



## 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. Pending formal appointment, our acting Parish Safeguarding Representatives are Caroline Gorman and Angela Hooker. Until the paperwork has been completed, any concerns or issues should be reported to the Diocesan Safeguarding Team on 0121 230 6240 or [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk)

Hymns: E: 65; O: 50; C: 51; R: 301

#### MASSES THIS WEEK

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

<b>Sat</b>	19/07/25	Feria	12:30 CTK	William & Catherine Swaine (Wedding Anni.)
			18:00 OLAM	Carol Smith (Birthday)
<b>Sun</b>	20/07/25	Sixteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time	09:30 SMM	Jay Matthews (RIP)
			10:00 CTK†	Jill Loxley (RIP)
			11:00 SMM	Ronald Crane (RIP)
			11:30 OLAM	Margaret Day (RIP)
<b>Mon</b>	21/07/25	Feria	07:30 SMM	Ann Thyne (RIP)
			08:00 CTK†	Rev Jack Foxall (Anniversary of Ordination)
<b>Tue</b>	22/07/25	St Mary Magdalene, Feast	09:15 SMM	Anthony Whelan (RIP)
			<b>09:30 CTK</b>	William Byrne (sick)
<b>Wed</b>	23/07/25	St Bridget, Feast	08:00 CTK†	David Dwyer (RIP)
			09:15 SMM	Recovery of Carmel Finnegan
<b>Thu</b>	24/07/25	Feria	12:00 CTK	Anette and Richard
<b>Fri</b>	25/07/25	St James, the Greater, Feast	09:15 SMM	Celebrant's Intention
			09:30 CTK	Celestine Boyle (RIP)
<b>Sat</b>	26/07/25	Ss Joachim and Anne, Mem.	12:30 CTK	Christine Duffy (RIP)
			18.00 OLAM	John Roche (Anni.)
<b>Sun</b>	27/07/25	Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	09:30 SMM	Deacon Adrian Davies (RIP)
			10:00 CTK	Sean Butler (RIP)
			11:00 SMM	Pro Populo
			11:30 OLAM	Mary Murray (sick)

**Pray For The Sick:** Jean McCabe, Paul Cowan, Gerald, John, Josephine Brown, 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, Joanne Fields, Caitlin Hodgetts, Joan/Alan Horton, Peggy O'Donovan, Pauline O'Brien, Chris & Eddie Walsh, Elizabeth Teague, George Ferris, Christine Stephens, Margaret Coogan and Pauline Farrell.

**RIP:** Please pray for Graham Kevin Mason, Sr Marie Inglis, Angela Madigan who passed away recently. May they rest in peace. Funerals: G Mason: Wed 30/07/25, 11:00, OLAM; Sr Marie: Reception: Wed 30/7/25 at 18.30; Funeral Mass -Thu 31/07/25, 10:30, OLAM; A Madigan: Reception: Mon 04/08/25, 18:00, Funeral Mass: Tue 05/08/25, 11:00, CTK.

**Sanctuary Lamp Dedication** throughout July: The Curtin family at CTK & for the Maxwell and Butler families at OLAM.

**Well done, thou good and faithful servant:** after many, many decades of devoted and faithful service as part of the Sacristan team. Kathleen McCarty has decided that the time has come for her to hand over the reins to someone else. Kathleen's successor as Saturday Sacristan will be Patience Ikwuka. There will be a transitional period over the summer holidays. We shall organise a celebration for Kathleen to say a proper thank you to her in September. Please keep a close eye out for further announcements.

**Merger Advisory Group:** Many thanks to the parishioners who have come forward to assist Deacon Gary with the Merger Consultation. The members of this group are: Michael Collins, Noran Flynn, Sean Flynn, Wendy Gasson, Patience Ikwuka, Jadwiga Inglis, Theresa Wilkin. Our first task will be to prepare for the next key steps in the consultation process: the drop in sessions after Masses on **6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> September** and the General Meeting to be held in the St John's Centre on **21<sup>st</sup> September at 3 pm.**

**Sacramental Preparation 2025-2026:** Fr. The and Deacon Gary will be meeting with the parish catechists and our schools to develop the programmes for those in our Catholic primary schools and those in others. Next year's programmes will begin in September 2025.

**Parking Notice:** If you come to CTK Church in your car and park around the area, please do not block any driveways as the neighbours always need access.

The parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No. 234216

**Last Week's Collection CTK**

Loose: £ 278.78  
 Envelopes: £ 124.00  
 Standing Orders £ 247.23  
**Total: £ 650.01**

**Last Week's Collection OLAM**

Loose: £ 208.70  
 Envelopes: £ 223.20  
 Standing Orders £ 94.69  
**Total: £ 526.59**

Christ the King		19 <sup>th</sup> /20 <sup>th</sup> July	26 <sup>th</sup> /27 <sup>th</sup> July
Sat 12:30	Minister of the Word	Maxine	Aoife
	Minister of Holy Communion	Theresa	Sue
Sun 10.00	Minister of the Word	John	Thabani
	Minister of Holy Communion	Joyce	Joyce



**Prayer Intentions:** We pray both at mass and at home for the following intentions: A clear recognition of our need of God; a sincere commitment to follow the Way that leads us to holiness, the Truth that sets us free and the Life of grace; the honouring of the promises made by parents and individuals at Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Orders and Matrimony; the conversion of the lapsed; freedom from slavery to the modern golden calf of power, wealth, popularity ...

**We Believe, 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**. 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)

**Join March for Life UK** on Sat 6<sup>th</sup> Sept in London. The right to life underpins every other right we have and without it every other right is rendered meaningless. Unite with thousands of others at this family-friendly event where we recognise the value of life from conception and stand up for all those who have been impacted by abortion. A coach leaves from Our Lady & All Saints, Stourbridge DY8 1PQ (6.30am), The Oratory, Edgbaston B16 8UE (7.15), Holy Souls in Acocks Green, B27 6RG (7.45), Our Lady of the Wayside, Solihull, B90 4AY (8.00). Seats cost £25, payable in advance. For more info or to book a seat contact Alice: 07845 706362 [alice.grennan@googlemail.com](mailto:alice.grennan@googlemail.com)

**Christ the King School** is one of three charities up for funding by Tesco and whether they receive £500 or £1,500 depends on the votes of shoppers. It won't cost you a penny more if you shop in Tesco New Oscott. All you have to do is pick up a blue plastic token at the till and place it in the 1<sup>st</sup> clear drum clearly marked 'CTK School Computers' just past the Self Service checkouts as you leave. Your token could just make all the difference to our school children.

**Gospel Commentary:** Fr Donagh O'Shea

Many people are now familiar with the work of Andrei Rublev (c.1360 – c.1430), the great Russian icon painter, and in particular with his 'Old Testament Trinity': picturing the three angels welcomed by Abraham (Genesis 18). Christians see this scene as a prefiguring of the Christian doctrine of the Trinity. This icon is also called 'Welcome to the Stranger'. Anyone praying with this icon for any length of time will feel that the invitation is somehow mutual: the three figures are inviting you to sit at table with them – the table has four sides; you are invited into the life of God.

In the gospel reading, Jesus is welcomed into the house of Martha and Mary. The link between the two readings is hospitality. Like the three Genesis figures, Jesus is a wanderer, a pilgrim; and he is invited into the house. (The disciples on the road to Emmaus also met him as a wanderer, and invited him in: see Luke 24.)

The two sisters' style of hospitality is very different: Mary just sits in his presence, Martha wants to have everything right for him. Mary gives him nothing but her attention, Martha gives him everything except her attention. He was usually surrounded by crowds: sometimes the bustle was so great that the disciples hardly had time to eat (Mk 6:31). But now the sisters had him all to themselves and could question him and listen to him without interruptions, away from the din of controversy. It was not a moment to be missed. But Martha missed it, through her very eagerness to have everything right for him.

It is a familiar story. There is a recognised type called 'compulsive helpers', who don't consider what you want but what they want for you. Of course no one knows how much of this applies to Martha, but it applies to people you and I know. This type of person needs to be needed, so they hover, meddle, and control; they want others to depend on them; they are generous, but they expect a return for what they do for you; they sacrifice themselves, but you hear all about it; some of them are good at making people feel guilty, and they have a knack of making others look somewhat helpless. What they fear most of all is that they might not be needed, so any show of independence from you brings out the worst in them. Meanwhile they are peculiarly blind to their own motivation, and they feel overlooked and victimised by others. They need to be needed – but more fundamentally they need to be loved.

Still, in John 11:5 it is down in black and white that "Jesus loved Martha," and her sister Mary and brother Lazarus. This makes it clear that Jesus valued active service and not only contemplation. The story of Martha and Mary comes directly after the story of the Good Samaritan (last Sunday's gospel reading). No doubt he saw her strengths, and he knew what remedy to apply to her shortcomings.

In the past there was an unfortunate tendency in the Church to see monastic contemplative life as a "higher" form of the Christian life. Every form of the Christian life is beset with its own problems. The ego is able to burrow in anywhere, and the contemplative ego is no better than the active, and frequently not half as good.

In John, chapter 11 it took a crisis to show another difference between Martha and Mary, and this time it was Martha who looked good. Their 'high' and 'low' stations were reversed. The crisis was their brother's death. There Martha shines; she went out to meet the Lord where he was to be met, and had a profound conversation with him, while "Mary stayed sitting in her house." You can take her 'house' to mean her inner self. The besetting problem with contemplatives is that they can come to love their own interiority above all else: above their neighbour, and even above the Lord. There is no hospitality there, but a terrible staleness; and this is the ego's trademark. For you never know where hospitality will take you. "Let me tell you, that to approach the stranger is to invite the unexpected..." (T.S. Eliot)