



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



Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. The-Quang Nguyen
124 Warren Farm Road, Kingstanding, Birmingham B44 0QN

Monastery: 99 Old Oscott Hill
Kingstanding, Birmingham, B44 9SR
Email: sistersofthebvm@gmail.com

Safeguarding Rep: Stephen Clarke
07971 517 928

Convent: 192 Hawthorn Road
Kingstanding B44 8PU
Phone +44 121 3500 716
Email: smsfbirmingham@gmail.com

Parish Deacons: Rev. Mr. Dominic Fahey, Rev. Mr. Gary O'Brien
Websites: www.christ-theking.org.uk & <http://www.maryvale.org.uk>

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and National and Archdiocesan policies and procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Stephen Clarke. He can be contacted at sg.christ-theking.bham@rcaob.org.uk

Alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk

Hymns: E: 530; O: 53; C: 209; R: 312

MASSES THIS WEEK

SUNDAY OBLIGATION HAS BEEN REINSTATED BY THE BISHOPS

Sat 11/11/23	St. Martin of Tours, Mem.	10:00 Mon.	Private Intention
	32 nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	12:30 CTK†	Alan Broth (Ann)
18:00 OLAM		Alan Maxwell & Stephen Cusack (RIP)	
10:00 CTK		Christine Timmins (RIP)	
11:30 OLAM		Anthony Stephen Watts (RIP)	
Sun 12/11/23			
Mon 13/11/23	Feria in Ordinary Time	08:00 Con.	Sarah Cranke (Recovery)
		09:30 Mon.	Peter Le (RIP)
Tue 14/11/23	Feria in Ordinary Time	09:30 Mon.	David Cotton (RIP)
		12:00 CTK	Audrey Vickers (RIP)
Wed 15/11/23	Feria in Ordinary Time	08:00 Con.	Johanna Donnellan (Recovery)
		09:30 Mon.	Marian Baran (RIP)
Thu 16/11/23	Feria in Ordinary Time	09:30 Mon.	Carol Smith (Get Well)
		12:00 CTK	Josephine Williams (RIP)
Fri 17/11/23	Feria in Ordinary Time	08:00 CWS	PEOPLE OF THE PARISHES
		09:00 CTK	Marie McNee (Birthday)
		09:30 Mon.†	Dang and Nguyen families (RIP)
		10:45 CTK	Requiem: Jean Fahy
Sat 18/11/23	Feria in Ordinary Time	10:00 Mon.	Ian Bartlett (RIP)
		12:30 CTK	Emma McCallion (Sick)
		18:00 OLAM	Michael King (Ann.)
Sun 19/11/23	33 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	10:00 CTK	Frank King (Ann.)
		11:30 OLAM	Kitty Heaney (S.I)

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, Luke Byrne, Jean McCabe, Muriel/Paul Cowan, Gerald, Sr Marie, Mary McGee, John/Sandra Mageean, Sarah McCallion, John, Sadie Pulido, Claire/Mark, Carole Smith, Alan Rowan, Arjun Paul, Mary Ann Gniadkowski, Jo Teece, Niamh O' Reilly, Alberto Bolongaro, Kyle Billing, Nicola Jones, Daniel Kelly, Patricia Nash, Teresa Webb, Angela Madigan, Carol Timmis, Elizabeth Teague, Joanne Fields, Caitlin Hodgetts, Joan & Alan Horton, Yvonne Cowman, Fr Michael Ho, Debbie Davis, and Peggy O'Donovan.

RIP: Pray for Jean Fahey, Pat Comerford and Alun Richards who all passed away recently. May they rest in peace.

Funerals: Jean Fahey: CTK, 17/11/23, 10:45; Pat Comerford: CTK, 23/11/23, 11:00.

BLESSING OF GRAVES: Blessings still to take place are as follows: Sutton (New Hall): Sun 12th Nov at 2.00 p.m.; Sutton (Rectory Rd – Next to Good Hope Hospital): Sun 26th Nov at 2.00 p.m

NATIVITY XMAS CARDS: With the rising cost of postage, many people are considering sending fewer Xmas cards this year. To assist such folk - and to provide a religious option which often isn't so readily available in card shops – the Piety Stall has a beautiful **5 pack assortment of Nativity Cards on offer for just £1 a pack**, which is just 20p a card.

Last Weeks' Collection CTK

Loose: £ 294.15
 Envelopes: £ 94.00
 Standing Orders: £ 278.65
Total: £ 666.80

**Thank you for
 your generous support**

Last Weeks' Collection OLAM

Loose: £ 204.46
 Envelopes: £ 143.00
 Standing Orders: £ 94.69
Total: £ 442.15

Christ the King		11 th / 12 th Nov	18 th / 19 th Nov
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	John	Maggie
	Minister of Holy Communion	Sr Michale	Joyce

THE SANCTUARY LAMP, which burns to indicate the presence of the Blessed Sacrament on the Altar, is dedicated throughout November for members (**both living and deceased**) of the **King/McBride families** at Christ The King and for the **Scott/Heaney families** at OLAM.

If any parishioner at OLAM would similarly like to sponsor the lamp (for a donation of £25) in any calendar month throughout the coming year, please see either Fr. The or Deacon Dominic.

ANNUAL BAZAAR – SAT 2ND DEC: With **ONLY 3 WEEKS TO GO**, any donations – particularly for the Chocolate / Bottle stalls or unwanted gifts to be included on the Tombola Staff - can be dropped off at the Church either before or after Mass or left with Cath Madden at CTK Primary School. Your support is much appreciated.

MAIN RAFFLE – (to be drawn at the Bazaar) – will again include sizeable cash prizes - £300 for the 1st and £150 for the 2nd winning tickets, which may be more useful to the winner in the current climate. If anyone is able to contribute towards those 2 sums, any donation - no matter how small you may feel it to be – would be gratefully received.

The Raffle Tickets have now been printed. If you are able to take a book for yourself and maybe an extra book to sell tickets to friends/neighbours/colleagues, the financial support would be appreciated. If, after 2 weeks, you can't really sell the extra tickets, please don't feel pressured – just return the unsold tickets as soon as possible, in case others may want them.

BAPTISMS & DUPLICATE CERTIFICATES: Changes for booking/preparing for Baptisms and requesting duplicate Certificates where these have been lost have now been added to the Parish website to give greater clarity to parents and make best use of limited resources across both Parish sites, particularly leading up to school admission times, when duplicate Certificates seem to be requested on a daily basis to support school applications.

SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY – 19TH NOVEMBER: Safeguarding Sunday is an awareness-raisin campaign organised by Christian safeguarding charity Thirtyone: eight (thirtyoneeight.org). The event aims to consolidate previous work in the Archdiocese including the LOUDfence week (survivorsvoices.org) earlier in the year. More information will be given at all Masses over that weekend.

GOSPEL COMMENTARY: FR DONAGH O'SHEA: The wise bridesmaids are far less likeable characters than the foolish. If you were in trouble, you would be more likely to get help from one of those foolish bridesmaids than from any of the wise ones. Why are these being described as 'wise'?

We should remember that a parable is not an allegory. An allegory is a story that has many points of reference to human experience – many punchlines, so to speak – but a parable has only one. In a parable, the detail of the story itself has only one purpose: to add strength to that one point. For that reason, the refusal of the wise to help the foolish is not being held up as model behaviour for us. Jesus himself had a partiality for “the weak, the sick, the wounded, the strayed, the lost” (See Ezekiel 34, as the model for his 'lost sheep' parable). The one point of this parable of the bridesmaids is *readiness*. Jesus was continuously telling people to wake up and stay awake.

But why do the sensible bridesmaids seem so boring? Why is goodness often seen as boring? The reason may be this: goodness was obligatory at home and in school, and so from earliest childhood we may have seen it as 'what other people want'. Evil then became identified with what we wanted ourselves. We may never really have interiorised goodness. We may then feel that it must be the same with everyone else: that goodness is always false. That would be the final caricature of Christian education.

We often hear it stressed that education has to be more than the imparting of information. Information can be lots of things: it can be plain false, it can be inaccurate, it can be out of date.... The same can be true of intellectual knowledge. But wisdom has to be now; it is for living now; it is practical.

Wisdom is to the soul what health is to the body. It is of no use to you unless it is yours. Information and knowledge can be anybody's: you can find it in Wikipedia or by Google. But wisdom has to be your own. The Latin word for wisdom is 'sapientia'. It comes from 'sapor', which means 'taste'. Wisdom is 'sapida scientia', *tasted* knowledge. Not knowledge in a book or in someone else's head, but in me: in my mouth, so to speak, in my heart, living through me. I heard someone say, “English is only our second language. What we are is our first language!”

What encouragement are we to get from today's Gospel passage? It has to be the punchline of the parable itself: be awake, be alert, be ready. Don't rely fully on the information you have, or even on the general understanding you have. The situations around us – in the family, the parish, the Church, the country – may have changed while we were not paying attention. We can only be alert in the present moment.