



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



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Hymns: E: 503; O: 288; C: 396; R: 220

Psalm 79(80):9,12-16,19-20

**R: The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel**

**MASSES THIS WEEK**

**SUNDAY OBLIGATION HAS BEEN REINSTATED BY THE BISHOPS**

<b>Sat</b> 07/10/23	Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary	10:00 Mon.	Ann & Pat Malanaphy
	27 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	12:30 CTK	Marion Hickey
<b>Sun</b> 08/10/23		18:00 OLAM†	Bernadette Leydon (RIP)
	10:00 CTK	Michael Crann (RIP)	
<b>Mon</b> 09/10/23	St. John Henry Newman, Feast	11:30 OLAMx	Nikie Healy (RIP)
		08:00 Con.†	De La Salle brothers
		09:30 Mon.	Peter Le (RIP)
<b>Tue</b> 10/10/23	Feria in Ordinary Time	<b>11:00 CTK</b>	<b>Requiem: Audrey Vickers</b>
		09:30 Mon.†	David Cotton (RIP)
		12:00 CTK	Rosemary Carr (Get Well)
<b>Wed</b> 11/10/23	Feria in Ordinary Time	08:00 Con.†	Clive Allen (RIP)
		09:30 Mon.x	Pat Kennedy (RIP)
		<b>11:00 OLAM</b>	<b>Funeral Service: Eileen Downing</b>
<b>Thu</b> 12/10/23	Feria in Ordinary Time	09:30 Mon.†	Frank Coyle (RIP)
		12:00 CTK	<b>Liturgy of the Word with Communion</b>
<b>Fri</b> 13/10/23	Feria in Ordinary Time	08:00 CWS	PEOPLE OF THE PARISHES
		09:00 CTK	Special Intention (SH)
		09:30 Mon.x	Maureen Hornsby (RIP)
		<b>12:00 CTK</b>	<b>Funeral Service: Josephine Williams</b>
<b>Sat</b> 14/10/23	Feria in Ordinary Time	10:00 Mon.	Janina & Krystyna
	28 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	12:30 CTK	John Fields (RIP)
18:00 OLAM		Bridget Quinn (RIP)	
<b>Sun</b> 15/10/23		10:00 CTK†	Andy O'Gara (RIP)
	11:30 OLAM	Michael Fahey (RIP)	

**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, 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, Angela Madigan, Carol Timmis, Elizabeth Teague, Joanne Fields, Caitlin Hodgetts, Joan and Alan Horton, Yvonne Cowman and Fr Michael Ho. **Please pray for them and their families.**

**RIP:** Please pray for Audrey Vickers, Michael Kenny, Eileen Downing, Christine Ford, Josephine Williams and Helen McDonnell who all passed away recently. May they rest in peace. **Funerals:** Audrey Vickers: Mon 09/10/23, CTK 11:00; Eileen Downing: Wed 11/10/23, OLAM, 11:00; Josephine Williams: Fri 13/10/23, CTK, 12:00; Christine Ford: Wed 18/10/23, CTK, 11:30; Helen McDonnell: Thu 26/10/23, OLAM, 11:00.

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

**Last Weeks' Collection CTK**  
 Loose: £ 262.56  
 Envelopes: £ 115.85  
 Standing Orders: £ 278.65  
**Total: £ 657.06**

**Thank you for  
 your generous support**

**Last Weeks' Collection OLAM**  
 Loose: £ 221.92  
 Envelopes: £ 196.70  
 Standing Orders: £ 94.69  
**Total: £ 513.31**

The second collection this weekend is for CAFOD Harvest Fast. The Second Collection next weekend is for Missio

Christ the King		7 <sup>th</sup> / 8 <sup>th</sup> Oct	14 <sup>th</sup> / 15 <sup>th</sup> Oct
Sat 12:30	Minister of the Word	Kathleen Foxall	Kathleen Foxall
	Minister of Holy Communion	Sue Nugent	Theresa Wilkin
Sun 10.00	Minister of the Word		Steve
	Minister of Holy Communion	Joyce	Marianne

**RCIA Programme** (for those who would like to know more about the Catholic faith in order to become Catholic or to get confirmed) takes place every Thursday evening during term time in the Guild Room of Christ the King at 7:00pm.

**First Holy Communion Preparation** for children attending **NON-CATHOLIC** are now running weekly until June. Please contact Loretto on 07732 474 470 for further information.

**Prayer Support for the Parish Mission:** Across our two parishes we now have two opportunities for groups of us to come together for prayer in support of the Parish Mission. The first is our regular and well-established praying of the Rosary at 12 noon on Saturdays. The second is a new initiative. Wendy Gasson has very kindly volunteered to host a prayer group on Fridays at her home. Wendy has said that she can be flexible about what time this new group will meet. It depends on who joins and what works for the majority. If you are willing to join this group please see Wendy after the 11.30 am Mass on Sunday at OLAM or see Deacon Gary.

**Father Hudson's Care** is recruiting for a new CEO to help shape the future of the charity following the retirement of current CEO. Father Hudson's Care is a Catholic charity serving the needs of vulnerable people, without discrimination, within the large Archdiocese of Birmingham. It is motivated by Gospel values and Catholic Social Teaching and takes Christ's command to "Love one another" as its inspiration. We are seeking a new CEO to play a full part in shaping and delivering future developments for the charity. For more information visit <https://www.fatherhudsons.org.uk/vacancies/chief-executive-officer/381.htm>

**Prayer Intentions:** 27<sup>th</sup> Sun of Ordinary Time: - For all those in hospices, that they may receive the appropriate palliative care to ease any physical pain, and the psychological and spiritual care to relieve their mind and soul.  
 28<sup>th</sup> Sun of Ordinary Time: For politicians and other decision-makers, that they would work to safeguard and increase provisions available to all vulnerable groups, including expectant mothers, newborns and the unborn.  
 29<sup>th</sup> Sun of Ordinary Time: For fathers and mothers of growing families, that their relations and friends, and the wider community, would rally around them with encouragement, support, friendliness and love.

**GOSPEL COMMENTARY: FR D O'SHEA:** To the Jews of old, the vine was a symbol of their own race, their very identity. God took them from the land of slavery and transplanted them in new soil: "You brought a vine out of Egypt; to plant it you drove out the nations" (Psalm 79, responsorial psalm of today's Mass).

In countries where the vine does not grow, some of the detail is lost on us. The vine is a most vigorous plant and needs severe pruning. It displays a great abundance of leaves, but only some of the branches are fruit-bearing. The ones that produce only leaves have to be cut back, otherwise they rob life-giving sap from the others. The wood of the vine is perfectly useless, not even good for firewood. So, it was usually just put in a heap and burnt. We get the point of what Jesus once said: "Anyone who does not remain in me is like a branch that has been thrown away – they wither; these branches are collected and thrown on the fire" (John 15:6).

In spiritual writing, we hear a lot about growth, but very little about pruning. The aspects of our life that are not fruit-bearing are for pruning, so that we might bear fruit. Leaves are the plant thinking of itself, fruit is the plant thinking beyond itself: thinking of the next generation. We are to think beyond our own interests. The sap in us, is the life of Christ. It is for fruit-bearing; we are not to turn it into stuff that is not even fit to make a fire.

The hedge (in today's Gospel reading) was for keeping out animals and thieves; the tower was a place from which to watch out for them. There was no doubt about where the boundaries lay.

In Tuscany, Italy, where St Catherine of Siena was born, I saw miles and miles of vineyards, but they were not divided: all were one vast plantation of vines. The neighbours know, apparently, where one ends and another begins. This is how it has been for centuries. St Catherine (14th Century) used this as an image of how we should be with others: we are ourselves, yes, we have our own space, but we are not divided from others. This seems the right arrangement, a perfect image of harmony. "Each one of you," she wrote, "has your own vineyard. But everyone is joined to your neighbours' vineyards without any dividing lines. They are so joined together that you cannot do good or evil for yourself without doing the same for your neighbours."

But today's Gospel story is from a world that divided property jealously: that is why the story is about violence and murder. Whenever I bar people from my life, I am subscribing to the formula for violence; it is a kind of ethnic cleansing on a small scale. In the parable, the tenants ended by killing the son.

Yes, there is a sense in which *I am* my neighbour. If I exclude someone from my life, I am excluding myself from full humanity. But the image of vine has an even more startling thing to show us: "I am the vine, you are the branches", Jesus said (John 15:5). But the vine *is* the branches! Unlike other trees where you can distinguish clearly between trunk and branches, the vine is just all branches! "I am the vine and you are the branches": the vine *is* the branches! Jesus is more than just a neighbour who makes no distinction between what is his and what is yours. In a real sense, he *is* you, and he is also your neighbour. To banish your neighbour from your life is to banish him, and even to banish yourself. To lop off a branch is to lop off Christ.