



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

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. The-Quang Nguyen
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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: 396; C: 509; R: 502

MASSES THIS WEEK

Sat	13/01/24	Feria in Ordinary Time	10:00 Mon.	Jan, Mark & Tom
			12:30 CTK	Alfie Bourn (RIP)
			18:00 OLAMx	Rhonda Kennelly (RIP)
Sun	14/01/24	2 nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	10:00 CTK	Gerry Gorman (Anni.)
			11:30 OLAM†	Brendan O'Reilly (RIP)
Mon	15/01/24	Feria in Ordinary Time	08:00 Con.†	Darren Finlan (RIP)
			09:30 Mon.	Michal & Family
Tue	16/01/24	Feria in Ordinary Time	09:30 Mon.	Jacque Carron (RIP)
			12:00 CTK	David Bacchus (RIP)
Wed	17/01/24	Memorial of St. Anthony, Abbot	08:00 Con.†	Delia Byrne (RIP)
			09:30 Mon.	John Michell (RIP)
Thu	18/01/24	Feria in Ordinary Time	09:30 Mon.†	Private Intention
			12:00 CTK	Ann Gorman
Fri	19/01/24	Feast of St. Wulstan, Bishop	09:00 CTK	PEOPLE OF THE PARISHES
			09:30 Mon.†	Deacon Dominic & Liz
Sat	20/01/24	Feria in Ordinary Time	10:00 Mon.	Fr The
			12:30 CTK†	James (Jimmy) Kelly (RIP)
Sun	21/01/24	Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	18:00 OLAM	Michael Croke (sick)
			10:00 CTK	Chris & Eddie Walsh
			11:30 OLAM	Patricia Whelan (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.

Next Meeting of the Mission Prayer Group will be on Friday 2nd February at 2.30 pm at 82 Dunedin Road. For further information please speak to Deacon Gary or email him on dcn.gary.obrien@rcaob.org.uk

Please Pray For The Sick: Monique Hunt, Luke Byrne, Jean McCabe, Muriel/Paul Cowan, Gerald, John, Sr Marie, Mary McGee, John/Sandra Mageean, Sarah McCallion, 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, Peggy O'Donovan, Pauline O'Brien and Annette Molloy.

RIP: Please pray for the repose of the souls of Salvo Grima and Frederick Farrell who passed away recently. May they rest in peace. Funeral: Frederick Farrell: Mon 22/01/24, 11:00, CTK.

Please also pray for the repose of the soul of Fr Christopher Greaney, a retired priest of the Archdiocese of Birmingham who died on Thurs 28/12/23. His funeral will be on Thurs 08/02/24, 12:00, at St Peter's, Leamington Spa.

THE SANCTUARY LAMP, which burns to indicate the presence of the Blessed Sacrament on the Altar, is dedicated throughout January for the **deceased members of the Rochford family** at Christ The King and for the **Myatt/Byrne/Reynolds Families** at Maryvale.

Last Weeks' Collection CTK
 Loose: £ 341.77
 Envelopes: £ 117.00
 Standing Orders: £ 278.65
Total: £ 737.42

**Thank you for
 your generous support**

Last Weeks' Collection OLAM
 Loose: £ 214.39
 Envelopes: £ 115.00
 Standing Orders: £ 94.69
Total: £ 424.08

Christ the King		13 th /14 th Jan	20 th /21 st Jan
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	CTK School	John
	Minister of Holy Communion	Marianne	Sr Michale

PARISH COUNCIL: The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Wednesday 26th January at 7 pm in the Guild Room. If you have any items you would like the Council to consider please have a word with any of the Parish Council Members.

Pray24 Brum – Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2024: During the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, this prayer initiative - now in its 10th year - will be held at St Philip's Anglican Cathedral, Colmore Row, B3 2QB (sometimes known as Pigeon Park!). 24 hours of prayer in and for our city and world, celebrating our unity across different Christian traditions. Each tradition will lead an hour of prayer across Friday 19th January 7.30am to 6.30pm and Saturday 20th January from 8.30am to 7pm. People are welcome to pop in and pray at any time. Archbishop Bernard Longley will lead the hour of prayer on Saturday 20th from 1pm to 2pm. Music by Jo Boyce (CJM Music). Further details: birminghamchurches.org.uk

Toilets in New Heights Centre

Generally the toilets in New Heights will always be open for masses and funerals. On the rare occasion when the St Johns Centre is closed due to a private letting parishioners would be able to use the toilet in the Sacristy.

Trustee Vacancies: St Mary's College Oscott is looking for up to 10 additional trustees over the next couple of years, due to imminent retirements and also to help increase the expertise and diversity of the board. No experience of trusteeship is necessary, and the successful candidates would be invited to attend a board meeting as a guest (in Feb 2024), before being appointed. Find out more via our Jobs and Volunteering page. Deadline for Applications: 31/01/2024

SVP Volunteers Plea: The SVP is looking for volunteers willing to help children put their faith into action. Could this be you? The St Vincent de Paul Society has primary school groups called Mini Vinnies, and volunteers would support teachers or youth leaders wishing to start a group in their school or parish. They will talk to children about how they can make a difference to those living in poverty and share resources to support the group. The role is flexible but does need people with some availability during school hours (at least 2 mornings or afternoons per month) who are willing to travel within the diocese (all costs are covered). If you are passionate about helping children discover how they can make a difference in their communities, please email Sarah for more information on youngvincentians@svp.org.uk. You do not have to have previous experience of working with children as all training will be given. Our next initial training day is on Tue 27/02/24.

Notices for OLAM congregation:

1. Please return the Mission Questionnaires to any of the OLAM masses by Sunday 28/01/24 at the latest.
2. Tea/coffee/biscuits will be served after the 6pm mass in Maryvale Centre on Sat 20th Jan, 24th Feb and 16th March.

GOSPEL COMMENTARY: FR DONAGH O'SHEA: This reading is like rush-hour. It is full of names, there are lots of people passing by, happening to bump into one another, overhearing a few words by chance. The snippets of conversation are brief in the extreme, and practical: 'What are you looking for?' 'Where are you staying?' - like the conversation on a crowded street. And just like people in rush-hour, they were conscious of the time: "it was about 4 o'clock."

Then suddenly, silence. "They remained with him that day". There is no crowd, no consciousness of time, no account of what they talked about, no description of the place where they sat together. But whatever happened that afternoon changed the lives of Andrew and his companion forever, and started a development that is still in process twenty centuries later all over the world.

"They remained with him that day." In fact, they remained with him for the rest of their lives. Their relationship to him would become their new identity, as it would become the new identity of Andrew's brother Peter, and of their circle of friends. We know that, but of course they didn't know it at the time. Nor could they know that countless others through the ages would cling to this new identity and disclaim all others. The historian Eusebius of Caesarea described the martyrdom of a Christian in Gaul under Verus in the 2nd Century. "He endured in an extraordinary fashion all the outrages inflicted on him. While the torturers hoped to wring something from him which he ought not to say, he girded himself against them with such firmness that he would not even tell his name, or the nation or city to which he belonged, or whether he was a slave or a freeman but answered in the Roman tongue to all their questions, 'I am a Christian', *Christianus sum*. He professed this instead of name and city and race and everything besides, and the people heard from him no other word". This new identity was the only one he claimed, and it was indestructible.

It is a fundamental question for every person in every age: which of the many identities that I claim, and of the many that are thrust on me, is indestructible? The consumerist society identifies me as a consumer, politicians as a voter, lawyers as a client, shopkeepers as a customer, television companies as a viewer, and football clubs as a fan.... All of these, singly, are highly volatile and easily destructible; but together they can be a great distraction from the real question: to what or to whom do I give my life? They are the new 'crowd', the rush-hour that never ceases. Like Andrew and his companion I need a quiet hour, a quiet evening, in which the Lord can ask me, "What are you looking for?"