



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) and
Rev. Mr. Dominic Fahey (dcn.dominic.fahey@rcaob.org.uk)

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

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

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

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and National and Archdiocesan policies and procedures at all times. Pending formal appointment, our Parish Safeguarding Representative for CTK is Caroline Gorman and our acting rep for OLAM is Angela Hooker. To report concerns or issues at CTK email Caroline on sg.christ-theking.bham@rcaob.org.uk. Until the paperwork has been completed, any concerns or issues at OLAM should be reported to the Diocesan Safeguarding Team on **0121 230 6240** or safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk

Hymns: E: 67; O: 195; C: 312; R: 105

MASSES THIS WEEK

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

Sat	08/11/25	Feria in Ordinary Time	12:30 CTK	Alan Broth (Anni.)
			18:00 OLAM†	Helena Trapzo (RIP)
Sun	09/11/25	Dedication of the Lateran Basilica, Feast (Remembrance Sunday)	09:30 SMM	Eileen McDermott (RIP)
			10:00 CTK	Luke and Delia Byrne (RIP)
			11:00 SMM	Requiem Mass for the fallen
			11:30 OLAM	Alun Richards (RIP)
Mon	10/11/25	St Leo the Great, Mem. (Yr 1, Wk 32)	07:30 SMM	Special Intention
			08:00 Con.†	Liam Curran (RIP)
Tue	11/11/25	St Martin of Tours, Mem.	08:00 Con.	Mary Bostock (RIP)
			09:15 SMM	Jamie Arrowsmith (RIP)
Wed	12/11/25	St Josaphat, Mem.	08:00 Con.†	Kathleen Vincent
			09:15 SMM	Christopher Calland (RIP)
Thu	13/11/25	Feria in Ordinary Time	12:00 CTK	Granier Tiernan
Fri	14/11/2025	Feria in Ordinary Time	09:00 CTK	Maura Ranahan (RIP)
			09:15 SMM	Holy Souls
Sat	15/11/2025	Feria in Ordinary Time	12:30 CTK	Kath Rice (RIP)
			18:00 OLAM	Agnes Cronin (RIP)
Sun	16/11/2025	33 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	09:30 SMM	Debra Donaghue (RIP)
			10:00 CTK	Frank King (Anni.)
			11:00 SMM	Pro populo
			11:30 OLAM	Sr Marie Inglis (RIP)

Safeguarding Notice: When there are altar servers under the age of 18 in the Servers' Sacristy at CTK only parishioners such as Sacristans, Stewards and others with necessary and legitimate business should go into the Servers' Sacristy. Parishioners should not gather in there for conversation.. If you need to speak to Fr. Thé or Deacon Gary before Mass, please catch them whilst they are out in the main body of the Church or at the door after Mass. Please bear in mind that responsibility for Safeguarding is shared by us all.

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 Walsh, Elizabeth Teague, Christine Stephens, Margaret Coogan, Sadie Kennelly, Michael and Sarah Deane, Peter Hadland, Margaret Head.

RIP: Please pray for Michael Gunn, Eddie Walsh who died recently. May they rest in peace.

Funerals: M Gunn: Tue 25/11/25, 11:00 at OLAM; E Walsh: Mon 17/11/25, 10:30 at CTK.

November Grave Blessings: Witton Cemetery: 9 November, 2 pm; Rectory Rd Cemetery: 9 November, 2pm

Formation for the Ministry of the Word: the Cluster is very fortunate to have a number of new people coming forward to offer themselves as Ministers of the Word. Formation for this ministry in the Church will take place both on **16th November and on 23rd November** in each case starting at 3 pm in the St John's Centre. Anyone who has not yet made themselves known to Deacon Gary but would wish to be considered for this ministry is very welcome to attend these sessions and get a taste of what the ministry involves both in terms of preparation before Mass and the exercise of the ministry during it. The intention is to commission new ministers for service on the 1st Sunday of Advent (29th/30th November).

Sanctuary Lamp Dedication throughout November at CTK is dedicated to the McBride family, and at OLAM to the Holland & McCormack families.

Christ the King		8 th /9 th Nov	15 th /16 th Nov
Sat 12:30	Minister of the Word	Maxine	Aoife
	Minister of Holy Communion	Theresa	Sue
Sun 10.00	Minister of the Word	Patience	John
	Minister of Holy Communion	Joyce	Angela



Next Meeting of the Merger Advisory Group: This will take place on 12th November at 7 pm in the St John's Centre.

The Crucified Christ and the Rocking-Horse Catholic: The Christology of Caryl Houselander

Invitation from St Mary's College, Oscott: Free lecture on The Christology of Caryl Houselander, a remarkable modern-day mystic. Thursday 13 November, 7.15pm – 8.30pm. To be given by Fr Andrew Allman, Vice Rector.

Safeguarding Sunday, 16 November: Parishes across the Archdiocese are encouraged to support this awareness-raising campaign organised by Christian Safeguarding Charity Thirtyone:eight. This year the theme of the campaign is 'Action Speaks Louder' – encouraging churches to not just talk about safeguarding but to take positive action towards creating safer places. Parishes are encouraged to register their involvement for this year and access resources.

Christmas Fete: This year's fete will be on **Saturday 29th November 2025 2pm-5pm**. We are asking for donations of any kind particularly bottles of drinks and chocolates. There is still time to put your name forward to volunteer. For donations drop off please speak to Claire in the parish office Monday-Friday 9am-1pm.

New Heights: New Heights Community Project are looking for caring volunteers to join them in supporting local families and individuals within the following roles: Assist in the food pantry, support youth and senior programs and help with events, cleaning, or maintenance. Whether you can give a few hours a week or help at special events, your time and talents will make a real difference; If you feel you have some time to spare for such important tasks within our community please contact Joanna Joanna.Howl@new-heights.org.uk Tel: 0121 386 4345 or stop by at New Heights Centre. New Heights also offer a **Telephone Befriending Service**. A regular call from one of our lovely volunteers, providing a friendly space for conversation and a listening ear to anyone who may be feeling isolated. If you or someone you know would benefit from a weekly befriending call, contact us on 0121 386 4345 or email enquiries@new-heights.org.uk we'd love to hear from you.

Save the Date for the Annual Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2026 with the Archdiocese of Birmingham, Monday 25 to Saturday 30 May 2026 under the leadership of His Grace, Archbishop Bernard Longley and Bishop David Evans. You are invited to make initial enquiries about the pilgrimage via the Lourdes Administrator, Kath White: admin.lourdes@rcaob.org.uk or call 0121 230 6288.

Remembrance Sunday (Fr Ryan Service, St Francis & St Augustine Churches, Kenilworth)

There's rosemary, that's for remembrance". Shakespeare places these words on Ophelia's lips before she faces her watery grave. For Ophelia, rosemary is an aide-mémoire as she remembers and hopes to be remembered.

November is a month associated with memory since the words "we will remember" echo throughout our places of worship and civic centres. Engaging in collective moments of remembrance calls to mind the human face of conflict and is a concrete sign that war is never unpeopled.

Memory, though, is not magic: it does not preclude pain. Yet, as Pope Francis previously encouraged us: "think not only of the need to remember the atrocities, but also all those who...chose the part of solidarity, forgiveness and fraternity. To remember goodness is also a healthy thing". We recall the victims, lives lost, the destruction but also the breakthroughs and the victory of a humanity revealing itself against dehumanising forces.

As November prepares us for the coming festivities of Christmas, we are mindful of family members who are no longer with us. It might not be rosemary, but a song, smell, or saying that prompts a reflective moment and a prayer. In their memory let us embrace again the noble task and effort of being human and recognise our responsibility in upholding the humanity of others. It falls to us.

Gospel Commentary: Fr Donagh O'Shea

'St John Lateran' is a church in Rome, not a person. In the words carved in front, it is the "mother and head of all the churches of Rome and the world" - omnium urbis et orbis Ecclesiarum mater et caput. It is the pope's official ecclesiastical seat in Rome (St Peter's in the Vatican is not a cathedral), and the popes resided there for many centuries. The original was the first Christian church building. The ground for it was donated by the Emperor Constantine early in the 4th century. It was rebuilt four or five times. The Vandals wrecked it in the 5th century, an earthquake did the same in the 9th, two fires destroyed it at different times in the 14th, and there was little left of the original when the interior was redone in the 17th century. The statues that line the centre isle are so massive in scale that you feel like an ant as you walk there.

What are we doing when we make a fuss about a church building in Rome? We are thinking symbolically. A church – any church – is a symbol of a believing community, just as a house is a symbol of the self. Johann Tauler said, "We must go into our house, our souls..." We search for God there, and God searches for us. This is not usually a peaceful process: "God ransacks the house," Tauler said, "throwing aside one thing after another as he tries to find us." Any church building is a symbol of a believing community – but in this case, it is a symbol of the entire Christian community.

But churches all look so finished; the seeking and finding seem to be long over; there is nothing there to express the drama of the great search. Those massive statues, especially, say nothing about searching; they are all about assertion. Too much assertion and emphasis can frighten away a seeker. We cannot be brow-beaten into faith; when we are, it is someone else's belief we end up with, not our own. Then it is just that: belief, not faith. You can pick up and drop beliefs at will; they are like clothes that are in and out of fashion. But faith is something deeper and more difficult; it does not come cheap: it is God's gift, given freely, but it becomes ours only through our own search. God comes searching for us, Tauler said, as we search for God. God searches for us in all our ragged imperfection. amidst our unfinished business.