



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 post of Parish Safeguarding Representative is currently vacant. Until a new appointment is made any concerns or issues should be reported to the Diocesan Safeguarding Team on 0121 230 6240 or safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk

Hymns: E: 230; O: 86; C: 568; R: 477

MASSES THIS WEEK

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

Sat	31/05/25	Easter Feria	12:30 CTK	Neil Broth (Anni.)
			18:00 OLAM	James McNamara (RIP)
			18:30 SMM	John Buckley (RIP)
Sun	01/06/25	Seventh Sunday of Easter	09:30 SMM	Alec Grant (RIP)
			10:00 CTK	Maureen Dargan (RIP)
			11:00 SMM	Maura Omahoney (RIP)
			11:30 OLAM	Thanksgiving (JFS)
Mon	02/06/25	Easter Feria	07:30 SMM	Gracekuty Francis (RIP)
			08:00 Con.	Joseph Nghia (RIP)
Tue	03/06/25	Ss Charles Lwanga & Companions, Mem.	09:15 SMM	Sr Theresa Phelan
			12:15 CTK	Requiem: John Fitzmaurice
Wed	04/06/25	Easter Feria	08:00 Con.	P Campbell and family
			09:30 MPS	PEOPLE OF THE PARISHES
			11:00 SMM	Requiem: Catherine Compagno
Thu	05/06/25	St Boniface, Mem.	12:00 CTK	Robert Bolger (RIP)
Fri	06/06/25	Easter Feria	09:00 CTK	E Butler and family
			09:15 SMM	Fr Ronald Cosslett (RIP)
			19:00 MI	Maryvale Sacred Heart Mass
Sat	07/06/25	Easter Feria	18:00 OLAM	Antony Gilber (Anni.)
Sun	08/06/25	Solemnity of Pentecost	09:30 SMM	Billie Hiney & family (RIP)
			10:00 CTK	Daisy Glenn (RIP)
			11:00 SMM	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
			11:30 OLAM	David Gasson (RIP)
			14:00 CTK	African Mass

Pray For The Sick: 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 John Fitzmaurice, John Wallis, Teresa Downey, and Elaine Connaire who passed away recently. May they rest in peace. **Funerals:** J Fitzmaurice: Tue 03/06/25, 12:15, CTK; Ronald Crane: Thurs 12/06/25, 12:30, SMM; E Connaire: Wed 11/06/25, 13:00, CTK; J Wallis: Mon 16/06/25, 10:30, OLAM; T Downey: Wed 25/06/25, 13:00, CTK.

Sanctuary Lamp Dedication throughout May: the Clancy family at CTK & for the Foley and Ranahan families at OLAM.

Dress Rehearsals: CTK Confirmation: 6th June at 15:15 in Church. **Confirmation Dates:** CTK 14th June (12.30); OLAM 15th June (11.30).

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.**

Cluster Celebration of Pentecost: The **18.00 Mass at OLAM on 7th June** will be a concelebrated Solem Vigil for Pentecost. Deacon Gary will preach. There will be extra readings and music. After the Mass there will be light refreshments in the Maryvale Community Centre. Everybody is warmly invited and encouraged to share in this celebration.

African Mass at Pentecost: Our Catholic African Community will be facilitating another Mass in the African style on the Solemnity of Pentecost on **Sun 08/06/25 at 2pm**. Refreshments will be served afterwards. All are welcome.

Last Week's Collection CTK

Loose: £ 439.84
 Envelopes: £ 98.00
 Standing Orders £ 247.23
Total: £ 785.07

This Weekend:

2nd Collection: Catholic Communications.

Last Week's Collection OLAM

Loose: £ 201.69
 Envelopes: £ 183.00
 Standing Orders £ 94.69
Total: £ 479.38

Christ the King		31 st May/1 st June	7 th /8 th June
Sat 12:30	Minister of the Word	Kathleen	Aoife
	Minister of Holy Communion	Theresa	Sue
Sun 10.00	Minister of the Word	Patience	Angela
	Minister of Holy Communion	Marian	Sister



Safeguarding Notice: Please DO NOT enter the Sacristy unless you have responsibilities with Altar Servers or are Sacristans or accessing the WC. Messages to any of the Altar Servers can only be given politely via the MC.

A Word of Thanks: Steve Clarke and his family have moved out of the parish and so he has stepped down as our Parish Safeguarding Rep. We would like to thank Steve for his many years of service in this role. We wish him and his family every blessing following their house move.

Safeguarding Vacancy: Steve's departure from the parish leaves the post of Safeguarding Rep vacant. We cannot leave this unfilled for any length of time. Please pray hard for someone to answer the call to fulfil this vital role. If anyone already feels that they can answer that call, please speak to Fr. Thé.

Mission Boxes: Could the red mission box holders please bring their boxes to church to be emptied at your earliest convenience.

Pilgrimage to Walsingham with Birmingham Walsingham Association: Sat 27/09/25 till Mon 29/09/25. For further details please see noticeboard or ring 07710 189036 or email charlespatrickkeily@gmail.com.

We Believe, 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**. 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

First Holy Communion Preparation sessions for children attending non-Catholic Schools will run from Sun 05/10/25 until mid-June 2026. Enrolment meeting on Sun 21/09/25 at 11:15. Enquiries can be made by ringing 07732 474 470.

Food Pantry – Fri 30/05/25 at New Heights (St. John's Centre) between 11:30 am and 12:30 pm. Come along to access a range of affordable food and essentials, Everyone is welcome - no referral needed. We look forward to seeing you there!

Gospel Reflection: Fr Donagh O'Shea

The anthropologist Colin Turnbull lived for two years with a Ugandan tribe, the Ik, and described his experiences in a book called *The Mountain People* (1972). They are seen as utterly brutish, selfish and loveless. They never sing, and they laugh only at one another's misfortunes. They turn their children out to forage as soon as they can walk, and they abandon the old to starvation. They were once a normal easy-going people, but the government took over their lands to create a national park, and these hunter-gatherers were reduced to farming the poor hillside soil, at which they failed miserably. Along with their way of life they lost their culture and even their humanity. It is a depressing picture.

The biologist Lewis Thomas, in *The Lives of a Cell* (1974), sketched a theory about them – and about human beings in any society. "The solitary Ik, isolated in the ruins of an exploded culture, has built a new defence for himself. If you live in an unworkable society you can make up one of your own.... Each Ik has become a group, a one-man tribe of its own.... This is precisely the way groups... from committees to nations, behave.... In his absolute selfishness, his incapacity to give anything away, no matter what, he is a successful committee. When he stands at the door of his hut, shouting insults at his neighbours in a loud harangue, he is a city addressing another city.... Nations are the most Ik-like of all.... For total greed, rapacity, heartlessness, and irresponsibility there is nothing to match a nation. Nations, by law, are solitary, self-centred, withdrawn into themselves." He concludes, "We haven't yet learned how to stay human when assembled in masses. The Ik, in his despair, is acting out this failure, and perhaps we should pay closer attention."

There are lessons here for Christian community too. Despite hearing the Gospel, times without number, we are capable of living instead by the gospel of greed. Society breaks down around us, and we fail to create Christian community, receding into ourselves and living out our lives as solitary egos. The ego is my false identity; it is the identity I forge for myself in early childhood and build upon for the rest of my life, unless radically called into community. It is the fundamental lie about who I am. It is not really an identity, it is a strategy for survival, security and comfort. For this reason the ego cannot love, though it can produce an imitation of love, for strategic purposes. Whenever it pretends to form community with others there is a built-in flaw.

What is meaning? It is to know the fragment in relation to the whole. A madman is so-called because his talk and actions are unrelated to a wider structure. Cut a piece out of a picture and it is meaningless. Put it back and there's a thrill of recognition. This is the small thrill of jigsaw puzzles. Today many people are like isolated fragments of a jigsaw puzzle, with no desire to be part of anything. W.H. Auden once said, "We have to learn to love one another or die."

The prayer of Jesus: "that they may be one in us" has seldom been so urgent.