



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 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: 53; O: 414; C: 413; R: 473

MASSES THIS WEEK

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

Sat	27/09/25	St Vincent de Paul, Mem.	12:30 CTK	Peggy McCallion (RIP)
			18:00 OLAM	Barbara Kellegher (RIP)
Sun	28/09/25	26 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	09:30 SMM	Celebrant's Intention
			10:00 CTK	Clare McEvoy (RIP)
			11:00 SMM	Celebrant's Intention
			11:30 OLAM†	Anthony Watts (RIP)
Mon	29/09/25	Ss Michael, Gabriel, Raphael,	08:00 Con.†	The Harrisons and the Sayers families (RIP)
Tue	30/09/25	St Jerome, Mem.	09:30 MPS	John Roche (RIP)
Wed	01/10/25	St Therese of Lisieux, Mem.	08:00 Con.†	Stephen Burke (RIP)
Thu	02/10/25	Holy Guardian Angels, Mem.	12:00 CTK	Alice O'Toole
Fri	03/10/25	Feria in Ordinary Time	11:00 CTK	Funeral Mass: George Ferris
Sat	04/10/25	St Francis of Assisi, Mem.	12:30 CTK	June Berns
			18:00 OLAM	Mary Costelloe (RIP)
Sun	05/10/25	27 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	09:30 SMM	Celebrant's Intention
			10:00 CTK	Muriel and Fabian Cowan (Anni. RIP)
			11:00 SMM†	Celebrant's IntentionM@
			11:30 OLAM†	Susan Edwards (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, Christine Stephens, Margaret Coogan, Sadie Kennelly, Michael and Sarah Deane, and Peter Hadland.

RIP: Please pray for Patricia O'Neill, Kathleen Bridger, George Ferris, Helena Trapszo, Terence Stevens and John Thomas Hines who passed away recently. May they rest in peace. **Funerals:** G Ferris: CTK 08/10/25 at 11:00; K Bridger: CTK Wed 08/10/25 at 11:00; J Hines: CTK Fri 10/10/25 at 11:30; H Trapszo: OLAM Tue 14/10/25 at 11:00; T Stevens: OLAM Thu 16/10/25 at 11:00.

Sanctuary Lamp Dedication throughout October at CTK is dedicated to the Moloney family, and at OLAM to the Ikwuka & Ubah Families.

Proper procedure for reserving Mass intentions: The Mass stipend which goes to the priest who celebrates the mass must be kept separate from the Sunday Offering which is the income of the parish. Please do not put Mass offerings in the Sunday collection. Please use the brown envelopes to request a Mass for your intentions **and, in addition, please sign the book in each Sacristy to confirm that your Mass request has been made.**

First Meeting of the new Parish Pastoral Council: The new Parish Pastoral Council will meet for the first time on **Thursday 23rd October at 7 pm** -venue to be confirmed nearer the date.

Cluster Mass in honour of St John Henry Newman: On 9th Oct 2025 at 19:00 at OLAM, there will be a concelebrated Cluster Mass in thanksgiving for the proclamation of St John Henry Newman as a Doctor of the Church. There will be light refreshments in Maryvale Community Centre afterwards.

Launch of the Parish Polish Welfare Association: At all Masses this weekend, a member of the Managing Committee of the PWA will speak to us about this new initiative. The information will be given in Polish and Englis.

Last Week's Collection CTK

Loose: £ 375.45
 Envelopes: £ 166.00
 Standing Orders £ 247.23
Total: £ 788.68

Second Collection:

This weekend: Fr Hudson's Society
 Next weekend: CAFOD

Last Week's Collection OLAM

Loose: £ 216.93
 Envelopes: £ 190.50
 Standing Orders £ 94.69
Total: £ 502.12

Christ the King		27 th /28 th Sep	4 th /5 th Oct
Sat 12:30	Minister of the Word	Aoife	Theresa
	Minister of Holy Communion	Sue	Sue
Sun 10.00	Minister of the Word	Oscottian	John
	Minister of Holy Communion	John	Joyce



Little Vinnies Stay and Play: The Society of St Vincent de Paul (SVP) are launching a new Stay and Play session for pre-school children in the parish (Hence "Little Vinnies"). It begins on **10th October and will on Friday mornings in the school term from 9 am until 11 am.** There is a poster at the back of Church explaining how you can support this initiative.

Together in the Community (TiC): TiC are looking for volunteers to join their existing team. TiC have been around for over 16 years, and support underprivileged families, the elderly and homeless across Kingstanding. They run a food bank on a fortnightly basis and desperately need more volunteers to continue doing what they do. If anyone is able to support them in their work, please get in touch with the team on 07493943558 or via <https://www.together-in-the-community.org.uk/>

New Heights Befriending Service: The New Heights Telephone Befriending Service offers a weekly call from one of its lovely volunteers, providing a friendly conversation and a listening ear to anyone who may feel isolated. If you know of anyone who might benefit from this service, please call New Heights direct on 0121 386 4345.

5th General Meeting of the Cluster: Thank you to those who met last Sunday to consider the results of the recent parish-wide consultation. In summary, it was agreed that (i) we need to do more work both on explaining what names need to change and why as well as create a longer shortlist to go to the Archbishop; (ii) there needs to be a separate meeting at OLAM with the specific agenda of (a) OLAM's place in the Cluster; (b) how feasible are the two buildings proposals on which we consulted; (c) are these two proposals the only two available/realistic options; (iii) we need to do more work to explain the implications for Mass times specifically arising from the merger, as opposed to any other reason. The Merger Advisory Group will have a good think about all of these things, make a recommendation to the Parish Pastoral Council and then there will have to be another parish-wide consultation. In the meantime, work continues in parallel on the two buildings proposals to get one of them into a position which can actually be implemented

Gospel Commentary: Fr Donagh O'Shea:

'If living conditions continue to improve in this country,' someone said, 'we're going to run out of humble beginnings for our great men.' Humble beginnings have to be part of the story, because people like to be able to look down so that they can see how high they have climbed. Power and wealth are a real religion, with devotees all over the world, with its holy land—the wealthiest countries—and its holy cities, the financial capitals of the world. It has its temples, the banks, often the finest buildings in town. It has its ardent preachers, the advertisers. It even has its heroic stories that read just like the lives of the saints. A young boy from a poor family (read 'a hopeless sinner') begins with a paper round, gets a job as an office-boy, climbs, climbs, till he becomes a big man in the company; then he clinches his salvation by marrying into the company via the boss's daughter ('the unitive way, the mystical espousals'). It is God's greatest rival: the religion of Mammon (wealth). 'You cannot serve God and money,' Jesus said (Matthew 6:24; Luke 16:13). Why is that? Money is so material, so external... how could it be a religion? It is because it has the capacity to touch the very depths of our soul. How can it do that? It has no poetry! There are no poems about money: I can't think of a single example. Could it be that it only takes over souls that have no capacity for poetry? 'If you want to see what God thinks of money,' someone said, 'look at the people he gives it to!' In itself it is not an interesting subject. It is our need and our greed that lend it interest. It is, above all, a promise: that essential component of any religion. Its promises, however, are always just for oneself (or one's family: one's larger self). Listen to the advertisers. The underlying creed is that life has nothing to offer but what can be purchased or won, and that there is nothing either good or bad beyond that. Other people are either allies or competitors: people who can help or hinder you in your search for more of the same.

I am thinking, of course, of pure devotees. Many, as in every religion, are not true believers, or have mixed motives. There are many wealthy people who have a real care for the half of the world that is malnourished. But there are others, like the rich man in the parable, who don't even notice Lazarus at their door, and who are therefore able to step over him without malice, keeping their own self-esteem intact. And there are others again who notice Lazarus but keep their self-esteem by throwing him a few scraps. The religion of Mammon is a destructive cult. It not only destroys the poor by enriching its devotees at their expense, but it destroys the devotees themselves. They are creating 'a great chasm' between themselves and the rest of humanity, so that 'those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' Which characters does the story ask us to identify ourselves with? The rich man, named Dives in older translations? In fact he is given no name in the gospels: 'dives' is just the Latin word for 'a rich man'; 'plousios' in Greek. The rich man has no identity except his wealth. No, we are not being asked to see ourselves as Dives. Lazarus, then? No, neither is it telling us to lie down at the rich man's door like Lazarus. The parable is telling us that we are the rich man's five brothers.

We have Moses and the prophets, but crucially we have Jesus and the New Testament, to tell us to live by a different religion, a subversive religion that 'casts down the mighty from their thrones and exalts the lowly, that fills the hungry with good things but sends the rich away empty' (Lk 1:52f). We are not told whether the five brothers changed their lives around. Why? Because we are the five brothers, and the story isn't over yet.