



**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: 14; O: 335; C: 455; R: 175

MASSES THIS WEEK

CLOCKS GO FORWARD ON EASTER SUNDAY

Sat 23/03/24	Lent Feria	10:00 Mon.	Private Intention
		12:30 CTK	Dora McKeown (Anni.)
		18:00 OLAM	John Roche (RIP)
Sun 24/03/24	Palm Sunday The Passion of Our Lord	10:00 CTK†	Olusegun Dosumu (Anni.)
		11:30 OLAM	Antonia Purcell (Anni.)
Mon 25/03/24	Monday of Holy Week	08:00 Con.	Jack Foxall (RIP)
		09:00 CTK	PEOPLE OF THE PARISHES
		09:30 Mon.	John Ng V Cuong (RIP)
Tue 26/03/24	Tuesday of Holy Week	09:30 Mon.	Sue Lavender (RIP)
		12:00 CTK	Don Stacey (RIP)
Wed 27/03/24	Wednesday of Holy Week	08:00 Con.	Dang & Nguyen families
		09:30 Mon.	Kitty Heaney (RIP)
Thu 28/03/24	Thursday of Holy Week	19:00 CTK†	Ken & Marion Levell (RIP)
		19:00 OLAM	Jim Heaney (RIP)
Fri 29/03/24	Good Friday	11:00 CTK	Children's Stations of the Cross
		15:00 CTK†	Good Friday Liturgy
		15:00 OLAM	Good Friday Liturgy
		19:00 CTK	Stations of the Cross
Sat 30/03/24	Holy Saturday	10:00 CTK	Blessing of Easter baskets
		20:00 CTK†	Delia Byrne (RIP)
		20:00 OLAM	Douglas Kennedy (Anni.)
Sun 31/03/24	Solemnity of the Resurrection of the Lord	10:00 CTK†	All known to Bishop David Evans
		11:30 OLAM	All known to Fr The-Quang

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.

Pray For The Sick: Monique Hunt, Luke Byrne, Jean McCabe, Muriel/Paul Cowan, Gerald, John, John/Sandra Mageean, Sadie Pulido, Arjun Paul, Sr Marie, Mary McGee, Sarah McCallion, Claire/Mark, Carole Smith, Alan Rowan, Jo Teece, Mary Ann Gniadkowski, 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, Jo Brown, Joan/Alan Horton, Yvonne Cowman, Fr Michael Ho, Peggy O'Donovan, Pauline O'Brien & Annette Molloy

RIP: Pray for the repose of the souls of Patricia Marie Smith and Andy Corrigan who died recently.

Funerals: P Smith: Wed 03/04/24, 11:00, OLAM.

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 **OLAM June-Oct**.

Red Mission Boxes. Please bring your boxes to Church for emptying & forwarding your kind donations to the Missions.

Last Weeks' Collection CTK
 Loose: £ 261.69
 Envelopes: £ 151.00
 Standing Orders: £ 278.65
Total: £ 691.34

**Thank you for
 your generous support**

Last Weeks' Collection OLAM
 Loose: £ 321.00
 Envelopes: £ 203.10
 Standing Orders: £ 94.69
Total: £ 618.79

Christ the King		23/24 MAR	30/31 MAR
Sat 12:30	Minister of the Word	Tracy	20:00 – Angela, Tracy, Patience, John
	Minister of Holy Communion	Theresa	20:00 – Ordinary Ministers
Sun 10.00	Minister of the Word	Maggie	John
	Minister of Holy Communion	Ordinary Ministers	Isy Moss

Thank you: The Altar Servers at both Parishes would like to say thank you for your kind donations to the collection towards their forthcoming outings. As some parishioners have said they would have liked to contribute, but had not brought any money to Mass with them without prior notice, we hope to have another collection in a few weeks to allow those who still wish to help, to do so. Thank you once again for your generosity.

Easter Offerings: There are small green envelopes at the back of Church for the traditional Easter Offering which, as you know, as at Christmas time, this is the parishioners' offering to their Clergy.

Easter Services: There are still some cards with Easter Mass times available at the back of Church. Although the times are also included on the newsletter, some might find the prayers on the card to be prayerful and thought provoking.

Toilet Facilities: As staff will be busy in the St. John's Centre over the Easter weekend with food preparation on Saturday and cooking/delivery of meals on the Sunday, the only toilet facilities available will be at the rear of the Sacristy.

Children's Chapel: The side Chapel remains available for those with young children, who may benefit from a quieter/more welcoming space.

Thank You: Father Thé/Deacon Gary would like to say a big "thank you" to the parishioners who helped provide hospitality on behalf of the parish on Tues & Wed of last week. Whether shopping, laying out the room, organising the service of the buffet, making food or assisting in the presbytery kitchen, your contributions were very much appreciated.

Job Opportunities in the Archdiocese: Two jobs have been advertised within the Archdiocese. One is for an Administration Support Officer with the Diocesan Safeguarding Team. The other is for a Deputy to the Diocesan Solicitor. If you yourself are interested in either - or know of someone who might be - please see the posters at the back of Church for further details.

Diary Dates: For Cluster events within the Easter Season, please see details within this week's supplement. In addition, specific to our parishes, please note: the Parish Mission Working Party meets on Wed 10th April at 7pm in the Guild Room; Half Day of Recollection at the Convent of the Sisters Minor of St Francis on Sat 20th April at 3 pm; Parish Council Meeting on Wed 24th April in the Guild Room, and Youth Group meets in the St. John's Centre on 5th & 19th April.

Divine Mercy Sunday – 7th April: To commemorate this special day an event has been arranged at St. Peter & St Paul Church (Kingsbury Road, Pype Hayes, B24 9ND) on this day commencing at 3.00 p.m. This will consist of a Talk, Adoration, Blessing with the relic of St. Faustina, Confession and Worship. All are welcome. (See poster in Church).

GOSPEL COMMENTARY: FR DONAGH O'SHEA: Kaeler described the Gospels as "accounts of the death of Jesus, preceded by long introductions". The essential Christian proclamation is, "Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again". The primary interest was the manner of his death, and that God raised him from death, giving us hope of rising with him. The Cross of Christ has been a potent symbol throughout the ages. Its vertical axis, it was said, joins Heaven and earth, and its horizontal axis joins all ages and races of humankind; everything meets in the broken body of Christ. The Christian faith without the Cross is nothing. The Cross tells us that our goodness is not good enough. We cannot 'achieve' God by our own efforts: that would be to try to possess God as a sort of ornament on a life of achievement. Our ego would, indeed, love to do this, and is always ready to imagine that it has done so in fact. A popular writer of spiritual books never mentions the Cross of Christ. It is well to explore the aesthetic aspects of the faith, but "we preach Christ *crucified*," wrote St Paul (1 Cor 1:23).

The grave is a narrow place, and to suffer is distressing. But this is the narrow road that leads to life. First of all the Scriptures, and then the saints and mystics, vouch for this. First the narrow way, then the opening out. Here are a few of the many texts that could be quoted to illustrate this:

- "The gate is narrow and the road is hard that leads to life" (Mt 7:14).
- Meister Eckhart said, "The more the soul is collected [focused], the *narrower* she is, and the narrower, the *wider*".
- Mde Guyon, the 18th Century French mystic, wrote, "How very *narrow* is the gate which leads to a life in God! - and how little one must be to pass through it; it is nothing else but death to self! But, when we have passed through it, what *enlargement* we find! David said, (Ps 18:19) 'He brought me forth into a *large*'".
- Her mentor, Bishop Fénelon, wrote, "When we are faithful in instantly dropping all superfluous and restless reflections, which arise from a self-love that is totally different from charity, we shall be set in a *large place* even in the midst of the *strait and narrow path*". He also wrote, "We are in a *narrow* place, indeed, when we are enclosed in self, but when we emerge from that prison, and enter into the immensity of God and the liberty of his children, we are *set at large*."

A Christianity without the Cross has never worked, and it is never likely to do so. It doesn't do justice to the awesome depths of human life and death. It takes a crucified Church to bring a crucified Christ before the eyes of the world.