



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



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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: 410; O: 414; C: 131; R: 290

MASSES THIS WEEK

SUNDAY OBLIGATION HAS BEEN REINSTATED BY THE BISHOPS

Sat 25/11/23	Feria in Ordinary Time	10:00 Mon.	Dang and Nguyen families (RIP)
	Solemnity of Christ The King	12:30 CTK	Rose Bell (RIP)
Sun 26/11/23		18:00 OLAM	Ellan Whelan (RIP)
	10:00 CTK†	Robert Ibbotson (RIP)	
Mon 27/11/23	Feria in Ordinary Time	11:30 OLAM	Michael Fahey (RIP)
		08:00 Con.†	Peter Le (RIP)
Tue 28/11/23	Feria in Ordinary Time	09:30 Mon.	Bridget Gorey (RIP)
		09:30 Mon.†	David Cotton (RIP)
Wed 29/11/23	Feria in Ordinary Time	12:00 CTK	Jean Fahy (RIP)
		08:00 Con.†	Recovery of J.M.
Thu 30/11/23	Feast of St. Andrew, Apostle	09:30 Mon.	Janina & Krystyna
		09:30 Mon.	Private Intention
Fri 01/12/23	Feast of St. Edmund Campion	12:00 CTK	Breeda McCarthy (RIP)
		09:00 CTK	Francis Coogan (RIP)
		10:30 Mon.	Fr. Jerzy & Sister Roza
		11:00 CTK	Requiem: Peter Quinn
Sat 02/12/23	Feria in Ordinary Time	14:00 OLAM	Theresa Rayer (Recovery)
		10:00 Mon.	Dang and Nguyen families (RIP)
Sun 03/12/23	1 st SUNDAY OF ADVENT	12:30 CTK	Mary Hall (Ann)
		18:00 OLAM	Benny McGinn (RIP)
		10:00 CTK	James Fisher (RIP)
		11:30 OLAM	Andrew Deane (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 Alun Richards, Dorothy Howard, Andrew Dean and Jacqueline Carron who all passed away recently. May they rest in peace. **Funerals:** Alun Richards: OLAM, 06/12/23, 11:15.

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.

Last Weeks' Collection CTK
 Loose: £ 340.80
 Envelopes: £ 241.50
 Standing Orders: £ 278.65
Total: £ 860.95

**Thank you for
 your generous support**

Last Weeks' Collection OLAM
 Loose: £ 174.47
 Envelopes: £ 185.00
 Standing Orders: £ 94.69
Total: £ 454.16

Christ the King		25 th / 26 th Nov	2 nd / 3 rd Dec
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	School children	Steve
	Minister of Holy Communion	Ordinary Ministers	Marianne

2ND COLLECTION: There will be a 2nd Collection at all Masses this Weekend for the Catholic Youth Service.

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.

RAFFLE TICKETS: All monies, sold counterfoils and any unsold tickets should be returned to the Church/School/Priest's House **IMMEDIATELY**, so that the tickets can be separated and folded to be included in the Grand Draw, which will take place at the end of the Bazaar/Craft Fayre, which takes place in the School Hall **NEXT SATURDAY**. At 3.00 p.m. all prize-winners will be announced, with the 1st prize winner receiving £300 and the 2nd ticketholder received £150 just in time for Christmas. To be in with a chance of it **BEING YOU**, all you need to do is buy one of the remaining 50p tickets. **Good luck to you all.**

ANNUAL BAZAAR – SAT 2ND DEC 1.00 – 3.00 p.m: With **ONLY 1 WEEK 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/after Mass or left with Cath Madden at CTK school. **If anyone could donate cakes** to be sold in the Bazaar Café in St. John's, these can similarly be brought to the Church either on the Friday afternoon or on the day.

The Bazaar opens at 1.00 p.m. Please come along and support this annual event which supports the work undertaken in both Parishes.

BAZAAR VOLUNTEERS: Could volunteers who are helping with the Bazaar please make themselves available to set up on Friday 1st Dec from 3.00 – 5.00 p.m. in the School Hall and on Saturday 2nd Dec at 11.00 am.

GOSPEL COMMENTARY: FR DONAGH O'SHEA:

If you were born in a Republic the language of royalty is alien to you: kings, queens, princes, thrones, and titles, etc. So we have a great deal of adjustment to do. When the feast of Christ the King was introduced in 1925 there was polemical intent: it was a defiance of secular governments which were increasingly anti-clerical at the time. It set up a principle of opposition between Christ and the world. Good, if by 'world' you mean what the Scriptures mean (not the physical world, but the structures of evil: the word 'worldly' retains some of this meaning).

But it is fatally easy to slip from a Christ/World opposition to a Church/World opposition, to imagine that, because we are members of the Church, we are automatically on the side of Christ. In reality, many members of the Church often represent 'the world' far better than non-members do. When the Jews of his day had a similar thought about themselves (thinking they were saved just because they were Jews, 'children of Abraham') Jesus said to them, "Do not think: 'We have Abraham for our father.' I tell you that God can raise children for Abraham from these stones!" (Matthew 3:14). Likewise, with us, being a Catholic puts us in no privileged position in relation to the world. Like Jesus, we have been sent into the world not to judge the world, but to save it (John 3:17).

"Yes, I am a king," said Jesus (John 18:37). So... can you see him sitting there displaying himself beside King Herod the Great, for example (one of the most vicious men who ever lived)? No, no. He was *parodying* the very idea of kingship. When he said "Yes, I am a king!" he was a prisoner standing before Pilate's judgment seat! "What is truth?" Pilate asked him, but got no answer. (Matthew and Mark say that Jesus was silent before Pilate, and Luke says he was silent before Herod). How could anyone hear an answer to such a question while sitting on a throne of judgment? When you are sitting on your throne of judgment, don't expect to come across any truths.

I ask myself, if the atmosphere in my own mind isn't sometimes like the atmosphere in Pilate's judgment chamber? Cold, shallow, judgmental, merely tactical. The real King, the Lord, is the accused, not the accuser.

Objection! In today's Gospel reading, he appears as a judge sitting on a throne! And, furthermore, he puts the whole human race in just two categories! (Can you put the whole human race in two categories: the good and the bad? Surely there are shades of goodness and badness, and to ignore them is a great injustice).

But that is not the point of the parable. A parable makes only one point, but we often read parables as if they were allegories, that is, stories whose every single element points some moral. No, the single point of today's parable is that there can be no love of God without love of other people.

The English novelist and playwright John Galsworthy (known to many as the author of *The Forsythe Saga*) once complained that religion was now being replaced by service, "social service – the ants' creed, the bees' creed". But this is to make little of what today's Gospel writes large. Other passages in the New Testament make it equally clear: "Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world" (James 1:27).