



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

Hymns: E: 17; O: 356; C: 329; R: 293

MASSES THIS WEEK

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

Sat	02/08/25	Feria	12:30 CTK	Theresa Douglas
			18:00 OLAM	John Clarke (RIP)
Sun	03/08/25	Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	09:30 SMM	Seamus McDermott (RIP)
			10:00 CTK†	The Holder family (RIP)
			11:00 SMM	Pro Populo
			11:30 OLAM	Michael Mulleady (RIP)
Mon	04/08/25	St John Mary Vianney, Mem.	07:30 SMM	Celebrant's Intention
			08:00 Con.†	Steven Teague (RIP)
Tue	05/08/25	Feria	09:15 SMM	Patricia Harvey (RIP)
			11:00 CTK	Funeral Mass: Angela Madigan
Wed	06/08/25	Feast of the Transfiguration	08:00 Con.†	Fr Gerard Kelly
			09:15 SMM	Celebrant's Intention
			11:00 SMM	Funeral Mass: James McKeever
Thu	07/08/25	Feria	12:00 CTK	Kathleen Rice (RIP)
Fri	08/08/25	St Dominic, Mem.	10:00 OLAM	Funeral Mass: Teresa Webb
			09:15 SMM	Ann Thynne (RIP)
Sat	09/08/25	St Teresa Benedicta, Feast	12:30 CTK	Evelyn & Michael Kelly (RIP)
			18:00 OLAM	Betty Guest (RIP)
Sun	10/08/25	Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	09:30 SMM	Anthony O'Reilly (RIP)
			10:00 CTK	Stan Gniadkowski (RIP)
			11:00 SMM	Celebrant's Intention
			11:30 OLAM	Kathleen Boyle (RIP)

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 Angela Madigan and Teresa Webb who passed away recently. May they rest in peace. Funerals: A Madigan: Reception: Mon 04/08/25, 18:00, Funeral Mass: Tue 05/08/25, 11:00, CTK; T Webb: Reception: Thu 07/08/25, 16:00, Funeral Mass: Fri 08/08/25, 10:00, OLAM.

Sanctuary Lamp Dedication throughout August: The Frawley family at CTK & for the Phipps/Thompson families at OLAM.

Holy Hour: The next parish Holy Hour will be on Sunday 31st August at 3 pm. During Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, we shall have readings and worship. The Holy Hour will conclude with Benediction.

Sacramental Preparation 2025-2026: Fr. Thé 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.

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.

Last Week's Collection CTK

Loose: £ 251.19
 Envelopes: £ 126.00
 Standing Orders £ 247.23
Total: £ 624.42

Last Week's Collection OLAM

Loose: £ 258.26
 Envelopes: £ 214.50
 Standing Orders £ 94.69
Total: £ 567.45

Christ the King		2 nd /3 rd August	9 th /10 th August
Sat 12:30	Minister of the Word	Kathleen	Maxine
	Minister of Holy Communion	Theresa	Sue
Sun 10.00	Minister of the Word	Theresa	Patience
	Minister of Holy Communion	Angela	Sister



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 ...

Merger Advisory Group: The first meeting of the Merger Advisory Group will be on Friday 8th August at 10 am in the Guild Room. The main items on the agenda will be the preparations for the next stage of the parish consultation on 6th and 7th September and for the next General Meeting of the Cluster on 21st September. If you have any questions about the merger in the meantime, please don't wait for those September meetings but speak to a member of the Group and we will add them to our agenda.

Marriage Help: Retrouvaille helps couples find hope and healing for their marriage. Next date 17th-19th Oct. For further details please visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk or ring 07887 296983.

First Holy Communion Preparation for children attending Non-Catholic Schools: Parents of Catholic children attending non-Catholic schools who would like their children to make their First Holy Communion are invited to the Enrolment meeting on Sun 21/09/25 at 11:15 in the CTK Guildroom. The course is from Sun 05/10/25 until mid-June 2026. Enquiries can be made of the Parish Catechist on 07732 474470.

Diocesan Novena for the Canonisation of Blessed Dominic Barberi: Mon 18/08/25 marks the beginning of the Diocesan Novena to pray for the Canonisation of Blessed Dominic Barberi. The Novena of Prayer lasts for nine days and concludes on his feast day on Tue 26/08/25. Blessed Dominic arrived in the Archdiocese in February 1842. He spent the next seven years based at Aston Hall in Staffordshire, from where he celebrated Mass, preached Missions, heard confessions, and received many people into the Catholic Church, the most famous being St John Henry Newman in October 1845. Blessed Dominic had a well-known reputation for sanctity and holiness of life. He is also remembered for his love for the poor, and those in need of prayer and help. Novena Prayer: O God, who so lovingly raised Blessed Dominic to the heights of holiness, learning and apostolic zeal and made him a powerful minister of your mercy, listen to our humble request. We pray that you will in your goodness, grant a miracle through the intercession of Blessed Dominic, so that the Church may further honour him on earth and that many more people will come to know and invoke the help of this faithful servant of the Church. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Gospel Commentary: Fr Donagh O'Shea: The vision of Ecclesiastes (also known as Qoheleth the Preacher) in the first reading at today's Mass is a particularly bleak one. It still appeals greatly to people with a pessimistic turn of mind. "I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun; and see, all is vanity and a chasing of the wind" (1:14). Scholars say it represents an era of crisis in biblical history, a period of self-questioning; and that through it came a deepening of the spirit. If so, then we can hope that the same may be true of our own times.

No one can deny that there is truth in what Qoheleth says. We all give ourselves (and others) a lot of agony about words and thoughts, privileges and possessions and appearances.... We are capable of ruining our health, our peace of mind and the peace of our homes for nothing. "Vanity of vanities!"

Jesus takes up this theme in the gospel reading, expressing it typically as a story. But there is a difference. Qoheleth says the rich man is foolish because he "must leave all to someone who has not worked for it." In other words, he is foolish to have worked, because he cannot enjoy all the fruits of it himself. Jesus said the rich man is foolish because he does not "amass for God," or "make himself rich in the sight of God," or "build up treasure in heaven." These expressions meant almsgiving (see Luke 12:33; 16:9).

Though these two seem similar in ways, they are worlds apart. Qoheleth's is a self-centred world that has become disillusioned with itself, but which doesn't even consider the possibility of unselfishness. It is doubly bleak. The world of Jesus is a world of spontaneous self-giving. These two worlds are still in existence, and still competing for our minds and hearts. How does one calculate one's wealth? Usually we calculate it by checking how much we have, but the saints tell us we should calculate it by checking how much we have given away. The psychology of possession is full of contradictions. If you collect a million euro, are you happy then? The chances are that you are not; the collecting has done something to you, it has captured your mind and imagination; you want to continue collecting; you have become a collector, just warming to the task. So you try to collect another million and another... you will never finish collecting. What is it all about? What is it for? What are you adding to yourself? You are adding zeros! What is the difference between one million and ten million? Just another zero. What a way to cheat oneself! - so much work for zero! Instead be a giver, the Gospel tells us. Know the joy of giving. This you will know only by doing it, not by thinking about it.

With greed, there are no winners. The greedy are damaging not only themselves but others. To picture the imbalance of wealth in the world, imagine the world as a village of 100 people, with all the existing population ratios remaining the same. One person (1% of the population) would control 50% of all the entire village's wealth.

The imbalances of the world are now truly drastic, and the cult of greed is destroying the earth's populations - and now even the earth itself. That is the real "vanity of vanities."