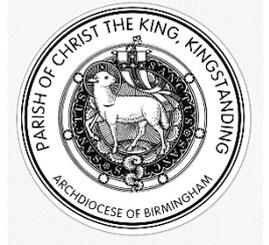




## The Parishes of Our Lady of the Assumption, Maryvale and Christ the King, Kingstanding



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Parish Deacons: Rev. Mr. Dominic Fahey, Rev. Mr. Gary O'Brien  
Websites: [www.christ-theking.org.uk](http://www.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](mailto:sg.christ-theking.bham@rcaob.org.uk) Alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk)

Hymns: E: 360; O: 465; C: 464; R: 497

### MASSES THIS WEEK

<b>Sat</b> 09/03/24	Lent Feria	10:00 Mon.	Private Intention
		12:30 CTK†	Clara Perry (Anni.)
		18:00 OLAM	Jo'zef Smolinski (RIP)
<b>Sun</b> 10/03/24	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Of Lent	10:00 CTK	Luke Byrne (Birthday)
		11:30 OLAM	Janet & Chris Sullivan (Anni.)
<b>Mon</b> 11/03/24	Lent Feria	08:00 Con.†	King Charles (Recovery)
		09:30 Mon.	John Daly (RIP)
		<b>10:30 CTK</b>	<b>Requiem: Donald Stacey</b>
<b>Tue</b> 12/03/24	Lent Feria	09:30 Mon.	Daniel Keogh (RIP)
		<b>10:30 CTK</b>	<b>CTK School Lenten Penance Service</b>
<b>Wed</b> 13/03/24	Lent Feria	08:00 Con.†	Sisters Minor of St. Francis
		09:30 Mon.	Bridie Ashton (RIP)
<b>Thu</b> 14/03/24	Lent Feria	09:30 Mon.†	Roche Watson family
		12:00 CTK	Kathleen O'Neill
<b>Fri</b> 15/03/24	Lent Feria	09:00 CTK	Nancy Conlon (Anni.)
		09:30 Mon.†	Liam McGrath
<b>Sat</b> 16/03/24	Lent Feria	10:00 Mon.	Michael Connors (RIP)
		12:30 CTK†	Brian Cunningham (Get Well)
		18:00 OLAM	Michael Foley (RIP Ann.)
<b>Sun</b> 17/03/24	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Of Lent	10:00 CTK	Rosaline Ikwuka (Anni.)
		11:30 OLAM	Daniel Keogh (RIP)

**Bible Study** with Deacon Dominic Fahey in the Guild Room at Christ The King **every Thursday** at 7:00pm.

**Rosary Group:** meeting **every Wednesday** in Christ the King Church at 1:30pm.

Also, Rosary after Sunday Mass at CTK led by Josephine Adediran, starting from Sun 10/03/24.

**Lenten Penance Service:** at CTK Church on Wed 20/03/24 at 7:30pm.

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

**RIP:** Pray for the repose of the soul of Donald Stacey whose funeral is on Mon 11/03/24, 10:30 at CTK.

**THE SANCTUARY LAMP**, which burns to indicate the presence of the Blessed Sacrament on the Altar, is dedicated throughout March for **Sheila and Paddy Ferns** at Christ The King and for the **Roche Family** at Maryvale.

If any individual/family would like to sponsor the Sanctuary Lamp throughout a particular month for a donation of £25, please write your name/contact number and for whom you would wish the lamp to burn (living or deceased relatives) and any preferred month and enclose this in an envelope with your donation and return it to Fr. The. At this point in time the available months in 2024 for **Christ The King** are **May-Sept** and **Nov/Dec** and for **OLAM** **June-Oct** and **December**.

**Last Weeks' Collection CTK**  
 Loose: £ 329.23  
 Envelopes: £ 116.00  
 Standing Orders: £ 278.66  
**Total: £ 723.89**

**Thank you for  
 your generous support**

**Last Weeks' Collection OLAM**  
 Loose: £ 454.95  
 Envelopes: £ 179.50  
 Standing Orders: £ 94.69  
**Total: £ 729.14**

Christ the King		09/10 MAR	16/17 MAR
Sat 12:30	Minister of the Word	Aoife	Theresa
	Minister of Holy Communion	Theresa Wilkin	Sue Nugent
Sun 10.00	Minister of the Word	John	Patience
	Minister of Holy Communion	Marianne	Sr Michela

**Stations of the Cross** will be held at CTK on **Fri in Lent at 7.00 pm.**

**Holy Week & Sacred Triduum:** A card with all dates & times of the Liturgies in this key week of the Church's calendar are available at the back of the Church from this weekend. These are being made available earlier than usual due to the fact that there will be **ONLY ONE PENITENTIAL SERVICE THIS YEAR**, which will take place at Christ The King Church on **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30 pm**, with a number of Priests in attendance.

**Request for Help with Hospitality:** 2 occasions are coming up when the Parish needs to lay on a meal after an event: Tues 19<sup>th</sup> March – lunch after the Deanery Meeting – and/or the following day Wed 20<sup>th</sup> March – supper for those who have come to hear Confessions. If you can help out with the shopping for these events (which the Parish will pay for), the actual preparation of the food and serving it - could you please speak to Deacon Gary.

**Newman Cluster of Parishes - Lent Talks:** Everyone in the Cluster is invited to talks on the Our Father for the Year of Prayer led by Deacon Gary at Oscott College on 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> March beginning at 3.30 pm followed by tea and Holy Hour. Whether you can manage all three or just one, please come along to these inaugural Cluster events.

**CTK's Piety Stall** has been re-stocked with some beautiful / very reasonably priced Mass Cards and greeting cards for - Mother's Day (10<sup>th</sup> Mar), St. Patrick's Day (17 Mar), Easter (31<sup>st</sup> Mar), Christenings & Birthdays.

**Diocesan Directories 2024:** The Piety Stall also has a small number of this year's Diocesan Directory, a useful resource containing information on all Parishes should you need to obtain Mass times, Church locations etc. Price £3.

The World Premiere of **"THE NEW HEIGHTS STORY"** - a new documentary film celebrating the twenty-year history of the Charity that began its life here in the parish, will be held at the St Johns Centre, next to Christ the King Church on **WEDNESDAY 27<sup>th</sup> MARCH at 7.30pm**. All are invited and admission is FREE. The Press have been invited and Paulette Hamilton, our MP (who is also in the film) will be there. More importantly, it's a chance for the community to find out about the wonderful work being done by a very special group of people for a very special community.

**Children's Chapel:** When attending Mass parents/carers with children up to 7 years of age may wish to use the Children's Chapel on the right-hand side of the Main Altar. Whilst the sound system relays the Mass to the Chapel - and the proceedings on the Altar can be clearly seen through the dividing windows - this smaller, quieter space may be helpful if parents have any concerns about younger children concentrating during the Mass. Where this may be the case, please feel free to use the side Chapel to help the children feel more comfortable.

**GOSPEL COMMENTARY: FR D. O'SHEA:** This 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent is known as 'Laetare Sunday'. In Latin *laetare* (rejoice) is the 1<sup>st</sup> word of the entrance antiphon: "Rejoice, Jerusalem..." Joy is the theme of today's Liturgy. Can joy be turned on and off? Can you experience joy just because today is the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent? "He who binds to himself a joy / Doth the winged life destroy" wrote William Blake. You must kiss it as it flies, he said; you cannot arrange it. And besides, what an unlikely season for it, you might say! "At night there are tears, but joy comes with dawn". (Psalm 29:5). You can no more arrange for joy to descend on you than you can arrange for the sun to rise. Joy is a fruit of God's Spirit, not a feeling that can be turned on and off. "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control" (Galatians 5:22). Notice that St Paul places it directly after love, so close is it to the heart of the Faith. It is a gift, not a purchase.

"God loved us with so much love.... It is through *grace* that you are saved". (2nd Reading). "God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son..." (Today's Gospel Reading). *God loves us*: this is the source of our joy, whether we actually experience it or not at the moment. Quite often we see the Christian faith diminished to a morality, an account of what we should do: how we should love God and our neighbour.... But St John wrote, "In this is love, not that we loved God but that God loved us" (1 John 4:10). "We love because God first loved us" (1John 4:19). This is the source of our joy.

Happiness is conditional: it depends on good fortune, pleasant surroundings, congenial friends, a good digestion.... But joy is unconditional. It depends on nothing. You can even experience joy in times of unhappiness. It is like a ray of sunshine that suddenly penetrates the clouds, a reminder that it is always there, whether you see it or not. Such is God's love. Even when we are at our worst, God still loves us. "God loved us when we were not, and when we were God's foes," said Meister Eckhart. "Whether we go near or far, God never goes far away, but always stands nearby –and, even if He cannot remain within, He never goes further than outside the door". There is an Irish proverb, "God's help is nearer than the door". (*Is gaire cabhair Dé ná an doras*).