



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



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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: 360; O: 135; C: 464; R: 357

MASSES THIS WEEK

SUNDAY OBLIGATION HAS BEEN REINSTATED BY THE BISHOPS

Sat 18/11/23	Feria in Ordinary Time	10:00 Mon.	Ian Bartlett (RIP)
	33 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	12:30 CTK	Emma McCallion (Sick)
18:00 OLAM		Michael King (Ann.)	
10:00 CTK		Frank King (Ann.)	
Sun 19/11/23		11:30 OLAM	Kitty Heaney (S.I)
		08:00 Con.†	Peter Le (RIP)
Mon 20/11/23	Feria in Ordinary Time	09:30 Mon.	Ian Bartlett (RIP)
Tue 21/11/23	Presentation of Blessed Virgin Mary	09:30 Mon.†	David Cotton (RIP)
		12:00 CTK	Andrew Malkin (RIP)
Wed 22/11/23	Mem. of St. Cecilia, Martyr	08:00 Con.†	Bishop John Jukes OFM (RIP)
		09:30 Mon.	Alice O'Toole (SI)
Thu 23/11/23	Feria in Ordinary Time	09:30 Mon.	Sr Frances Scully (RIP)
Fri 24/11/23	St. Andrew Dung-Lac & Companions	11:00 CTK	Requiem: Patricia Comerford
Sat 25/11/23	Feria in Ordinary Time	09:30 Mon.	Bob Lees (RIP)
		10:00 Mon.	Dang and Nguyen families (RIP)
Sun 26/11/23	Solemnity of Christ The King	12:30 CTK	Rose Bell (RIP)
		18:00 OLAM	Ellan Whelan (RIP)
		10:00 CTK†	Robert Ibbotson (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, 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 Pat Comerford, Alun Richards and Dorothy Howards who all passed away recently. May they rest in peace. **Funerals:** Pat Comerford: CTK, 23/11/23, 11:00; Alun Richards: OLAM, 06/12/23, 11:15.

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 Fr. The.

BLESSING OF GRAVES: Sutton (Rectory Rd – Next to Good Hope Hospital): Sun 26th Nov at 2.00 p.m

NATIVITY CARDS: With rising postage costs, 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.

Youth Group meeting on Friday 24th November in Guild Room.

Last Weeks' Collection CTK
 Loose: £ 311.07
 Envelopes: £ 121.50
 Standing Orders: £ 278.65
Total: £ 711.22

**Thank you for
 your generous support**

Last Weeks' Collection OLAM
 Loose: £ 155.69
 Envelopes: £ 192.70
 Standing Orders: £ 94.69
Total: £ 443.08

Christ the King		18 th / 19 th Nov	25 th / 26 th Nov
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	Maggie	School children
	Minister of Holy Communion	Joyce	Ordinary ministers

2ND COLLECTION: There will be a 2nd Collection next weekend for the Catholic Youth Service.

XMAS BAZAAR–SAT 2ND DEC: With **ONLY 2 WEEKS TO GO**, your support with donations (bottles/tombola/raffle prizes) is much appreciated – as is attendance on the day for what has always been a very festive occasion.

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. Any donation towards those 2 sums would be gratefully received.

Raffle Tickets are available at both Churches. 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 you feel you can't really sell the extra tickets, please don't feel pressured – just return the unsold tickets, in case others may want them. Please return any sold counterfoils as soon as possible, so they can be folded for the Raffle.**

RAFFLE TO FEED THE POOR: Sr Sebastian - who visited a month ago to promote her Order's raffle to help feed the poor in developing countries at Xmas - wants to thank those who bought tickets and helped to raise £390.44p.

"IMPROVING THE WAY WE CELEBRATE MASS: Ministers of the Word have been meeting to reflect on how the readings at Mass are proclaimed, in line with key documents from Rome and some recent teaching from Pope Francis. In light of the provided guidance, from the 1st Sunday of Advent, the Minister of the Word will not move towards the Sanctuary until the congregation has said 'Amen' in response to the Opening Prayer of the Mass. Similarly, the Minister of the Word will no longer say: 'Please stand to greet the Gospel'. The cue for the Gospel Acclamation to begin, will be the Celebrant standing after the Second Reading.

SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY – 19TH NOV: Safeguarding Sunday is an awareness-raising campaign organised by the 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.

GOSPEL COMMENTARY: FR DONAGH O'SHEA: Today's parable has an unpleasant tone at first sight. Instead of telling us that everything is a gift of God, it tells us about investments & profits. Its punchline could come from a Company Director! - "To all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away". That's how the business world operates. How could this have anything to do with the world of the spirit? The business world is only about 'outer things' - property - but the spiritual world has to include also 'inner things'. How could the same rules apply?

To say that the spiritual world is 'all gift' is to say the truth. But to say no more would be to make it a purely passive thing. In reality, we know that nothing deep or 'inner' can ever be given to us without our effort. You would love to give your knowledge of, say, a foreign language, to someone you love, but it cannot be done without their labour. How much more your understanding, wisdom and experience? Even God's gifts, poured out without measure, cannot really become mine unless I interiorise them myself. Struggle is part of spiritual life, even though it remains true that everything is gifted. And it's a fact of experience (not a policy statement of a company) that the more I have the more I will receive. The more I know, the more I am capable of knowing; the more I love, the more I am capable of loving; the more I pray, the better I am able to pray.... And likewise, sadly, the less.

A 'talent' was a measure of *weight* before it was a unit of currency (just as a pound was). You could have a talent of gold, a talent of silver, a talent of copper, etc.; it didn't matter, it was still a talent. This is surely part of the parable's message. It doesn't matter what kind of talents you have: very ordinary ones, or special ones, or bordering on genius; the same holds true of them all. We are to risk our talents, this parable teaches; in other words, we are to use them. The man who had only one talent was afraid to lose it, so he buried it in the ground. He probably looked at the people who had two talents or five, and he said, "It is all right for them; they can afford to risk and lose, but I have only one chance and it would be madness to risk it. Very logical. But there would be no life on earth if that logic prevailed everywhere. We might feel safe, but we would just be *dead* safe.

It is clear that the parable was directed against the scribes and Pharisees, who were identified as the "wicked and lazy servant". This servant buried the talent so as to be able to hand it back just as it was. The whole aim of the scribes and Pharisees was to keep the Law exactly as it was. In their own phrase, they sought "to build a hedge around the Law" – thousands of minor rules that prevented you from getting anywhere near breaking a precept of the Law. The slightest alteration or adaptation was out of the question. But safety is not the supreme value in religion. In this parable Jesus is telling us we must take risks. Life itself is a risk, and the texture of it is continual risk-taking. Of course, there are foolish risks that are better avoided, but that is because they are foolish, not because they are risks. We are invited to use our gifts recklessly for the good of our families, our community, everyone we meet... and the many whom we will never meet.