



The Parishes of Our Lady of the Assumption, Maryvale and Christ the King, Kingstanding



Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. The-Quang Nguyen
124 Warren Farm Road, Kingstanding, Birmingham B44 0QN

Monastery: 99 Old Oscott Hill
Kingstanding, Birmingham, B44 9SR
Email: sistersofthebvm@gmail.com

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

Parish Deacons: Rev. Mr. Dominic Fahey, Rev. Mr. Gary O'Brien
Websites: www.christ-theking.org.uk & <http://www.maryvale.org.uk>

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and National and Archdiocesan policies and procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Stephen Clarke. He can be contacted at sg.christ-theking.bham@rcaob.org.uk Alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk

Hymns: E: 84; S: 199; O: 82; C: 460; R: 473

MASSES THIS WEEK

Sat 18/05/24	Easter Feria	10:00 Mon.	Bartholomew Pham (RIP)
		10:00 CTK	First Holy Communion CTK
		12:00 CTK	First Holy Communion CTK
		18:00 OLAM	Yvonne Cowman (RIP)
Sun 19/05/24	Solemnity of Pentecost	10:00 CTK	Wesley Patrick Bye (Anni)
		11:30 OLAM†	Owen Francis Benedict O'Brien
Mon 20/05/24	Mary, Mother of the Church, Mem.	08:00 Con.†	Private Intention
		09:30 Mon.	Requiem: Sr Rosemary Clare
		14:00 MPS	People of the parishes
Tue 21/05/24	Feria in Ordinary Time	09:30 Mon.	George Radford (RIP)
		12:00 CTK	Kevin & Vera Byrne (get well)
Wed 22/05/24	Feria in Ordinary Time	08:00 Con.†	Priests/Nuns/Old People & Young Children
		09:30 Mon.	Jim (Christy) Ranahan (Anni.)
Thu 23/05/24	Our Lord Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest, Feast	09:30 Mon.	Eileen Gilsean (Birthday Anni.)
		12:00 CTK	Janina & Krystyna
Fri 24/05/24	Feria in Ordinary Time	09:00 CTK	Betty Kavanagh (RIP)
		10:30 Mon.	Paul and Joseph (RIP)
Sat 25/05/24	St. Bede the Venerable, Priest, Doctor of the Church, Mem.	10:00 Mon.	Dang & Nguyen families
		12:30 CTK	Arthur McKeown (Anni.)
		18:00 OLAM	Sr Marie Inglis
Sun 26/05/24	Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity	10:00 CTK	Mary Cassidy (Anni.)
		11:30 OLAM	Joan & Eric Fielding (Anni)

Bible Study with Deacon Dominic Fahey in the Guild Room at Christ The King **every Thursday** at 7:00pm.

Rosary Group: meeting **every Wednesday** in Christ the King Church at 1:30pm.

Pray For The Sick: Monique Hunt, Luke Byrne, Jean McCabe, Muriel/Paul Cowan, Gerald, John, Jo Brown, Sr Marie, John/Sandra Mageean, Sadie Pulido, Mary McGee, Sarah McCallion, Claire/Mark, Carole Smith, Alan Rowan, Jo Teece, Mary Ann Gniadkowski, Niamh O'Reilly, Alberto Bolongaro, Kyle Billing, Nicola Jones, Patricia Nash, Teresa Webb, Angela Madigan, Carol Timmis, Joanne Fields, Caitlin Hodgetts, Debbie Davis, Joan/Alan Horton, Fr Michael Ho, Peggy O'Donovan, Pauline O'Brien, Annette Molloy, Chris & Eddie Walsh, Elizabeth Teague.

RIP: Pray for the repose of the souls of Sheila Cullen, Sr Rosemary Clare, Brendan Geoghegan, Theresa Mulvihill and John Stevens who died recently. May they rest in peace. **Funerals:** S Cullen: Tue 28/05/24, 10:30 CTK; B Geoghegan: Thu 30/05/24, 12:00 OLAM; J Stevens: Fri 28/06/20, 12:00 OLAM.

THE SANCTUARY LAMP, which burns to indicate the presence of the Blessed Sacrament on the Altar, is dedicated throughout May for the **Brookes/Rose/Holder families at CTK** and the **Butler/Maxwell families at OLAM**. (The months of Aug, Sept and Oct 2024 are still available if anyone would like to sponsor the Sanctuary Lamp at OLAM).

First Holy Communion Within the Parish: 18th May 2024: Please pray for the children of the parish who make their First Holy Communion this weekend (Sat 18th May) and for their parents and teachers who have prepared them for this special day in their lives and will continue to guide them as they continue on their journey of faith.

First Holy Communion Gifts: If any friends or relatives attending the First Holy Communion Services this weekend, require a Card or small religious gift such as rosary beads, bracelets, necklaces or missals, the Piety Stall in the porch of the Church will be open before and after the 10.00 and 12.00 Services.

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

Last Weeks' Collection CTK
 Loose: £ 322.96
 Envelopes: £ 148.00
 Standing Orders: £ 247.23
Total: £ 718.19

**Thank you for
 your generous support**

Last Weeks' Collection OLAM
 Loose: £ 189.17
 Envelopes: £ 125.20
 Standing Orders: £ 94.69
Total: £ 409.06

Christ the King		18/19 MAY	25/26 MAY
Sat 12:30	Minister of the Word	Theresa	Tracy
	Minister of Holy Communion	Sue	Theresa
Sun 10.00	Minister of the Word	Oscottian	Patience
	Minister of Holy Communion	Marion	Sr Michale

A "Move it or Lose It" Exercise Class For Over 60s takes place in the St. John's Centre every Wednesday between 11.30 – 12.30 at a nominal cost of £2.00. Those who attended the 1st two sessions found it very friendly and enjoyable.

Cluster Catechesis on The Mass: Deacon Gary will lead the final session on 21st May (7.30 p.m) and will be speaking about the concluding rites and the potential for a wider role for the Lay faithful within our Cluster. All are welcome.

Worship in the African style: This Sunday - The Feast of Pentecost - some of our parishioners of African origin will be lead the Offertory Hymn and the Offertory Procession at the 10.00 am Mass at Christ the King, which will have a particularly African flavour, which will no doubt be a colourful and culturally enriching experience for us all.

HOLY NAME CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL - 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF SCHOOL OPENING:

To commemorate this milestone, on Saturday 29th June, there will be a special celebration of Mass at 12.30pm in Holy Name church followed by an 'open house' where the school building will be open for past pupils, parents and staff to visit and take a look around. Our summer fair is also taking place on this date – everyone is welcome to join us.

If you have any photographs, memorabilia or items of interest from school to share or lend to us to display as part of our celebration, then please speak to Mrs Potter in the school office: 0121 357 3216 or email us: headteacher@holynamesandwell.sch.uk. Thank you – we are looking forward to seeing you!

CLASS TEACHER VACANCY AT HOLY NAME CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL:

Holy Name Catholic Primary School, Great Barr is looking for a class teacher (ECT or experienced) to start in September 2024. Please contact Mr. Andrew Neenan, Headteacher, on 0121 357 3216 or headteacher@holynamesandwell.sch.uk if you are interested in this exciting opportunity.

Corpus Christi Procession – Sunday 2nd June: To commemorate this important feast, everyone is invited to take part in a Procession from St. Margaret Mary's to Christ The King Church. The event, which will take just over an hour, will begin with a short service at St. Margaret Mary's at 4.00 p.m. and another short service on arrival at Christ The King. Tea/Coffee and Biscuits will be served in the St. John's Centre afterwards, commencing around 5.15, on what is hoped will be a "sunny afternoon". (If anyone can assist in preparing/serving the refreshments, this would be appreciated).

Parish Summit Wed 12th to Fri 14th June inclusive: The summit is a conference sponsored by Divine Renovation - a Catholic organisation dedicated to helping parishes to revive their life and their mission. Alongside Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Holy Mass, there will be meetings focussed on how to strengthen in the parish the "evangelical flavour" and "missionary drive" to which the Mission Impossible supplement refers. The delegation from our parish will be led by Deacon Gary. We will be joining and travelling with a delegation from St. Margaret Mary. We have two places available. Please pray about this and if you can fill one of those two places, please let Deacon Gary know.

GOSPEL COMMENTARY: FR DONAGH O'SHEA: A French writer described the human spirit as "the unassailable, unchangeable, indestructible core, the keen point of the soul, which alone can approach the Absolute and unite itself with the Divinity" (J. Kelen, *La Faim de l'Âme*). This idea of spirit as a hard inner core is widespread, even among people from whom you expect something quite different. Henry David Thoreau (1817-1862), in his famous book *Walden*, gave this account of why he went to live in a hut in the woods: "I went to the woods because I wished to live deliberately, to front only the essential facts of life ... I wanted to live deep and suck out all the marrow of life, to live so sturdily and Spartan-like as to put to rout all that was not life, to cut a broad swathe and shave close, to drive life into a corner, and reduce it to its lowest terms". Such aggressive verbs! - *to front, to suck out, to put to rout, to cut, to drive, to reduce*.... All this tough talk about a hard inner core is somehow unconvincing. People who are sure of their strength don't write like that.

The word 'spirit' means "*breath*". This does not suggest a hard aggressive core, but a soft "give and take". St Peter, who was probably much tougher than Thoreau, could use gentle language to describe that 'inner core': "the inner self with the lasting beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit". (1 Peter 3:4). It matters a great deal how we describe our inner being; it matters not only for our self-understanding, but also for our understanding of God. We are the primary image of God, and if we have a hard mechanical sense of ourselves, our image of God will be similarly hard and separate. It may well match the image of God in, say, Sheehan's *Apologetics* long ago, but it has nothing to do with the Father of Jesus Christ. St Paul, who was even tougher than Peter, could write, "Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God" (Ephesians 4:30). The Spirit of God is gentle, which does not mean weak. Real strength is always gentle. One moment's experience of God's Spirit is enough to do away with all talk of an indestructible inner core attempting to "approach the Absolute and unite itself with the Divinity" – as if we could do such a thing by our own heroic efforts.

By way of relief, read these lines by Jessica Powers on today's Feast of Pentecost:

*"That was the day when Fire came down from heaven,
 inaugurating the first spring of love.
 Blood melted in the frozen veins, and even
 the least bird sang in the mind's inmost grove."*