



## 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: 242; O: 372; C: 464; R: 369

#### MASSES THIS WEEK

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

<b>Sat</b>	16/08/25	Feria	12:30 CTK	Elizabeth McKenna (Anni.)
			18:00 OLAM	Lily May McDonald (RIP)
<b>Sun</b>	17/08/25	Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time	09:30 SMM	Bena Kansara (RIP)
			10:00 CTK†	Delia Byrne (RIP)
			11:00 SMM	Celebrant's intention
			11:30 OLAM	The Fox family (RIP)
<b>Mon</b>	18/08/25	Feria	07:30 SMM	Maria Agendia (RIP)
			08:00 Con.†	Linda Wallis (get well)
<b>Tue</b>	19/08/25	Feria	09:15 SMM	Amanda Farragher (RIP)
			09:30 CTK	Mrs Watson
<b>Wed</b>	20/08/25	St Bernard of Clairvaux Doctor of the Church, Mem.	08:00 Con.†	John Walsh (RIP)
			11:15 SMM	Funeral Mass: Michael Maughan
<b>Thu</b>	21/08/25	St Pius X, Mem	12:00 CTK	Brendan Courtney (RIP)
<b>Fri</b>	22/08/25	Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mem.	09:15 SMM	Peggy Hyde (get well)
			09:30 CTK	Carol Smith (get well)
<b>Sat</b>	23/08/25	St. John Wall, Priest and Martyr, Mem.	12:30 CTK	Anette and Richard
			18:00 OLAM	Dave, Mark and Darren McLoughlin (RIP)
<b>Sun</b>	24/08/25	Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time	09:30 SMM	Maureen Dargan (RIP)
			10:00 CTK	Angela Madigan (RIP)
			11:00 SMM	Celebrant's Intention
			11:30 OLAM	David Cotton & family (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 Margaret Swain, Edmund McGrath & Christopher Harrison who passed away recently. May they rest in peace.

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

**Coffee after 10.00 Mass at CTK on 17<sup>th</sup> August:** To help us celebrate socially the Confirmations which have been celebrated sacramentally today, the Polish Welfare Association have baked some more cakes to accompany our coffee after Mass. Please join us and the families in the St John's Centre.

**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.

**Parish Pastoral Council:** The next meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council will be on **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> September at 7 pm** in the **Guild Room**. As always, any member of the Parish is most welcome to speak to any Parish Councillor about any item they would like the Parish Pastoral Council to discuss.

**Well done, thou good and faithful servant:** John McCarthy retires both as the Chair of the Parish Pastoral Council and as a member of it on 17<sup>th</sup> September. We thank him for all his hard work in helping the Council grow into an effective body within the parish. John will be speaking next weekend (23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> September) about the process for nominations to the Parish Council. Please consider offering yourself for this vital role.

**Last Week's Collection CTK**

Loose: £ 292.95  
 Envelopes: £ 146.00  
 Standing Orders £ 247.23  
**Total: £ 686.18**

**Last Week's Collection OLAM**

Loose: £ 199.43  
 Envelopes: £ 123.95  
 Standing Orders £ 94.69  
**Total: £ 418.07**

Christ the King		16 <sup>th</sup> /17 <sup>th</sup> August	23 <sup>rd</sup> /24 <sup>th</sup> August
Sat 12:30	Minister of the Word	Theresa	Aoife
	Minister of Holy Communion	Sue	Theresa
Sun 10.00	Minister of the Word	Angela	John
	Minister of Holy Communion	Marian	Joyce



**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.

**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 Guild room. The course is from Sun 05/10/25 until mid-June 2026. Enquiries can be made of Claire in the parish office on 0121 3730988 Monday-Friday 9am-1pm.

**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.

**24-hour Birmingham and Solihull mental health support launched - BBC News**

If you live in Birmingham or Solihull and you're feeling sad, worried or lonely, we have a safe space to chat. Text the word 'Space' to 85258 to talk about your feelings with a mental health professional. Texting 'Space' to 85258 is free and confidential. After you send your text, you'll first get four automated messages from Shout. As soon as one is free, a mental health professional will send you a message to introduce themselves and ask how you're feeling. You can tell them privately anything that's upsetting you and only need to share what you want. They will listen to how you're feeling, talk to you about it and help you make a plan for what to do after the chat ends. Conversations usually last between 45 minutes and one hour and end when you feel calmer. If you ever need to look back, your conversation will be saved in your messages. Shout is here 24/7 if you ever want to text again.

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

Hindu scriptures (sutras) begin with the word 'Athato', 'Now'. The Brahmasutra begins 'Athato Brahma jigyaasa': 'Now the enquiry into God'. Before Vatican II the Latin liturgy prefixed the words 'In illo tempore' ('At that time') to every gospel reading. This was quite gratuitous, for they don't occur in the gospel passages. We know the importance of the historical events in the Christian faith, but liturgy is not history; it is a re-enactment of those events in the present, the Now. It was a bad approach (and it was also bog Latin).

The past has great attractions. It has all happened already, and so it is unlikely to disturb us. It is when we are most lazy and self-satisfied that we are most conservative. Everyone is a conservative for an hour or two after dinner.

It is strange that in most parts of the world the Christian faith (in mainline Churches at least) has come to stand for everything that is safe and conservative. As Philip Brooks wrote, "The religion of Jesus has so long been identified with conservatism... that it is startling sometimes to remember that all the conservatives of his own times were against him; that it was the young, free, restless, sanguine, progressive part of the people who flocked to him." It may be for the same reason that they now flock out of the Church. It has no fire in its belly, no power of prophecy, because it is more interested in conserving the past than in engaging with the world around it. In the past the Church failed to be prophetic about the abolition of slavery and torture and the persecution of Jews, and about democracy and religious freedom.

In 1864 Pope Pius IX condemned as heretical the very suggestion that "The Roman Pontiff can and ought to reconcile himself and come to terms with progress, liberalism and modern civilisation." The same pope condemned the view that "everyone is free to embrace and profess that religion which, guided by the light of reason, he shall consider true," (Syllabus of Errors, 15), and also the view that non-Catholics in Catholic countries should be permitted to "enjoy the public exercise of their own peculiar worship" (78). These were heresies, he said, from "the synagogue of Satan." A hundred years later, Vatican II promulgated a decree on religious freedom, Dignitatis Humanae: "This Vatican Council declares that the human person has a right to religious freedom.... In faithfulness to the truth of the Gospel, the Church is following the way of Christ and the apostles when she recognises and gives support to the principle of religious freedom as befitting human dignity and as being in accord with divine revelation" (nos. 2 and 12). This was a significant swing from entrenchment to engagement.

It is dangerous, I believe, to think of faith as something one 'has', a possession. If you are in secure possession of it you are safe; then all you have to do is be careful not to lose it. There are all sorts of influences out there that could make you lose your faith, so you have to avoid them like the plague. But faith is something one does. "I have come to bring fire on earth." What is fire? Is it just some 'thing' lying there safely, needing to be protected on all sides? No, it is energy, and it is not safe to have it around. If it makes you feel safe, it is not faith.