



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



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Hymns: E: 195; O: 288; C: 50; R: 572

Psalm 85(86):5-6,9-10,15-16

R: O Lord, you are good and forgiving.

MASSES THIS WEEK

SUNDAY OBLIGATION HAS BEEN REINSTATED BY THE BISHOPS

Sat 22/07/23	Feria	10:00 Mon.	Christina
	16 th Sun in Ordinary Time	12:30 CTK	Paul Brady (RIP)
18:00 OLAM		Eddie O'Reilly (RIP)	
11:30 OLAM†		Jim (Christy) Ranahan (RIP)	
Sun 23/07/23	Feria in OT	10:00 CTK	Gerard Byrne (Anni)
		08:00 Con.†	Pat Hodgson (RIP)
Mon 24/07/23	Feria in OT	09:30 Mon.	Jim Barry (RIP)
		09:00 CTK	Anna Potter
Tue 25/07/23	St James, the Greater, Feast	09:30 Mon†	Rose Murray
		12:00 CTK	Reginald Watts (RIP)
		08:00 Con.†	Pat Comerford
Wed 26/07/23	Ss Joachim and Anne, Mem.	09:30 Mon.	Fred & Joyce Oakley (RIP)
		09:30 Mon.†	Michelle Green (RIP)
Thu 27/07/23	Feria in OT	13:00 CTK	Christine Byrne - Requiem Mass
		09:30 Mon†	James Cusack
Fri 28/07/23	Feria in OT	12:00 CTK	Caroline Hughes
		10:00 Mon.	Lizzy O'Hagan (Get Well)
Sat 29/07/23	Ss Martha, Mary and Lazarus, Feast.	12:30 CTK†	Margaret & Charles Butcher
	17 th Sun in Ordinary Time	18:00 OLAM	John Roche (RIP)
10:00 CTK		Hugh Callaghan (RIP)	
11:30 OLAM		Michelle Green (RIP)	
Sun 30/07/23			

Mass Intentions: Obviously, when requesting Masses to be said for loved ones, most people are requesting they be held at weekends, so that they can attend. Unfortunately, there are only 2 Masses at each parish at a weekend, but 19 other masses said during the week. To limit any associated disappointment, when preferred dates cannot be met, can I ask parishioners to consider this when asking specifically for a weekend Mass as, when there are competing requests, consideration will have to be given to death anniversaries falling on the actual day requested.

Bible Study with Deacon Dominic Fahey in the Guild Room at Christ The King **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, Sr Marie, Claire & Mark, Jo Teece, Mary Ann Gniadkowski, Niamh O' Reilly, Carole Smith, Alan Rowan, Alberto Bolongaro, Kyle Billing, Nicola Jones, Daniel Kelly, Patricia Nash, Arjun Paul, Teresa Webb, Mary Hickey, Angela Madigan, Carol Timmis, Elizabeth Teague, Joanne Fields, David Cotton, Caitlin Hodgetts, Joan and Alan Horton and Yvonne Cowman. **Please pray for them and their families.**

RIP: Please pray for Veronica Kelly, Christina Byrne & John White (Fr Michael's father) who passed away recently. May they rest in peace. **Funerals:** John White: Thu 27/07/23, 10:00 at St Thomas More, Sheldon.

THE SANCTUARY LAMP, which burns to indicate the presence of the Blessed Sacrament on the Altar, is **dedicated throughout July for members of the Mathews family,** both living and deceased.

Baptism Preparation: The next meeting is to be held at Christ the King Church on Sunday 6th August at 3:00pm.

The parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No. 234216

Last Weeks' Collection CTK
 Loose: £ 243.23
 Envelopes: £ 139.00
 Standing Orders: £ 265.84
Total: £ 648.07

**Thank you for
 your generous support**

Last Weeks' Collection OLAM
 Loose: £ 171.17
 Envelopes: £ 191.30
 Standing Orders: £ 250.38
Total: £ 612.85

Christ the King		22 nd /23 rd July	29 th /30 th July
Sat 12:30	Minister of the Word	Kathleen Foxall	Kathleen Foxall
	Minister of Holy Communion	Theresa Wilkin	Loretto Cattell
Sun 10.00	Minister of the Word	Patience	Theresa
	Minister of Holy Communion	Angela	Marianne

Children's Liturgy Group: This Sunday (23rd July) will be the last Childrens Liturgy Group before we break for the Summer. We will start again in the new term on Sunday September 10th. Thank you to all the children for their attendance and attention during our time together. Have an enjoyable break. **The Liturgy Group Leaders.**

I would like to add my own personal thanks to all involved with the above Children's Liturgy Group, who are so inspiring in their efforts to bring the Gospel alive in a manner that the children can understand and enjoy. Thank you all. Fr. The-Quang.

School Summer Holiday: I am sure the Teachers and children – but maybe not every parent – is looking forward to the Summer break which commences this week. May I take this opportunity to thank the children for their enthusiastic and attentive attendance at the weekly School Mass and the Children's Liturgy Group and for the beautiful handmade cards they made for me on the recent 25th anniversary of my ordination to the Priesthood. A huge "Thank You" should also go to the teaching staff at our Parish Schools for all that they do – both seen and unseen - for the parish community and the families of the children in their care – they are a credit to us. Remember children "6 weeks is a very long time to be at home" – so don't forget everything you have learned and help your parents, brothers and sisters around the house and be good. I may not see you during the week but look forward to seeing all of your smiling faces at Mass at the weekend. God bless you all. Fr. The-Quang xxx

Art for Wellbeing: Free Arts and Crafts workshops to help relaxation and for fun every Monday from 03/07/23 till 07/08/23, 11:00am-12:30pm, at St John's Centre.

Ordination: Please continue to remember in your prayers Deacon Gregory Beckett, who was ordained as a Priest last weekend in Swansea, that he may be guided by the Holy Spirit throughout his priestly ministry.

Fr Gerry Kelly's Mass of Thanksgiving for his Ruby Jubilee: Sun 23/07/23, 17:00 at St Francis', Handsworth.

Youth Group meeting: Fri 28/07/23 at 19:00 in the Guild Room.

Gospel Commentary - Fr Donagh O'Shea: For 'Kingdom of God' you can say *Presence of God*. In this Sunday's Gospel reading, Jesus is telling us what God is like, or how we are to think of God's presence. He could have used any images in heaven above or on earth below, but he picked these.

The Presence of God is like a *seed* in the ground, he said; or it is like *yeast* in a batch of dough. Seeds are small, many of them almost invisible, they are the beginnings of things, they are unimpressive to look at, and they are thrown into the ground as if they were being thrown away. *Yeast* becomes invisible in the lump of dough, it is never seen again. Seeds and yeast: these are realities that don't draw attention to themselves. You could say the same thing about another image that Jesus used: salt. This, he said, is what the Kingdom (the Presence) of God is like; this is how God's presence makes itself felt in one's life.

"The field is the world," the text says, further down. This phrase led to one of the biggest debates in the ancient Church. The Donatists were a rigorist sect in the 4th and 5th Centuries, who claimed that the good seed in this parable referred to the members of the Church, and so, by definition, there could be no 'tares', no sinners, in it. According to them, the Church was composed entirely of good people, and the rest of the world was simply evil.

This was a kind of Pharisaism come back to life. The one who engaged them definitively was St Augustine, who wrote several books against them. Not only the world, but the Church itself, he said, is a field in which there is good seed and bad. "How very many sheep there are outside it, and how very many wolves within!". And soon after, St Gregory the Great (c. 540-604) wrote, "In this present Church there cannot be bad without good, or good without bad. They are not good who refuse to endure the bad". The human race is not divided into children of light and children of darkness; nor is the Church. Every one of us has light and darkness in him or herself; the good grain and the tares grow together. The Church is not a club for the elite, it is a place in which sinners can grow and change by God's grace. That growth in grace may be agonisingly slow, like the growth of a grain hidden in the soil. But in that very slowness, it imitates the patience of God.

There is no need to suppose that all the Donatists died out. There are some Christian sects that seem very exclusive ("Are you saved?"). By contrast with them, the Catholic Church is consciously non-elitist; there is room in it for everyone, good and bad alike. It is a kind of hospital, or a convalescent home. St Augustine said it was the inn in which the man who fell among robbers was being taken care of.

Remember the tax-collector in Jesus' story, who hardly dared to lift his head, but prayed, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner" (Luke 18:13). How unlike the other, the Pharisee, whose prayer was a recital of his own virtues. The tax-collector was no saint, and he knew it. But the seed of God's presence was stirring in his heart; the yeast was invisible in his downcast appearance, but it was real. Jesus put him before us as the very model of how we should pray.