures, divine and human. The most emphatic way they could say this was to affirm that Mary was not just the mother of the man Jesus, but that she was the mother of God. This was to say that Christ was one person, not two. The word used was 'Theotokos' (Greek for 'God-bearer'). The Council of Chalcedon (451 AD) continued the use of this term, and it has become orthodox Christian teaching. Note that it is more a statement about Christ than about Mary – or rather, equally so. Icons of the 'Theotokos' are common now in the West.

In a sense, when a child is born a mother is born. When a child is born, its mother begins to be a mother. Even if she was already mother to other children this new child makes her a new mother; a new chapter in her mothering begins. In the birth of the Son of God, Mary begins to be the Mother of God. When a Child is born, a Mother is born.