



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: 65; O: 268; C: 56; R: 356

MASSES THIS WEEK

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

Sat	01/03/25	Feria in Ordinary Time	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)
Mon	03/03/25	Feria in Ordinary Time	08:00 Con†	Mary McDonagh (get well)
			11:00 SMM	Requiem: Peter Doyle
Tue	04/02/25	Feria in Ordinary Time Shrove Tuesday	08:00 Con.	Bride Ashton (RIP)
			09:15 SMM	Dorothy Corfield (RIP)
Wed	05/03/25	Ash Wednesday Day of Fasting and Abstinence	08:00 Con.	Christine McDoudle (RIP)
			09.15 SMM	Celebrant's intention
			12.00 CTK	Anne Rochford (RIP)
			19.00 OLAM†	Kathleen Kenelly
Thu	06/03/25	Thursday after Ash Wednesday	12:00 CTK	P. J. Lennon (RIP)
Fri	07/03/25	Friday after Ash Wednesday	09:00 CTK	Bernadette Gray (RIP)
Sat	08/03/25	Saturday after Ash Wednesday	12:30 CTK	Clara Perry (Anni.)
			18:00 OLAM†	Kathleen Lysaght (Anni.)
Sun	09/03/25	First Sunday in Lent Stewardship Sunday	09:30 SMM	Celebrant's Intention
			10:00 CTK	Luke Byrne (B'day)
			11:30 OLAM	Ray Gregory (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 Steven Ferns, Noreen Kenny, Alfonsa Liberato who passed away recently. May they rest in peace.

Funerals: S Ferns: Fri 14/03/25, 12:30, CTK; A Liberato: Mon 24/03/25, 10:30, OLAM.

SANCTUARY LAMP is dedicated throughout March for Ikwuka & Ubah families at CTK and for Michael Foley at OLAM.

Half-Day of Recollection: The next half-day of recollection at the Convent of the Sisters Minor of St Francis (address above) will be on **Saturday 15th March** from 3 pm to 6 pm.

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>

Stations of the Cross: during Lent on every Friday at 7:00pm at CTK.

Last Week's Collection CTK

Loose: £ 560.93
 Envelopes: £ 106.00
 Standing Orders £ 247.23
Total: £ 914.16

Second Collection: Cathedral Maintenance**Last Week's Collection OLAM**

Loose: £ 222.00
 Envelopes: £ 142.50
 Standing Orders £ 94.69
Total: £ 459.19

Christ the King		1 st /2 nd Mar	8 th /9 th Mar
Sat 12:30	Minister of the Word	Maxine	Aoife
	Minister of Holy Communion	Theresa	Sue
Sun 10.00	Minister of the Word	Steve	Theresa
	Minister of Holy Communion	Jean de Dieu	Joyce



Enrolment for FHC and Confirmation in 2026: The children in Year 2 and Year 5 in both Primary Schools are invited 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.

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!**

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.

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.

Kairos Buds: Some samples of this monthly magazine for children in Catholic families are available for viewing in the porch. Subscription of £10 for 5 copies per month can be arranged on infouk@jykaivosmedia.org or 07969365686.

Gospel Reflection: Fr Donagh O'Shea

The worst form of hypocrisy is to claim that we are never hypocritical ourselves. The Psalmist who wrote "I do not sit with the worthless, nor do I consort with hypocrites" (25:4) appears greatly over-confident - or he didn't know himself very well. In all its forms, hypocrisy displays one thing and lives another. As we know very well, it is hard to be single-minded. Nobody succeeds completely, so this is all about us.

Jesus repeatedly called the Pharisees hypocrites: see especially Matthew 23. It is significant that in today's reading he is saying the very same thing to his own disciples. He called the Pharisees "blind guides leading the blind." And he added, "If one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit" (Matthew 15:14). To the disciples he said, "You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your neighbour's eye."

We Christians are quick to condemn certain evils but slow to condemn others. We can be quick to condemn social injustices but slow to admit that there are injustices in the Church. We can be quick to defend the unborn but indifferent to them and their families once they are born. The vile crime of child sexual abuse has blighted the lives of thousands. Those crimes were often compounded by the silence of Church authorities. It is a time for repentance. There should have been no illusions. Already in 1965 the Vatican II document *Gaudium et Spes* had this: "The Church...is very well aware that among her members, both clerical and lay, some have been unfaithful to the Spirit of God during the course of many centuries; in the present age, too, it does not escape the Church how great a distance lies between the message she offers and the human failings of those to whom the Gospel is entrusted" (n. 44).

There is the hypocrisy of a group and the hypocrisy of individuals. Their relationship is not at all one of simple arithmetic. Groups are made up of individuals, yes, but a group is more than the sum of individuals. There is a kind of group hypocrisy that far outweighs the sum of individual hypocrisy. Individuals who are personally not at all hypocritical can somehow be party to group hypocrisy, willing to defend the indefensible. Narcissistic attitudes like vanity, defensiveness, meanness of spirit, which would be considered unworthy in an individual, are "loyalty" and "fidelity" in a group. We should ask forgiveness for our sins, and not rename them as virtues. God is not honoured by hypocrisy. To turn group hypocrisy into a virtue is a form of atheism; it is to see God as in no way different from pagan idols, which have "mouths but they cannot speak, eyes but they cannot see, ears but they cannot hear" (Ps 113). "Do not be deceived," wrote St Paul, "God is not mocked" (Gal 6:7).

They are hypocrites who belittle others and their religion. They are hypocrites who "tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on the shoulders of others; while they themselves are unwilling to lift a finger to move them" (Mt 23:4). They are hypocrites who "tithe mint, dill, and cummin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith" (Mt 23:23) - those who make a couple of external practices the touchstone of the faith.

The Word of God invites us to cast out the old yeast and celebrate with "the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth" (1 Cor 5:8).