



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 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: 175; O: 414; C: 131; R: 290

MASSES THIS WEEK

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

Sat	22/11/2025	Feria in Ordinary Time	12:30 CTK	Agnes Cronin (RIP)
			18:00 OLAM	Benny McGinn (Anni.)
Sun	23/11/2025	Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King Of The Universe	09:30 SMM	Mario Romeiro (RIP)
			10:00 CTK†	Sheila Di Piazza (RIP), Marian Baran (RIP)
			11:00 SMM	John Hunter (RIP)
			11:30 OLAM	Teresa Webb (RIP)
Mon	24/11/25	St Andrew Dũng Lac and Companions, Martyrs, Mem.	07:30 SMM	Celebrant's Intention
			08:00 Con.†	John Roche (RIP)
Tue	25/11/25	Feria in Ordinary Time	09:15 SMM	Celebrant's Intention
			09:30 MPS	Brendon Reily (RIP)
			11:00 OLAM	Funeral Service: Michael Gunn
Wed	26/11/25	Feria in Ordinary Time	08:00 Con.†	Peggy McCallion (RIP)
			09:15 SMM	Celebrant's Intention
Thu	27/11/25	Feria in Ordinary Time	12:00 CTK	Daniel Keogh (Senior) (RIP)
Fri	28/11/2025	Feria in Ordinary Time	09:00 CTK	Maura Ranahan (RIP)
			09:15 SMM	Celebrant's Intention
Sat	29/11/25	Feria in Ordinary Time	12:30 CTK	Mary Hall (Anni.)
			18:00 OLAM	Mary Keogh (Anni.)
Sun	30/11/2025	1 st Sunday of Advent	09:30 SMM	Celebrant's Intention
			10:00 CTK	Kathleen Vincent (Anni.)
			11:00 SMM	Celebrant's Intention
			11:30 OLAM†	Bishop David Oakley (B'day)

Pray For The Sick: Jean McCabe, Paul Cowan, Gerald, John, Josephine Brown, John/Sandra Mageean, Sadie Pulido, Sarah McCallion, Claire/Mark, Carole Smith, 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, Elizabeth Teague, Christine Stephens, Margaret Coogan, Sadie Kennelly, Michael and Sarah Deane, Peter Hadland, Margaret Head.

RIP: Please pray for Jennifer Harrison, Mary McKeown who died recently. May they rest in peace.

Funerals: M McKeown: Wed 03/12/25, 11:00 at CTK; J Harrison: Fri 05/12/25, 11:00 at CTK.

Celebration of Confirmation: Please pray for Chloe and Jason who will be confirmed by Bishop David at the 10.00 Mass at CTK this weekend.

Christmas Masses: The schedule of Christmas Masses from 24th December to 1st January inclusive is on a poster at the back of Church additional copies of which are available for you to take home.

Formation for the Ministry of the Word: Formation for this ministry in the Church will continue **on 23rd November** in each case starting at 3 pm in the St John's Centre. The focus of this session is a preview of the Readings for Advent and Christmas as well as the practical craft of proclaiming the Word. The intention is to commission new ministers for service on the 1st Sunday of Advent (29th/30th November).

Walk With Me Book and Calendar: are available for use during Advent this weekend.

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

Last Week's Collection CTK

Loose: £ 121.00
 Envelopes: £ 341.65
 Standing Orders £ 247.23
Total: £ 709.88

Second Collection Today
 Diocesan Youth Service

Last Week's Collection OLAM

Loose: £ 200.00
 Envelopes: £ 220.78
 Standing Orders £ 94.69
Total: £ 515.47

	Christ the King	22 nd /23 rd Nov	29 th /30 th Nov
Sat 12:30	Minister of the Word	Maxine	Kathleen
	Minister of Holy Communion	Theresa	Sue
Sun 10.00	Minister of the Word	Christ the King PS	Theresa
	Minister of Holy Communion	Sister	



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.

International Carol Service : Come and join our international Carol Service held on **Sunday 14th December at 4pm** in Christ the King Church. The celebration will feature carols from the English, Polish and African community. Children are invited too dress as Nativity Characters. Everyone from all nationalities is welcome and can bring simple instruments and to join in with the music group. Let's help make this a vibrant and festive occasion.

Christmas Fete: This year's fete will be on **Saturday 29th November 2025 2pm-5pm**. As always we would really appreciate it if you can donate anything you can, particularly bottles of drinks and chocolate. For 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.

Gospel Commentary: Fr Donagh O'Shea

In all four gospels Pilate asked Jesus, "Are you the king of the Jews?" At that moment it was Pilate who was sitting on a throne of judgment, and Jesus was a manacled prisoner before him, totally at his mercy, and soon to be put to death. When Christians assert that Christ is king they are not associating him with secular images of power; it is absurd to imagine him lined up with Henry VIII, for example, or Louis XIV or Leopold II, or with almost any king we have ever seen or read about. Christians were persecuted by the Roman Empire for repeating that Christ was Lord and King, because this was taken to mean that he was looking for what Caesar had. But Jesus is the exact opposite of an earthly king. When the feast of Christ the King was added to the Church's calendar in 1925 it was to make a statement about the hollow pretensions of Mussolini, who at that time had been ruling Italy for three years, and about the rising power of Hitler's Nazi Party, founded in 1920, and about all dictatorships.

The crown that Christ wears is a crown of thorns. To call Christ our king is a subversive declaration, as it was for the early Christians; it is to say that anyone who presumes to lead us must be prepared, like him, to wear a crown of thorns. It is to situate oneself in the tradition of the Hebrew prophets who declared that leaders must be shepherds of the people, caring for them, dealing wisely, and doing justice in the land. When Israel was about to choose its first king, God warned them through the prophet Samuel that a king would lord it over them, tax them harshly, and promote inequality and injustice. And that is what most of their kings did. We have to ask whether it is what the majority of kings, emperors, and political leaders have done throughout history.

Christ is Emmanuel, a name that means "God-with-us". He journeys with his people, leading us through the wilderness of our life, into death and beyond. It was when he was hanging on the cross that he was recognised by the thief, who asked to be admitted into his kingdom.

The 19th-century Danish sculptor Thorvaldsen made a clay model for a statue of Christ the King, the arms raised in triumph. But the weight of the soft clay was too much for the inner structure, and in the morning when he entered the studio he saw that the arms had sagged downwards. At first he was deeply disappointed, but when he looked at it again he saw that it now expressed something deeper than triumph; it expressed welcome and forgiveness.

The Preface to the Eucharistic Prayer at today's Mass describes Christ as wanting to present to his Father "an eternal and universal kingdom: a kingdom of truth and life, a kingdom of holiness and grace, a kingdom of justice, love, and peace." We cannot but notice that the world is not really like that. That's the bad news. The good news is that there are seeds of this glory everywhere - and sometimes even fruit. Worldly kingdoms are built on power and wealth. But where we see forgiveness we are seeing the kingdom of God. Deep inside the black heart of the world at its worst, the seed of God's word is stirring with new life. "The kingdom of God is among you," Jesus said (Luke 17:21). But we are still very far from seeing the harvest, so we have to pray, "May your kingdom come!" (Matthew 6:10).