



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: 155; O: 414; C: 463; R: 171

MASSES THIS WEEK

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

Sat	22/03/25	Feria in Lent	12:30 CTK	Dora McKeown (Anni.)
			18:00 OLAM†	Michael Foley (RIP)
Sun	23/03/25	3 rd Sunday of Lent	09:30 SMM	Maureen Dargan (RIP)
			10:00 CTK	Noreen Kenny (RIP)
			11:30 OLAM	Jim Heaney (Anni.)
Mon	24/03/25	Feria in Lent	08:00 Con†	Betty Guest (RIP)
			10:30 OLAM	Funeral Service: Alfonsa Liberato
Tue	25/03/25	Solemnity of the Annunciation	09:15 SMM	Roy Durrant (RIP)
			09:30 MPS	John Roche (RIP)
Wed	26/03/25	Feria in Lent	08:00 Con.†	Margaret Miley (RIP)
			09.15 SMM	Barnabas Agendia (RIP)
Thu	27/03/25	Feria in Lent	12:00 CTK	George & Helen Nessim
			09:00 CTK	Brendan & Berne Reilly
Fri	28/03/25	Feria in Lent 24 Hours for the Lord	10:00-12:00 CTK	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
			18:00-18:45 CTK	
			19:00 CTK	Stations of the Cross (+ Confession)
Sat	29/03/25	Feria in Lent	12:30 CTK	Ted McKeown (RIP)
			18:00 OLAM	Thomas Matthews (RIP)
Sun	30/03/25	4 th Sunday of Lent Mothering Sunday (Clocks go forward)	09:30 SMM	Maureen Dargan (RIP)
			10:00 CTK	Delia Byrne (RIP)
			11:30 OLAM†	Douglas Kennedy (Anni.)

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 Alfonsa Liberato, Peggy McCallion, Kevin Thomas Bridge who passed away recently. May they rest in peace. **Funerals:** 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.

Youth Group Meeting: Friday 28th March at 6.30 pm in the St John's Centre.

Lent Talk on the Nicene Creed: 7 pm at SMM – “the Virgin Mary and Christ's humanity” given by Deacon Dominic.

Jubilee Year Pilgrimage to St John Henry Newman's Littlemore College and Chapel is on Sat 10th May. Details to follow.

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 **26th March and 2nd and 9th April**, each session beginning at 7pm. 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.

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.**

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: Sat 24/05/25 – Fri 30/05/25 www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/lourdes. Please register by 28/03/25, if you wish to go.

Christ the King		22 nd /23 rd Mar	29 th /30 th Mar
Sat 12:30	Minister of the Word	Maxine	Aoife
	Minister of Holy Communion	Theresa	Sue
Sun 10.00	Minister of the Word	John	Patience
	Minister of Holy Communion	Jean de Dieu	Joyce



Big Raffle: A big Thank you to everyone who took part in our Roof Raffle . We made £375. We will be giving out the raffle prizes after mass on 22 and 23/03/25. Any left over items will be handed out on 5th and 6th April. How amazing that by working together we are able to support Christ the King Church.

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 **Sat 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.**

African Mass at Pentecost: Our Catholic African Community will be facilitating another Mass in the African style on the Solemnity of Pentecost on Sunday 8th June 2025 at 2 pm. Refreshments will be served afterwards. All are welcome.

Choice of Masses for the conferral of Sacraments of Initiation 2025: The Sacrament of Baptism is being celebrated on Easter Day (20th April) and on the Vigil of Pentecost (7th June in the 12.30 pm Mass). All other Sunday Masses in the Easter Season (21st April to 8th June inclusive) as well as the evening Mass on Ascension Thursday (29th May) will be available for the celebration of First Holy Communion. The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated on Trinity Sunday at the 12.30 pm Mass at CTK ((14th June) and the 11.30 am Mass at OLAM (15th June). **To book into any of these dates, please email the Parish Secretary with your preferred date. Father Thé or Deacon Gary will then have a word with you and assuming all is in order confirm your choice and give you details of the rehearsal.**

WeBelieve, 25th-28th July 2025, a festival of Catholic Life celebrating the Jubilee Year of Hope, with parishes and families in mind. Four days of music, keynotes, conversation & worship, in the beautiful surroundings of **St Mary's College, Oscott**, Sutton Coldfield. Featuring Dr Gianna Emanuela Molla (daughter of St Gianna Molla), Fr Paul Murray, Mgr Michael Nazir-Ali, AnMari, Fr Toby Lees & many more. Pilgrim-attendees can choose to come for the whole weekend (camping, staying locally or coming from home) at an adult Early Bird rate of £70, or for a day for £40. Early Bird Tickets available now at www.webelievefestival.com

Free Skills Training at New Heights Project with FareShare Midlands: Are you looking to boost your career prospects, improve your well-being, or manage your finances more effectively? Join FareShare Midlands for free, informative, and engaging training sessions at St John's Centre. Upcoming Sessions: Achieving Positive Wellbeing and Mental Health – 1st March, 12:30 - 2:30 pm; Employment Skills and Work Directions – 21st March, 12:30 - 2:30 pm To find out more, contact Rachel at 07726 486 62 or email Rachel.Jackson@faresharemidlands.org.uk.

Gospel Reflection: Fr Donagh O'Shea: In today's gospel reading we are brought up against the fathomless problem of evil. Is there any answer to it? We are lost for words when tragedy strikes at us – or near us. We use a lot of words, certainly, but we know that they all fall short. In that way it is similar to the dark mystery of God. On an ordinary day we can say pat things about God and about suffering and evil. But when we are touched by any of these we have to fall silent. Here is a famous passage from *The Eclipse of God* (1952) by the Jewish philosopher Martin Buber (1878-1965). It is very moving to see a great and honest thinker hovering at the edge of silence as he reflects on the mystery of God and evil. "Yes," I said, "[the word 'God'] is the most heavy-laden of all human words. None has become so soiled, so mutilated. Just for this reason I may not abandon it. The generations have laid the burden of their anxious lives upon this word & weighed it to the ground; it lies in the dust and bears their whole burden. Human beings with their religious factions have torn the word to pieces; they have killed for it and died for it, and it bears their finger marks and their blood. Where might I find a word like it to describe the highest! If I took the purest, most sparkling concept from the inner treasure-chamber of the philosophers, I could only capture thereby an unbinding product of thought. I could not capture the presence of the One whom the generations have honoured and degraded with their awesome living and dying. I do indeed mean God whom the hell-tormented and heaven-storming generations mean. Certainly, they draw caricatures and write 'God' underneath; they murder one another & say "in God's name." But when all madness and delusion fall to dust, when they stand over against Him in the loneliest darkness and no longer say, "He, He," but rather sigh "Thou," shout "Thou," all of them the one word, and when they then add "God," is it not the real God whom they all implore, the One Living God, the God of the human race? Is it not He who hears them? And just for this reason, is not the word 'God', the word of appeal, the word which has become a name, consecrated in all human tongues for all times? We must esteem those who interdict it because they rebel against the injustice and wrong which is so readily referred to 'God' for authorisation. But we may not give up. How understandable it is that some suggest we should remain silent about "the last things" for a time in order that the misused words may be redeemed! But they are not to be redeemed thus. We cannot cleanse the word 'God' and we cannot make it whole; but, defiled & mutilated as it is, we can raise it from the ground and set it over an hour of great care." Christians would like to add to this: Yes, we are in the same agony. We too are reduced to silence by the obscenity of evil. But in that silence another word is heard that comes from beyond our world. It is the Word that was from the beginning (1 John 1), & was born into this wicked world, & was willing to suffer every consequence of that choice. It is the Word that expresses God and humanity to the full extent that they can be expressed in our flesh: Jesus, the Word made flesh. He does not leave us orphans (Jn 14:18); he is "with us in all our afflictions" (2 Cor 1:4); he is the one on whom we have set our hope (2 Cor 1:10).