



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

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. The-Quang Nguyen  
124 Warren Farm Road, Kingstanding, Birmingham B44 0QN  
Parish Deacons: Rev. Mr. Gary O'Brien ([dcn.gary.obrien@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:dcn.gary.obrien@rcaob.org.uk)) and  
Rev. Mr. Dominic Fahey ([dcn.dominic.fahey@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:dcn.dominic.fahey@rcaob.org.uk))

Fr Simon Ellis Tel: 0121 373 0069  
[fr.simon.ellis@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:fr.simon.ellis@rcaob.org.uk)  
Assistant Priest: Fr Leonard Cox  
[fr.leonard.cox@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:fr.leonard.cox@rcaob.org.uk)

Fr. The-Quang Nguyen  
[fr.the.quang.nguyen@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:fr.the.quang.nguyen@rcaob.org.uk)  
Tel: 0121 373 0988. Email: Admin:  
[christ-theking.bham@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:christ-theking.bham@rcaob.org.uk)

Convent: 192 Hawthorn Road  
Kingstanding B44 8PU  
Phone +44 121 3500 716  
Email: [smsfbirmingham@gmail.com](mailto:smsfbirmingham@gmail.com)

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: 13; O: 335; C: 455; R: 175

### MASSES THIS WEEK

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

<b>Sat</b>	12/04/25	Lent Feria	12:30 CTK	Deacon Jack Foxall (Anni.)
			18:00 OLAM	Dan O'Donnell (RIP)
<b>Sun</b>	13/04/25	Palm Sunday of The passion of the Lord	09:30 SMM	Esther Okunbowa (RIP)
			10:00 CTK	Ken and Marian Levell (RIP)
			11:30 OLAM†	Vere Mee (RIP)
<b>Mon</b>	14/04/25	Monday of Holy Week	08:00 Con.	Tommie Berne (RIP)
<b>Tue</b>	15/04/25	Tuesday of Holy Week	08:00 Con.	PEOPLE OF THE PARISHES
			12:00 SMM	Requiem: William Shanahan
<b>Wed</b>	16/04/25	Wednesday of Holy Week	08:00 Con.	Norah O'Meara
			11:30 St Chad's	Chrism Mass
<b>Thu</b>	17/04/25	Maundy Thursday	19:00 CTK	Pat & Gill Walsh (Anni.)
			19:00 OLAM	James Green (RIP)
			11:00 CTK	Stations of the Cross with children
<b>Fri</b>	18/04/25	Good Friday	15:00 CTK/OLAM	Good Friday Liturgy
			19:00 CTK	Stations of the Cross
			10:00 CTK	Blessing of Easter Food Baskets
<b>Sat</b>	19/04/25	Holy Saturday	20:00 CTK	All known to Fr The-Quang
			20:00 OLAM	All known to Bishop David
			09:30 SMM	Michael Kelly (RIP)
<b>Sun</b>	20/04/25	Easter Sunday	10:00 CTK	Lawrence and Patricia Tams (RIP)
			11:30 OLAM	Mary Dragan (RIP)

**Pray For The Sick:** 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 Barbara Keleher, Anthony Lloyd, Bernadette MacFarlane, Bessie Melvina Harvey, Maureen Horan and Pearl Rider who passed away recently. May they rest in peace. **Funerals:** B MacFarlane: Mon 28/04/25, 11:30, OLAM; B Harvey: Tue 29/04/25, 11:30, CTK; M Horan: Thu 01/05/25, 10:45, CTK.

**SANCTUARY LAMP** is dedicated throughout April for the Cotter/the Lowe families at CTK & for the Roche family at OLAM.

**Final Lent Talks** on Mon 14/04/25 at St Margaret Mary's, 18:45, NICENE CREED – 'Crucified under Pontius Pilate'. Talk by Fr Simon Ellis

**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 29<sup>th</sup> April 2025 in the St John's Centre and will begin at 6.30 pm.**

**Choice of Masses for the conferral of Sacraments of Initiation 2025:** The Sacrament of Baptism is being celebrated on Easter Day (20<sup>th</sup> April) and on the Vigil of Pentecost (7<sup>th</sup> June in the 12.30 pm Mass). All other Sunday Masses in the Easter Season (21<sup>st</sup> April to 8<sup>th</sup> June inclusive) as well as the evening Mass on Ascension Thursday (29<sup>th</sup> 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 ((14<sup>th</sup> June) and the 11.30 am Mass at OLAM (15<sup>th</sup> 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.**

Christ the King		12 <sup>th</sup> /13 <sup>th</sup> April	19 <sup>th</sup> /20 <sup>th</sup> April
Sat 12:30	Minister of the Word	Kathleen	Maxine
	Minister of Holy Communion	Theresa	Sue
Sun 10.00	Minister of the Word	Theresa	John
	Minister of Holy Communion	Sister	Jean de Dieu



**Race Nights:** We are hoping to hold one of our popular Race Nights on Fri 16/05/25. We need Sponsors for the Races and prizes for the Raffle and the Race winners. We will give out the forms this weekend for you to fill in with the names for your Horses and Jockeys. £2 for a Horse and £1 for a Jockey to run in the race. We want 80 Horses and Jockeys and get in early as they sell quickly. Please hand the completed forms back as soon as you can. It is an excellent Fund Raiser for the Parish and lots of fun on the night. Come along and support us. Have a great night and help the Parish Finances.

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

**Intercultural Mass:** On **Sat 7<sup>th</sup> 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.**

**WeBelieve, 25<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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 – 1<sup>st</sup> March, 12:30 - 2:30 pm; Employment Skills and Work Directions – 21<sup>st</sup> March, 12:30 - 2:30 pm. To find out more, contact Rachel at 07726 486 62 or email [Rachel.Jackson@faresharemidlands.org.uk](mailto:Rachel.Jackson@faresharemidlands.org.uk).

**Free Children Activities:** three exciting days to take part in Boxing, Fencing, Creative Arts, Cooking, a WM Police Meet & Greet, and so much more! Dates: 22<sup>nd</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup>/24<sup>th</sup> April. Time: 10:00am-1:00pm. Location: St John's Centre. Open to children aged 8-16. Limited spaces available. Call 0121 386 4345 to book a place.

#### Gospel Reflection:

<https://homilysunday.com/liturgical-year-c/palm-sunday-of-the-lords-passion-a-holy-celebration/>

Few celebrations embody such stark emotional contrasts as this sacred observance. Within days, cheering people waving palms became a mob demanding crucifixion. This whiplash reveals profound truths about human nature and divine purpose.

The crowd's "Hosanna" (Matthew 21:9) and "Crucify him" (27:22) expose our fickle hearts. Like spring weather, devotion often shifts rapidly. Yet in this tension, we see Christ's steady love—applauded or abandoned.

Liturgical chant modes mirror this journey. Joyful antiphons during the procession give way to somber tones during the Passion reading. The Stabat Mater's mournful melody later captures Mary's grief, connecting personal loss with cosmic redemption.

"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (Matthew 27:46)

Modern believers know this emotional terrain. Career triumphs collapse into hospital vigils. Wedding celebrations precede divorce papers. The day teaches us to hold both joy and sorrow as sacred.

Palm branches, once symbols of victory, now remind us that true triumph comes through sacrifice. This time of year invites honest reflection—where have our praises turned to betrayal? What things in life demand such sober reckoning?

Ultimately, the contrast isn't about human failure but divine faithfulness. Whether welcomed with palms or nailed to a cross, Christ's mission remained unchanged. That consistency offers hope when our emotions waver.

The Centurion's Declaration: "Truly This Man Was the Son of God"

Amidst the chaos of crucifixion, a Roman soldier spoke words that shook history. The centurion, positioned directly before the cross, witnessed something that shattered his military worldview. His confession—"Truly this man was the son of God"—marked an extraordinary moment of clarity.

Roman centurions commanded 80-100 soldiers, embodying imperial power. They enforced Caesar's cult, requiring worship of the emperor as divine. For such an officer to declare a crucified criminal as God's son risked career and life.

Three hours of darkness and an earthquake preceded his realization. These signs mirrored Old Testament prophecies about the day of the Lord. The soldier connected cosmic events with the dying man's words:

"Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." (Luke 23:34)

Early Christians cherished this testimony. It appears in Mark's Gospel within thirty years of the event. The confession became foundational for creeds affirming Jesus' divine nature.

Modern believers face similar moments of truth. Like the centurion, we must sometimes declare unpopular convictions. His courage reminds us that revelation often comes in life's darkest hours.

The soldier's words still challenge others to reconsider who Jesus truly is. In a world valuing power over sacrifice, his declaration remains revolutionary. It invites all to see beyond surface appearances to eternal realities.