



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



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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: 479; O: 449; C: 355; R: 312

**MASSES THIS WEEK**

**Notice to parents: Deficiency of God's grace is more serious than malnutrition.**

<b>Sat</b> 06/04/24	Easter Saturday	10:00 Mon.	Paul and Joseph (RIP)
		12:30 CTK	Ted McKeown (RIP) (Birthday Anni.)
		18:00 OLAM†	Michelle Green (RIP)
<b>Sun</b> 07/04/24	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter "Divine Mercy Sunday"	10:00 CTK	Jack Foxall (Anni.)
		11:30 OLAM	Douglas Kennedy (Anni)
<b>Mon</b> 08/04/24	Solemnity of The Annunciation of the Lord	08:00 Con.†	Jack Foxall (RIP) & Kathleen Foxall
		09:30 Mon.	Michael McMahon (RIP)
<b>Tue</b> 09/04/24	Easter Feria	09:30 Mon.†	Kitty Heaney (RIP)
		12:00 CTK	Phylis & Bridie (RIP)
<b>Wed</b> 10/04/24	Easter Feria	08:00 Con.†	Tom Murphy & Family
		09:30 Mon.	Margaret & William Doherty (RIP)
<b>Thu</b> 11/04/24	St. Stanislaus, Mem.	09:30 Mon.	James McCaffrey
		12:00 CTK	Oliver McDermott (RIP)
<b>Fri</b> 12/04/24	Easter Feria	09:30 Mon.	Paul and Joseph (RIP)
<b>Sat</b> 13/04/24	Easter Feria	10:00 Mon.	Dang & Nguyen families (RIP)
		12:30 CTK	Douglas & Norah Ball (RIP)
		18:00 OLAM	Margaret P Harvey & Tommy Murtagh (RIP)
<b>Sun</b> 14/04/24	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter	10:00 CTK	Linda Elsmore (RIP)
		11:30 OLAM	Czestaw Trapszo (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.

**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, Fr Michael Ho, Peggy O'Donovan, Pauline O'Brien & Annette Molloy

**RIP:** Pray for the repose of the souls of Andy Corrigan, Yvonne Cowman and Audrey Clements who died recently.

**Funerals:** A Corrigan: Wed 17/04/24, 12:30, CTK; A Clements: Fri 10/05/24, 10:30, CTK.

**THE SANCTUARY LAMP** is dedicated throughout April for the members of the Bye/Campbell family Circle at Christ The King and for the Ranahan Family Circle at Maryvale.

**DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY – 7<sup>TH</sup> APRIL (THIS WEEKEND):** To commemorate this special day, an event has been arranged at St. Peter & St Paul Church (Kingsbury Road, Pype Hayes, B24 9ND – on the 96 bus route) on Sunday 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).

**Many thanks:** to all who participated in the celebration of Easter with humble preparations, both spiritual and festival. Thank you also for your generous Easter offering which is much appreciated.

**Previous Collections:** As no “count” took place due to the Bank Holiday period, the totals for both Parishes will be shared in next week’s Newsletter.

**Easter Offering:** A sincere “Thank You” to each and every parishioner for their participation in our Easter Services - and, to those who are housebound, receiving care in Hospital or Residential Home, you were all remembered in our prayers. A special “thank you” for those who sent Easter Cards, a chocolate egg and also for their generous donations by means of the annual “Easter Offering”, it was humbling to receive all of the above. A 2<sup>nd</sup> special “Thank You” to all the unseen volunteers who, often un-noticed, help out every week of the year to ensure the Church is ready, open and welcoming for all who come to worship – Bishop David – whose presence ensures that our 2 parishes can have the main Easter Services at the appropriate hour – which I would be unable to do by myself - our 2 Deacons, Altar Servers, the Sisters of St. Francis Minor, Choir Members, Readers and Eucharistic Ministers, Children’s Liturgy Leaders, Flower Arranger, SVP members, Cleaning Staff attending to the Church and its grounds, those who operate the Piety Stall and the Wardens who provide a welcoming presence week in/week out – your efforts are really appreciated. **Fr. The.**

Christ the King		06/07 MAR	13/14 APR
Sat 12:30	Minister of the Word	Kathleen	Aoife
	Minister of Holy Communion	Sue Nugent	Theresa Wilkin
Sun 10.00	Minister of the Word	Angela	Theresa
	Minister of Holy Communion	Isy Moss	Joyce

**Diary Dates.** The Parish Mission Working Party next meets on Wed 10<sup>th</sup> April at 7pm in the Guild Room; Half Day of Recollection at the Convent of the Sisters Minor of St Francis on Sat 20<sup>th</sup> April at 3 pm; Parish Council Meeting on Wed 24<sup>th</sup> April in the Guild Room, and Youth Group meets in the St. John’s Centre on 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> April.

**Cluster Catechesis on the Mass on Tuesdays at St Margaret Mary at 7.30 pm**

Session No.	Date [2024]	Outline of Content	Lead Speaker
1	16 <sup>th</sup> April	Theological Context	Dcn. Gary
2	23 <sup>rd</sup> April	Before we even get to Mass- some basics	Fr. Simon
3	30 <sup>th</sup> April	The Introductory Rites	Fr. Leonard
4	7 <sup>th</sup> May	The Liturgy of the Word	Dcn. Dominic
5	14 <sup>th</sup> May	The Liturgy of the Eucharist	Fr. Thé
6	21 <sup>st</sup> May	The Concluding Rites	Dcn. Gary

**Empty Tomb gives hope, Empty church gives warning:** On hearing of the empty tomb the disciples, in spite of their fear of the Jews, were concerned and ran to the tomb to investigate. On seeing empty church at Easter, especially when the children are on holiday, we should be concerned because it indicates that there is something seriously wrong with their faith. The risen Christ has a message to all who are concerned.

**GOSPEL COMMENTARY: FR DONAGH O’SHEA:** In all three Liturgical cycles, within the Gospel reading for the 2nd Sunday of Easter, 'Doubting Thomas' makes his appearances at this point every year.

Is there anything to be said for doubt? Surely there is. It is a good thing to be able to doubt oneself, provided it doesn't become an addiction that cripples you. To doubt one’s ideas, one’s principles, one’s work, even one's very eyes at times.... It is a proof that your life is not on automatic pilot, that you have not finished thinking and weighing things up. Doubt is not always the opposite of faith; the real opposite of faith is a certain kind of fear. Fear makes you curl up and do nothing, or it makes you run away. Faith pushes you to take chances, to risk yourself, to pit yourself against difficulties. Thomas was a careful man, but he was not a fearful one; he was capable of fearless action: “Let us go to Jerusalem and die with him,” he said (John 11:16). It is not that Thomas lacked faith, it is simply that he did not want to be deluded.

He wanted to "see the holes that the nails made in his hands and put his finger into the holes they made...." He wanted to experience it for himself. St. John - who tells this story about Thomas - once wrote, "What we have heard, what we have seen with our own eyes, what we have watched and touched with our hands...this is our subject" (1 John 1:1). There is no blame to Thomas for wanting to experience the reality for himself. Isn't it what every disciple of Jesus has to do?

Thomas was also a thinking man; he always wanted to understand and figure things out. Once when Jesus was speaking obscurely about going away and said, “You know the way to where I am going”. Thomas cut in and said, “Lord, we don’t know where you are going, so how can we know the way?” (John 14:4-5). It was a practical man’s question, and you can see the puzzled look on his face. It was puzzlement, not doubt. He didn’t doubt Jesus or lack trust in him. Well, why was he missing from the group when Jesus appeared? (today’s reading). Isn't it very likely that he had gone away by himself to think? It would be entirely in character. We dishonour him when we call him ‘doubting Thomas’. We should call him ‘thinking Thomas’. There is no area of life more subject to delusion than religion. We have to thank Thomas for his distinctive combination of carefulness and courage.

Mary Magdalene was told by the Risen Lord (v17-18, just before the beginning of this reading) to "go and find the brothers". Obviously she found them here, in “the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews”.

“The fact that none of the disciples is mentioned by name and no number is given indicates that disciples as such are implied here, and the scene that follows is addressed to all disciples of Jesus” (F.J. Moloney, *The Gospel of John*). All are called to go out to the whole world with the Good News.

Fear had locked them in, but he sent them out: “As the Father sent me, so I am sending you”. “He breathed on them”. This is seen as an evocation of the creation story in Genesis, where God “breathed into [Adam’s] nostrils the breath of life” (2:7). Jesus' gift of the Spirit makes us a new creation.