



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



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Hymns: E: 154; O: 396; C: 49; R: 369

Psalm 66(67):2-3,5-6,8

R: Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

MASSES THIS WEEK

SUNDAY OBLIGATION HAS BEEN REINSTATED BY THE BISHOPS

Sat 19/08/23	Feria	10:00 Mon.	Joseph Duy (RIP)
	20 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	12:30 CTK†	Elizabeth McKenna (RIP) Ann.
Sun 20/08/23		18:00 OLAM	Daniel Patrick Keogh (RIP)
	10:00 CTK	John Walsh (Anni.)	
Mon 21/08/23	St. Pius X, Pope, Mem.	11:30 OLAM	Fr. Joseph Carron
		08:00 Con.†	John Allcoat (RIP)
Tue 22/08/23	The Queenship of the BV Mary, Mem.	09:30 Mon.	Jim Ranahan (RIP)
		09:30 Mon.†	Theresa Whelan (Anni.)
Wed 23/08/23	St. John Wall, Feast	12:00 CTK	Katy Connor
		08:00 Con.†	Huong Vu and family
Thu 24/08/23	St. Bartholomew, Feast	09:30 Mon.	Fr. Joseph Carron
		09:30 Mon.†	Elizabeth Haley (RIP)
Fri 25/08/23	Feria in Ordinary Time	12:00 CTK	The Campbell family
		09:30 Mon.†	Tom Stevenson (RIP)
Sat 26/08/23	Blessed Dominic Barberi, Feast	12:00 CTK	Frank Demsy (RIP)
		10:00 Mon.	De La Salle brothers
Sun 27/08/23	21 st Sunday in Ordinary Time	12:30 CTK†	Mary Burns
		18:00 OLAM	Tom & Sadie Kennelly
		10:00 CTK	John Butler (RIP)
		11:30 OLAM	Kadi-Leigh Trapszo (Get well)

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.

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

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, 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, Yvonne Cowman and Fr Michael Ho. **Please pray for them and their families.**

RIP: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Fr Keith Enston, who passed away on Wed 16/08/23, aged 88. May he rest in peace. Details of Fr Keith's funeral will be circulated as soon as they are known.

THE SANCTUARY LAMP, which burns to indicate the presence of the Blessed Sacrament on the Altar, is **dedicated throughout August for members of the Filkin/Greene families**, both living and deceased.

Last 2 Weeks' Collection CTK
 Loose: £ 471.69
 Envelopes: £ 224.50
 Standing Orders: £ 531.68
Total: £ 1,233.87

**Thank you for
 your generous support**

Last 2 Weeks' Collection OLAM
 Loose: £ 304.03
 Envelopes: £ 319.00
 Standing Orders: £ 250.38
Total: £ 1,123.79

Please note the above figures relate to the collections from the Last 2 Weeks Combined.

Christ the King		19 th /20 th Aug	26 th /27 th Aug
Sat 12:30	Minister of the Word	Kathleen Foxall	Kathleen Foxall
	Minister of Holy Communion	Loretto Cattell	Sue Nugent
Sun 10.00	Minister of the Word	John	Steve
	Minister of Holy Communion	Angela	Joyce

Upcoming Social Event: By popular request, we hope to have a "Racenight" again - which is both an excellent Social Event and raises much needed funds for the Parish. It is scheduled for Friday 29th September in St. Johns Centre. In the next couple of weeks we will be handing out forms to "buy" horses and jockeys for the Races. We will also be asking for Sponsors for the Races and Prizes for the Raffle on the night. More News to follow – but please put the date in your Diaries.

March for Life UK happens in London on Sat 2nd Sep. Many are concerned about restrictions on freedom but it's often not until these restrictions affect us personally that we speak up. Abortion destroys the most fundamental freedom, the freedom to live, and leaves so many women and men deeply hurting. Join thousands of others at this family-friendly event to speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves.

Six vision sessions for our parish: Our Diocesan Vision is the Archbishop's dream for every parish in the Archdiocese of Birmingham, and he invites us to be a part of it. The plans that we make as deaneries and parishes should be united to that vision, so that they will help us to make that future a reality. On the Diocesan Office for Mission website you will find six sessions to help parishes respond to the Archbishop's Invitation to unfold God's plan.

Office for Mission Zoom Meeting: Join the Archdiocese's Office for Mission's regular Zoom meeting for ideas and support on evangelisation, discipleship and marriage and family life. The next meeting is Thurs 14th Sep. Contact office.mission@rcaob.org.uk to register your interest.

Gospel Commentary - Fr Donagh O'Shea: In last Sunday's Gospel reading, Peter's prayer was condensed into three words, "Lord, save me!". In today's reading, the Canaanite woman's prayer is exactly the same. Peter was the Lord's chief disciple, the Canaanite woman was a pagan; but their prayer was the same, and the Lord responded to both.

In today's reading, however, he appeared rather reluctant to help the woman. "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel" meant "I was sent to help Jews, not Canaanites". To make it worse, he added "It is not fair to throw the children's food to dogs". The 'children' were the Jews, "the children of Israel". The 'dogs' were foreigners. It was a Jewish epithet for all foreigners at that time.

It is not easy to know how his mind worked at that moment. Was he just repeating the prejudices of his own people against foreigners? It was his first and only time away from his own country. Or was he just tired, as he often had cause to be? Was he protecting his boundaries, something we all understand to be necessary at times? Or was he testing her perseverance?

All such is only speculation. The Gospel text is silent on it. What is stated in the text is that he granted her request and even *praised her faith*. How could a pagan be said to have faith? Clearly, faith must mean more than being able to rattle off the right words on all aspects of Christian teaching. Not even his closest disciples could do that at the time. From that point on, the great divide would no longer be between Jews and non-Jews, but between those who had faith and those who had not. On another occasion, he praised the faith of a pagan; "nowhere in Israel have I found such faith", he said to a Roman centurion (Matthew 8:10; Luke 7:9). And, to his disciples, he once said "Whoever is not against us, is for us" (Mark 9:38).

However, he also said something that appears opposed to this last quotation. "Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me, scatters" (Luke 11:23). But notice that he said "with *me*". He did not say "with you". Once a group of people get together, they begin to be exclusive. Even a group of disciples can be exclusive, in a way that Christ himself would never be. Notice too, that the first statement (Mark 9:38) is addressed to his own disciples and refers to the work of outsiders, while the second (Luke 11:23) is addressed to outsiders and refers to his own work. There are many who claim to be working with him - good Christians, good Catholics - but who have nothing of his great mind and Spirit, nothing of his compassion and love, and who may be surprised to know that they are working against him.

Much good work is done for Christ outside the fold. In its document on non-Christian religions, the Second Vatican Council stated: "The Catholic Church rejects nothing that is true and holy in these religions. She regards, with sincere reverence, those ways of conduct and of life, those precepts and teachings which, though differing in many aspects from the ones she holds and sets forth, nonetheless often reflect a ray of that Truth which enlightens all people". (*Nostra Aetate*, 2). In our own time too, there are movements without number for the development and liberation of humanity. If they are not against Christ they are with him, and their followers are our brothers and sisters.