



## The Newman Cluster

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

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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: 477; O: 112; C: 464; R: 67 (Regent Square)

#### MASSES THIS WEEK

**Con: Convent; CTK: Christ the King; OLAM: Maryvale; SMM: St Margaret Mary's**

<b>Sat</b>	18/01/25	Feria in Ordinary Time	12:30 CTK†	Marie Roy Owens & family
			18:00 OLAM	Margaret Boylan (RIP)
<b>Sun</b>	19/01/25	Second Sunday in Ordinary Time	09:30 SMM	Celebrant's Intention
			10:00 CTK	Bill & Kath Rice (RIP)
			11:30 OLAM	Ian Frank Bartlett (RIP)
<b>Mon</b>	20/01/25	Feria in Ordinary Time	08:00 Con†	Terry Maguire (RIP)
			11:00 SMM	Requiem: Mary Rodgers
<b>Tue</b>	21/01/25	St Agnes, Mem.	09:15 SMM	Varghese Thomas (RIP)
			09:30 MPS	Patricia Whelan (RIP)
<b>Wed</b>	22/01/25	Feria in Ordinary Time	08:00 Con.†	Paul Thompson (Anni.)
			09:15 SMM	Celebrant's Intention
<b>Thu</b>	23/01/25	Feria in Ordinary Time	12:00 CTK	John Mohammed (RIP)
			09:15 SMM	Celebrant's Intention
<b>Fri</b>	24/01/25	St Francis de Sales, Mem.	<b>10.00 – 11.00</b>	Ecumenical Service at <b>Trinity Church</b>
			12:30 CTK†	Karen Jemson (RIP)
<b>Sat</b>	25/01/25	Conversion of St Paul, Feast	18:00 OLAM	Patricia Whelan (RIP)
			09:30 SMM	Celebrant's Intention
<b>Sun</b>	26/01/25	Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	10:00 CTK	Tommy Judge (RIP)
			11:30 OLAM	Mary Finn

**Pray For The Sick:** Monique Hunt, Luke Byrne, Jean McCabe, Paul Cowan, Gerald, John, Josephine Brown, Sr Marie, John/Sandra Mageean, Sadie Pulido, Sarah McCallion, Claire/Mark, Carole Smith, Alan Rowan, Niamh O'Reilly, Jo Teece, Mary Ann Gniadkowski, Alberto Bolongaro, Kyle Billing, Nicola Jones, Patricia Nash, Angela Madigan, Teresa Webb, Joanne Fields, Caitlin Hodgetts, Joan/Alan Horton, Peggy O'Donovan, Pauline O'Brien, Chris & Eddie Walsh, Elizabeth Teague, George Ferris, and Christine Stephens.

**RIP:** Please pray for James Finbar O'Regan and Daisy Glenn who passed away recently. May they rest in peace.

**Funerals:** J O'Regan: Thu 06/02/25, 11:30, OLAM; D Glenn: Thu 27/02/25, 10:30, CTK.

**SANCTUARY LAMP** is dedicated throughout January for the Walsh family at CTK and for a Personal Intention at OLAM. The new Sanctuary Lamp Sponsorship rotas for 2025 are available for booking. If you 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.

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (18<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> January 2025):** As part of the may events to commemorate this important week of prayer, on **Fri 24<sup>th</sup> January**, Deacon Gary, as a representative of the Archdiocese Birmingham, will be leading an hour of prayer between 10.00 and 11.00 am at Trinity Church, 150 Coventry Road, B10 0SE. All are welcome at that service. For more details see Pray24Brum on [birminghamchurchestogether.org.uk](http://birminghamchurchestogether.org.uk).

**Fr. Peter Ross:** On Mon 10/02/25 at 18:00, Fr. Peter Ross will preside and preach at a Mass of Thanksgiving for his priesthood and for his time among us as Deacon. There will be a Reception afterwards in the Maryvale Community Centre. All are welcome.

**Cluster Celebration of Pentecost:** On Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2025 at 6 pm there will be a Solemn Pentecost Vigil and Mass at OLAM followed by a Reception in the Maryvale Community Centre at approximately 7.30 pm. Pentecost is the birthday of the Church. Our Solemn Vigil Mass and Reception provide an opportunity for us to thank God for the Church and for the progress the Cluster has made so far. All are welcome.

**Last Week's Collection CTK**

Loose: £ 332.11  
 Envelopes: £ 108.20  
 Standing Orders £ 247.23  
**Total: £ 687.54**

**Last Week's Collection OLAM**

Loose: £ 247.38  
 Envelopes: £ 229.50  
 Standing Orders £ 94.69  
**Total: £ 571.57**

**Second Collection:** This weekend for Pax Christi

Christ the King		18 <sup>th</sup> /19 <sup>th</sup> Jan	25 <sup>th</sup> /26 <sup>th</sup> Jan
Sat 12:30	Minister of the Word	Theresa	Kathleen
	Minister of Holy Communion	Sue	Theresa
Sun 10.00	Minister of the Word	John	Steve
	Minister of Holy Communion	Marian	Sr Catalina

**Redundant Christmas Presents:** After Christmas and New Year some people find they have presents, boxes of biscuits, chocolates, wine and spirits that are surplus to requirements. We wondered whether you could donate these to the Parish so we can raise funds to contribute to pay to fix the leak in the church roof. Our idea is that you bring your unused 'spare' items to church over the next three weeks. Please hand them in to the tea and coffee team after 10 am Mass or to Father The during the week. We will then hold a raffle in February where everyone gets a prize so there will only be the number of raffle tickets for the number of donations, tickets will be £5 each and you could win a bottle of whiskey, a box of chocolates, some very nice toiletries etc. We hope you will join this fun activity by donating and buying tickets. If this is a success we hope to run a similar raffle with unused toys, books and games later in the year so please save these for us. If you need more information please contact Noran 07552238852

**St Vincent de Paul Conference Update.**

Dear Parishioners, on behalf of all of our members, I would like to wish you a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year. We received a large number of requests for assistance over the Christmas period and, as a result of your support, were able to provide groceries, presents and food vouchers to 41 families in our community, who were extremely grateful. We will continue to support where the need remains, within our capabilities. Thank you for your generous and ongoing support. Please keep our members and beneficiaries in your prayers. Theresa.

**Parental Support Programme – Session Two** will be on Thu 30/01/25 at 19:00 and repeated on Sat 01/02/25 at 15:00.

**Parish Council Meeting** on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February at 7 pm in the Guild Room. If there are any matters you think we should add to our agenda, please pass them to a member of the Parish Council.

**General Meetings of the Cluster** will take place on Sunday 18/05/25 and 21/09/25 respectively. Both meetings will be in the St John's Centre and both will start at 3 pm.

**Gospel Reflection: Fr Donagh O'Shea**

Some commentators with a strict attitude to alcohol had trouble with this parable. Why would Jesus make a thousand bottles of that hazardous drink? Some even went so far as to say that what he really made was grape-juice. What do you think? The steward was surely a better judge of wine than that, and there was no complaint from the guests. No, it was the real thing.

Many people turn water into wine. I did it myself on one occasion. It takes about six weeks. But with Jesus it took no time at all. And it required no effort: he did it without even a word or a gesture or command; it just turned into wine in his presence, and he instructed the waiters to take it to the table. C.S. Lewis remarked that all the miracles worked by Jesus were in accord with the laws of nature, and not against them. There are no magical transformations, no weird metamorphoses. He did in a moment what nature does slowly. "Each miracle writes for us in small letters something that God has already written, or will write, in letters almost too large to be noticed, across the whole canvas of nature." Water into wine is a wonderful transformation, but it is not magic. Who needs magic? When a hard man gets the courage to leave the door of his heart open, it is not magic. When a miser begins to practise the bounty of God, it is not magic. When a sinner turns into a saint, it is not magic. It is a miracle.

In the presence of Jesus things like this happen all the time. John calls the miracle at Cana "the first of his signs." So it was not just a favour (even a miraculous one) for an embarrassed host. It was a parable in action. It carried a profound teaching about Jesus himself - it "revealed his glory" - and also about our life as his disciples.

He appeared transfigured (transformed) on the mountain before the eyes of Peter, James and John (Matthew 17:2; Mark 9:2). But his disciples too are being transformed: "All of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit" (2 Corinthians 3:18). "He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself" (Philippians 3:21).

Transformation is not magic; there is a line of continuity (by God's grace) between the beginning and the end. We continue with our ordinary life, our daily employment; but like the water changed to wine, it is given a kind of flavour and fragrance that is beyond what we call 'ordinary'.

Our whole life is 'sacramental' in this sense. The ordinary bread of labour is transformed into the Body of Christ. After we celebrate the Eucharist the celebration continues into every moment. It is not magic. The sacraments are not magic. But when we detach a sacrament from its home in a life-being-transformed, we can only think of it magically. For a long time now we have been losing the power of symbolic thinking, and replacing it with a barren literalness that is nowhere found in the Scriptures. It is getting worse. Fundamentalists are appearing everywhere, accusing of heresy. The first part of us that needs transformation is our mind. "Let that mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 2:5).