



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

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Hymns: OLAM: E: 25, O: 56, C: 139, R: 171)

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 145(146): 6-10

R: How happy are the poor in spirit: theirs is the kingdom of heaven

MASSES THIS WEEK

SUNDAY OBLIGATION HAS BEEN REINSTATED BY THE BISHOPS

Sat 28/01/22	10:00 Mon	St. Thomas Aquinas, Mem.	Private intention
	12:30 CTK†	4th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Ed McKeown (Ann)
	18:00 OLAM		Bernard Nevin (RIP)
Sun 29/01/23	10:00 CTK		Brendan Courtney (RIP)
	11:30 OLAM	Judy Kennedy	
Mon 30/01/23	08:00 Con.†	Feria	Pauline Freeman (RIP)
	09:30 Mon.		Ela, Henryka, Lucien & Chrisopher Czapiewski (RIP)
Tue 31/01/23	11.00 Mon.	St. John Bosco, Mem	Sr Deidre Michael - Requiem
Wed 01/02/23	08:00 Con.†	Feria	Luke Byrne
	09:30 Mon.		John Roche (RIP)
Thu 02/02/23	09:30 Mon.†	Presentation of the Lord, Feast	Krystyna & Emil Banat (RIP)
	10:30 MPS		PEOPLE OF THE PARISHES
	12:00 CTK		Ellen Crann (RIP)
Fri 03/02/23	09:00 CTK	Feria	Rose Lewsley (RIP)
	09:30 Mon.†		Alan & Stephanie Holland (RIP)
	12:00 CTK		Elizabeth Mitchell (RIP)
Sat 04/02/23	10:00 Mon	Feria	Holy Souls
	12:30 CTK		John Mitchell (Ann)
	18:00 OLAM		Jim Reeves (RIP)
Sun 05/02/23	10:00 CTK	5th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Christy Lamb (RIP)
	11:30 OLAM		Margaet Gasson (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 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 Angela Madigan. **Please pray for them and their families.**

RIP: Pray for the souls of Anne Fitzgibbon and Sr. Deirdre Michael (from the Maryvale Community) who died recently, and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, may they rest in peace. **Funerals:** As Sr. Deirdre Michael's funeral takes place on Tuesday morning at the Monastery at 11am, to which all are welcome, this will be the only Mass said that day.

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 5th February at 3:00pm.

Community Meal: The first Community Meal of the year will be held in the St. John's Centre this coming Sunday (29th Jan) at 4.00 p.m. If you have not already booked a place, then please ring Sandra on 07985 607091 to check on availability.

Christ the King		28/29 JAN	04/05 FEB
Sat 12:30	Minister of the Word	Kathleen Foxall	Kathleen Foxall
	Minister of Holy Communion	Theresa Wilkin	Sue Nugent
Sun 10.00	Minister of the Word	Patience	Theresa
	Minister of Holy Communion	Angela & Marian	Joyce McCarthy

Parish Council Meeting: The next parish council meeting will be on Monday 30th January at 7 pm in the Guild Room, Christ the King. If you have any items you would like the Council to consider, please speak to any Parish Council Member and it will be put on the agenda.

APF Red Mission Boxes: Could anyone registered as holding a red Mission Box at home please bring these into Church over the next 2 weekends, so that the contents can be counted and the money, very kindly donated by the individuals concerned, can be forwarded to the Mill Hill Missionaries to support their life-changing work in many countries.

Male/Female Volunteers Needed for Dementia Lunch Club at Maryvale: Kind-hearted, fun-loving individuals needed to befriend and support a lovely group of 10-12 elders - all of whom are "young at heart", living life to the full, with varying degrees of dementia – and provide a well-earned rest for their loved ones. Support would be needed from 9.30 – 2.15 on a Mon or a Wed at Maryvale Centre, Old Oscott Hill. Lots of fun activities on offer – crafts, games, quizzes, live music – lunch provided and good company on tap. If interested or want to know more, contact **Sharon on 07495 711695**.

Christian Youth Group: A new Youth Group, led by 2 of the Sisters and a small group of like-minded young adults from the parish, has been formed to engage with young people over the age of 13 within our 2 parishes, providing young people with an opportunity to make new friends, build social skills and confidence, gain leadership skills and celebrate their faith and sense of community. An initial meeting has already been held and the next meeting will take place in the Guild Room at the side of Christ The King Church at 7.00 p.m. on Fri 10th Feb. If you are aged 13+ (and up to the age of 22) please come along and see what's on offer. It may be just what you need in your life, or maybe you will end up being "the person who makes a difference in the lives of others". Why not give it a go!!

St Vincent de Paul Society: Dear Parishioners, I would like to thank you most sincerely for your continued support for our work. In this current economic climate we are receiving more referrals than ever so are kept very busy. Last month we visited over 50 families and, as a result of your generosity, were able to assist with grocery vouchers, food parcels, clothing and household items. I anticipate the demand for our support will continue and may well increase. Please keep us and those we visit in your prayers. Wishing you a Happy New Year. Theresa.

Secondary School Maths Tuition: If needed please ring 07716 331678.

Gospel Commentary - Fr Donagh O'Shea: The sermon on the mount is the heart of the Gospel, and the Beatitudes are the heart of the sermon on the mount. Here is to be seen the focused image of the Christian life. Here in fact is the face of Christ himself. To be ignorant of the Scriptures, St Jerome said in the 4th century, is to be ignorant of Christ. Not to read and study the Beatitudes is not to read and study the face of Christ.

When I was a child, I could tell you what was commanded and forbidden by each of the 10 commandments, and what *else* was commanded and forbidden by each of them - even though I didn't understand what many of the words meant. But I have no memory at all of the Beatitudes. We never learned what was forbidden or commanded by any of them, nor even recommended. This, as I now suppose, is because it was so much easier to handle codified laws than deeper matters of the spirit.

The commandments are basic rules of behaviour from the Old Testament. They are what made that society (and indeed any society) capable of continuing without destroying itself. But the Beatitudes are as new a reality in the world as Jesus himself.

"Blessed are the poor in spirit." This was entirely counter-cultural, and still is. It is a challenge in every age. Today's popular culture is about getting ahead and winning and becoming rich; and after rich, famous. It is more about appearances than reality. This is not exceptional; it is the normal life of the ego in every age. Even the Old Testament would tell us that success and victory and wealth are so innocently desirable that they are signs of God's favour. Today we leave God out of the equation and go for the thing ourselves. We are better organised, that's all. But in the Gospel, and crucially in the Beatitudes, we have a much more subtle and a deeper understanding; you could say that the Gospel takes account of the paradoxical and tragic side of life. It tells us that wealth and success often destroy people; that it is often through our very strength that we fall (Judas was good at buying and selling, and he ended by selling his Lord). The other side of it is that defeat and failure can be a profound victory (Jesus was defeated on the cross, but God raised him up).

In a way, the 1st Beatitude contains all the rest. In Meister Eckhart's famous sermon, he said that poverty of spirit is even more fundamental than love. Strange saying for a Christian! But what he meant was that without poverty of spirit you cannot love as Christ loved. The ego knows about love, but only self-love and love of one's own circle (extended self-love). It knows nothing of the spirit of Christ.