



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: 130; O: 268; C: 155; R: 308

MASSES THIS WEEK

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

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)
Mon	10/03/25	Feria in Lent	08:00 Con†	Mr & Mrs J Judd & David
Tue	11/02/25	Feria in Lent	08:00 Con.	PEOPLE OF THE PARISHES
			09:15 SMM	Catherine Ryan (RIP)
Wed	12/03/25	Feria in Lent	08:00 Con.	Mr & Mrs E Kerrigan & Family
			09:15 SMM	Doris Nolan
Thu	13/03/25	Feria in Lent	12:00 CTK	Mr & Mrs H Byrne & family
Fri	14/03/25	Feria in Lent	09:00 CTK	Mark (RIP)
			12:30 CTK	Funeral Service: Steven Ferns
Sat	15/03/25	Feria in Lent	12:30 CTK	Andy Corrigan (Anni.)
			18:00 OLAM	Yvonne Cowman & Tia-Mae Cowman (Anni.)
Sun	16/03/25	Second Sunday in Lent	09:30 SMM	Maria Agendia (RIP)
			10:00 CTK†	The Butler family
			11:30 OLAM	Susan Smith (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 and Peggy McCallion who passed away recently. May they rest in peace. **Funerals:** N Kenny: Fri 21/03/25, 11:00, 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.

LENT TALKS: NICENE CREED 1700 ANNIVERSARY – Why recite an arcane formula? (Constantine, Nicaea, Father Christmas and much more!) Fr Robert Taylorson, Oscott College.

Stations of the Cross: during Lent on every Friday at 7:00pm at CTK. Fr. Thé will be available to hear confessions during the service.

Parish Annual General Meeting: The Parish AGM is an opportunity for everyone at CTK and OLAM to come together as a single united parish, to review the past year and to discuss important matters affecting our future. The full agenda is still being finalised but at the very least we shall need to consider the future of our parish buildings and finance. The AGM will be held on **Tuesday 29th April 2025 in the St John's Centre and will begin at 6.30 pm.**

Last Week's Collection CTK

Loose: £ 392.06
 Envelopes: £ 116.00
 Standing Orders £ 247.23
Total: £ 755.29

Second Collection:
 Next weekend: **CAFOD (Lent Fast)**

Last Week's Collection OLAM

Loose: £ 212.46
 Envelopes: £ 113.00
 Standing Orders £ 94.69
Total: £ 420.17

Christ the King		8 th /9 th Mar	15 th /16 th Mar
Sat 12:30	Minister of the Word	Aoife	Kathleen
	Minister of Holy Communion	Sue	Theresa
Sun 10.00	Minister of the Word	Theresa	Angela
	Minister of Holy Communion	Joyce	Marian



Youth Group Meeting: 14th & 28th March

Parish Council meeting: in Guild Room on Tue 11/03/25 at 19:00.

The Big Raffle: Thank you to everyone who has donated prizes, we have lots of boxes of biscuits and chocolates, bottles of spirits and wine and fabulous gift sets. In fact, we have got so many prizes we are going to let the raffle carry on for a bit longer. Remember tickets are £5 each but every ticket wins a prize, so you are guaranteed to be a winner. The raffle will be held on 23 March so there is still time to buy tickets and be a winner. All funds raised go to the repair of the church roof. Many thanks

Class Teacher Vacancy at Holy Name Catholic Primary School (Great Barr): Holy Name Catholic Primary School, Great Barr are looking for a class teacher (ECT or experienced) with a possible TLR2a (£3,391 dependent on skills and experience) to start in September 2024. Please contact Mr. Andrew Neenan, Headteacher, on 0121 357 3216 or headteacher@holynamesandwell.sch.uk if you are interested in this exciting opportunity.

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.

New Heights Community Project Update – Newly Appointed Project Manager

I am thrilled to introduce myself as the newest member of the New Heights Community Project and Community Café team! My name is Cameron Archer, and I am grateful to step into this role, working alongside our incredible community. At New Heights, our mission is to uplift and empower those in need, and I look forward to collaborating with each of you. I can't wait to get to know you all and continue the vital work of building community support together. If you see me around, please don't hesitate to say hello—I'd love to connect!

New Heights Community Project Vacancy - Volunteer and Activities Co-ordinator: New Heights Community Project is looking for a passionate and organised Volunteer and Activities Co-ordinator to join our team. If you're excited about supporting community activities, events and working with volunteers, we'd love to hear from you! Application Deadline: 12th March 2025. Interviews: Starting from the following week, please apply via enquiries@new-heights.org.uk

Gospel Reflection: Fr Donagh O'Shea

John the Baptist had no questions about his own identity, even when he had been thrown into the dungeon, this child of the desert. He sent word to Jesus, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" (Lk 7:20). 'Are we waiting for another?' He had doubts about Jesus but not about himself!

What are we to make of the temptations of Jesus? Were they real temptations? If they were, then he was seeking to understand his own identity and considering different ways of spending the rest of his life. If they were not, then the whole scene was only a charade. It is not at all to doubt his divinity if we take the temptations seriously. He was divine, but his human mind was human: that is, limited. The three gospels that tell of his temptations link them with his baptism in the Jordan. He came to the Jordan as an unknown carpenter, and the Holy Spirit came and "rested on him" (others are touched or moved by the Spirit, but the Spirit "rested" on Jesus). He was catapulted out of his old way of life; Mark says the Spirit "drove him out into the desert" (1:12). The Voice had said to him "You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you." To see how he was going to spend the rest of his life, he had to have time to think and pray and struggle.

Remember, too, that in the New Testament the word 'temptation' means 'test'; Jesus was being put to the test.

A temptation may come from the outside, but unless it goes to the inside it is not a temptation. The first temptation was to be a material provider. This is a good thing to be. How do you tempt a good person? – with goodness, because they will not take an evil bait. It's not so difficult to be a material provider, and in fact most people can do it for themselves. But if Jesus had given in to this temptation, the work would have absorbed him completely, distracting him from his real task, which only he could do. The next temptation was to power. This is always a subtle one, and very easily rationalised. Any kind of power will do. It was said of someone that he entered the priesthood in order to do good, and did well instead. I can persuade myself that a position of power would give me greater opportunities of doing good. Jesus avoided this trap too. The most distinctive thing about him throughout his public life was his refusal of power. In the end he made himself utterly powerless on the Cross. It is very moving to see that that choice was not automatic, but conscious and deliberate. The third temptation, which cannot have occupied his mind for long, was to become a celebrity.

Some scholars suggest that this gospel passage was a summary story; that is, that it describes a process that went on throughout his life, rather than a single occasion. Whether or not that is the case, it is certainly the case that these temptations are ever-present for the disciples of Jesus, the Church. Most of us would find it easier to buy groceries for someone than to sit and listen to their pain and confusion, or their anger.... As for power and glory: that is a long story! We may imagine sometimes we are defending the power and glory of God when in reality we are only defending the worldly power and pride of the Church. The Church's identity does not consist in titles and honours and regal dress, but in following the poor man of Nazareth. We, the disciples of Jesus, the Church, have to be driven into the desert again and again... until we understand profoundly and embrace wholeheartedly the way the Cross.