



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
Alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk

Hymns: E: 369; O: 317; C: 463; R: 312

MASSES THIS WEEK

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

Sat	22/03/25	Feria in Ordinary Time	12:30 CTK	Michael McArdle (RIP)
			18:00 OLAM	Tony Lynch (RIP)
Sun	23/02/25	Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time	09:30 SMM	Celebrant's Intention
			10:00 CTK†	Patricia and Lawrence Tams (RIP)
			11:30 OLAM†	Eileen Silvertsen
Mon	24/02/25	Feria in Ordinary Time	08:00 Con†	Private Intention
Tue	25/02/25	Feria in Ordinary Time	09:15 SMM	Sinead Sullivan (RIP)
			09:30 MPS	PEOPLE OF THE PARISHES
Wed	26/02/25	Feria in Ordinary Time	08:00 Con.†	Elizabeth Bailey (RIP)
			11:30 OLAM	Requiem: Maureen Mulrone
Thu	27/02/25	Feria in Ordinary Time	10:30 CTK	Funeral Service: Daisy Glenn
Fri	28/02/25	Feria in Ordinary Time	09:00 CTK	Beatrice and Gerry
			11:00 CTK	Funeral Service: Patricia O'Day
Sat	01/03/25	St David, Bishop, Feast	12:30 CTK	Betsy Corrigan (Anni)
			18:00 OLAM	George Maxwell (Anni)
Sun	02/03/25	Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time	09:30 SMM	Celebrant's Intentions
			10:00 CTK	John Butler (RIP)
			11:30 OLAM	Bert Mulvey (RIP)

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 Noreen Kenny and Maureen Dargan who passed away recently. May they rest in peace.

SANCTUARY LAMP is dedicated throughout February for Edward Bambe at CTK and for Justice and Peace at OLAM.

Christmas Fayre 2025: Claire Adler is officially taking over the organising of the event as of this year for Christ The King Church. For current volunteers, we have our first volunteers' meeting of the year on **Sat 1st March** at St Johns Centre at 10.30am. New volunteers are always welcome. If you would like to Volunteer, please contact Claire at the parish office on 0121 3730988 or email christ-theking.bham@rcaob.org.uk

Formation for Ministers of the Word: Deacon Gary will be offering some formation to the current Ministers of the Word in St Margaret Mary in four sessions on **19th and 26th March and 2nd and 9th April**, each session beginning at 7pm. Details of the programme are at the back of Church in both CTK and OLAM. Any current Minister of the Word is welcome to attend for a refresher and to offer the benefit of their experience during Q & A. Anyone who feels called to offer themselves for this important ministry is encouraged to attend these sessions.

Care for the Family Conference for parents, 'Big Parenting Questions' is in Birmingham on 13th March. Tickets <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/big-parenting-questions-birmingham-tickets-1049439009327?aff=BPQwebpage>

Enrolment for FHC and Confirmation in 2026: The children in Year 2 and Year 5 in both Primary Schools are expected to have their Mass Attendance card signed every weekend and details given on visit from either Deacon Gary or Fr The. The list will close on Palm Sunday of 2025. Those children who have applied will be formally enrolled for the Sacraments at the Sunday masses over the weekend of 7th/8th June 2025. Any later inquiries will be scheduled for 2027.

The parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No. 234216

Last Week's Collection CTK

Loose: £ 364.38
 Envelopes: £ 107.00
 Standing Orders £ 247.23
Total: £ 718.61

Last Week's Collection OLAM

Loose: £ 185.12
 Envelopes: £ 136.00
 Standing Orders £ 94.69
Total: £ 415.81

Second Collection: Next Week: Cathedral Maintenance

Christ the King		22 nd /23 rd Feb	1 st /2 nd Mar
Sat 12:30	Minister of the Word	Theresa	Maxine
	Minister of Holy Communion	Sue	Theresa
Sun 10.00	Minister of the Word	John	Steve
	Minister of Holy Communion	Sister	Jean de Dieu



Big Raffle: First of all thank you to everyone who has donated unwanted Christmas gifts, there is still time for you to donate so any chocolates, biscuits, wines, spirits or toiletries would be gratefully received. The raffle where everyone who buys a ticket wins a prize will take place after 10am Mass on Sun 16/03/25. Raffle tickets will go on sale on **Sun 23/02/25**. Tickets are £5 each and remember you are guaranteed a prize. The funds raised from this will go towards repairing the church roof.

Young Discerners Group: Are you a young man in School Years 9 - 13, who wants to explore a vocation to the Catholic priesthood? Why not come to St. Mary's College, Oscott for a chance to meet Fr. Craig Szmidt (the Vocation Director) and spend time in discussion and prayer with others who are thinking about a vocation to the priesthood? The day will include a tour of Oscott and an opportunity to speak with seminarians, joining them for the celebration of Holy Mass and lunch. The first meeting is on **Sat 05/04/25**, 10:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. To find out more, contact Deacon Owen Gresty 0121 321 5135 or deacon.owen@vocations.org.uk **FREE OF CHARGE - BUT BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL!**

Intercultural Mass: On **Saturday 7th June at 12 noon**, Bishop David Evans will preside at an Intercultural Mass facilitated by the Ethnic Chaplaincies and the Eastern Catholic Churches of the Archdiocese. The venue is Our Lady and St Brigid's B31 5AB. More details are on the poster at the back of Church. **The Mass intention is Priestly Vocations.**

Recruitment Opportunities: The Archdiocese is recruiting for the following four positions: Operations Director, IT Manager, Finance Manager and Gift Aid Officer. Full details and closing dates can be found at www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/jobs. If you think you have the skills, please do apply.

Aid to the Church in Need report on persecution of Christians in Nigeria: <https://acnuk.org/news/nigeria-dozens-of-christians-killed-last-month/>

Lourdes Pilgrimage 2025 in the Year of Jubilee: Archbishop Bernard invites you to come on this very special occasion in the life of the Archdiocese: **Saturday 24 – Friday 30 May 2025** www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/lourdes.

Gospel Reflection: Fr Donagh O'Shea

We must love our enemies. We must be pacifists. But pacifism is not another word for passivity. We are not called to be passive. Jesus was not passive, he was very active on the day he drove the traders and their animals out of the Temple: "Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, 'Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!'" (John 2:15-16). Nor was he passive when he healed the man against the protests of the Pharisees: "He looked around at them with anger," and then healed him (Mark 3:5). Passivity is a refusal to use one's strength. But love is strong, "stronger than death." There is a kind of passivity that pretends to be Christian love but is probably just cowardice.

'Turning the other cheek' is not so hard when the cheek is someone else's. A false notion of Christian meekness has often been used to allow violence and abuse to go unchallenged. Do you tell children who have been abused that they should love their enemy? Do you tell the family of a murder victim to love the murderer? I should think you would have to pick your words very carefully, or remain silent. Turning the other cheek is for people who have the power to retaliate but choose not to do so. It is not for people who have no power, no choice. When Peter became violent, Jesus said to him, "Put your sword back into its place.... Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels?" (Matthew 26:53).

But when it is your own cheek, what do you do? What did Jesus do? He did not sink into passivity when the soldier struck him. He challenged him: "If I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong. But if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?" (John 18:23). The question is how you challenge your enemy (assuming that you have the power to do so). The instinct is to respond in kind, to react to violence with violence. We have to see that this is to make yourself exactly like your enemy. In that sense it is no challenge to him; it confirms his view that that is the way for a human being to act. Jesus met violence with reason, not with violence. The enemy doesn't want to see your face or hear your voice. He wants to turn you into an object, and objects don't have faces and voices. If you are only an object, then he finds it easier to take leave of his own humanity. We should not underestimate the power of sheer personal presence. We have to reach somehow behind the violence of the enemy and engage him as a human being. If we can just hold off, he may see the insanity of what he is doing.

God does not respond to us in kind. We pollute the world, we destroy other animals for sport, we exploit and kill one another for profit. We make ourselves enemies of God. But God waits - not, however, in a spirit that says, "I'll get you in the end!" If God imposed instant sanctions there would be no evil-doing in the world; but neither would there be insight or mercy or real humanity; the world would be a larger version of the boarding-school I went to long ago! God has to wait so that we can see how God treats enemies. God waits for us to become human beings and "children of the Most High."