



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: smsbirmingham@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: 27; O: 219; C: 463; R: 35

MASSSES THIS WEEK

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

Sat	25/10/25	Feria in Ordinary Time	12:30 CTK	Sue Byrne (Birthday)
			18:00 OLAM	Brigid Moyles (RIP)
Sun	26/10/25	30 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	09:30 SMM	Joyce Anderson & John Glasgow (RIP)
			10:00 CTK	Fr Noel Breslin (RIP)
			11:00 SMM	Barnabas Agendia (RIP)
			11:30 OLAM†	Kathy Lowe
Mon	27/10/25	Feria in Ordinary Time	08:00 Con.	Eileen McDermott (RIP)
Tue	28/10/25	Ss Simon & Jude, Feast	09:15 SMM	Celebrant's Intention
			09:30 CTK	Katy Connor
Wed	29/10/25	Feria in Ordinary Time	08:00 Con.†	Margaret Head
Thu	30/10/25	Feria in Ordinary Time	12:00 CTK	Hugh & Teresa McHugh (RIP)
Fri	31/10/2025	Feria in Ordinary Time	09:15 SMM	Kevin Duffy and family
			09:30 CTK	Philip Barnes (RIP)
Sat	01/11/2025	Feria in Ordinary Time	12:30 CTK	Sean McBirney (RIP)
			18:00 OLAM	Fred & Joyce Oakley (RIP)
Sun	02/11/2025	Solemnity Of All Saints	09:30 SMM	Esa Susan Morton (RIP)
			10:00 CTK	George (RIP) & Sheila Ferris (Get well)
			11:00 SMM	John Riordan (RIP)
			11:30 OLAM	Eva Green (Anni)

Safeguarding Notice: Our Safeguarding Officers have asked Deacon Gary to remind us all that 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 and even those with necessary and legitimate business should exit as soon as their business is complete. 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 & Eddie Walsh, Elizabeth Teague, Christine Stephens, Margaret Coogan, Sadie Kennelly, Michael and Sarah Deane, Peter Hadland, Margaret Head.

Sanctuary Lamp Dedication throughout October at CTK is dedicated to the Moloney family, and at OLAM to the Ikwuka & Ubah Families. For the month of November, at CTK Frank King & the McBride family, and at OLAM The Holland & McCormack families.

Fr. Noel Breslin RIP: Many parishioners will remember Fr. Noel Breslin who was Parish Priest at Christ the King from 1990-1992. He sadly passed on 15th September aged 66. His Funeral Mass at which Bishop David presided was celebrated on 16th October at St. Peter's Leamington Spa. Please pray for the repose of his soul.

Mrs. Breslin's Retirement: Mrs. Breslin has announced her retirement as Head Teacher of Christ the King Catholic Primary School with effect from 31st December 2025. The Parish's debt to her both for her 10 years as Head and her time as a Senior Leader beforehand is enormous. We shall plan a proper goodbye for her nearer the date. In the meantime, please pray for Mrs. Breslin as she prepares for the end of term. She leaves with our very best wishes. For the remainder of the academic year, Mrs. Clayton, currently the Deputy Head, will be Acting Head pending a permanent appointment.

Last Week's Collection CTK

Loose: £
 Envelopes: £
 Standing Orders £ 247.23
Total: £

Second Collection
 Next Week: Johnson Association
(Retired and Infirm Clergy)

Last Week's Collection OLAM

Loose: £
 Envelopes: £
 Standing Orders £ 94.69
Total: £

Christ the King		25 th /26 th Oct	1 st /2 nd Nov
Sat 12:30	Minister of the Word	Aoife	Theresa
	Minister of Holy Communion	Theresa	Sue
Sun 10.00	Minister of the Word	Thabani	Oscotian
	Minister of Holy Communion	Marian	John



Appointment of new Parish Safeguarding Rep: The Parish is very grateful to Caroline Gorman who has now completed the lengthy process for becoming the new PSR for Christ the King. Please pray for her as she takes up her responsibilities. We are imminently expecting the news that Angela Hooker has likewise completed the process and become the new PSR for Our Lady of the Assumption, Maryvale.

A word of thanks: The Parish offers its most heartfelt thanks to the family of Kathleen Bridger. The family has kindly donated to the Parish the collection raised in Kathleen's honour after her Requiem Mass. The total was **£600** which will be put into the fund for roof repairs.

Second Collection on 1st and 2nd November: There will be a second collection next weekend: the annual collection for the Johnson Clergy Association. On behalf of the Trustees of the Association, Canon John Gilbert has sent this message: the purpose of this Association is to provide financial help to priests of the Archdiocese of Birmingham in retirement, old age and sickness. There are approximately 190 Diocesan Priests, 59 of whom are over the age of 75; 65 of whom are aged between 65 and 75. We have 24 priests under the age of 50. Last year the Association gave grants totalling over £375,000. Last year's annual collection raised £44,191. Please give as generously as you can. If you prefer to give online or via a QR code, this is the link: [Annual Appeal](#). If you can gift aid your donation, please use that link. Please also consider making a gift to the Association in your will.

Closure of Parish Office in Half Term: Please be aware that our Parish Secretary, Claire Adler, will be on holiday during the half-term break. The Parish Office will reopen on Monday 3rd November at 9 am.

Little Vinnies Stay and Play: The Stay and Play closes for half term and will reopen on Friday 7th November at 9 am.

November Grave Blessings: Oscott Cemetery: 1 November, 3pm; Erdington Abbey: 2 November, 2pm; New Hall Cemetery: 2 November, 2pm; Witton Cemetery: 9 November, 2 pm; Rectory Rd Cemetery: 9 November, 2pm

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

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.

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.

Lost Property: We have a number of glasses cases and pairs of glasses in the CTK Sacristy. If you have lost yours recently, please see Deacon Gary.

Gospel Commentary: Fr Donagh O'Shea

Prayer has been called "an hour of truth." But it has to be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. No doubt the Pharisee was telling the truth: he was living an upright life, he was doing everything he claimed to be doing. But he was not praying; he was giving God an inventory of his good deeds: "I fast, I give 10% of my income...." He had a good self-image: he prefaced it all by saying, "God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers...." But, just like the Pharisees, his high opinion of himself depended on his low opinion of others. Yes, the Liturgy invites us to wear that cap and see if it fits. Most of us would be too clever to boast openly of the things we do, but there are subtle ways of putting others down in order to make ourselves appear better. How does it work? I am not sure what I am in myself (or I am afraid to look), so I develop an eye for the worst in other people. It allows me to say to myself that at least I'm not as bad as they are, or at any rate no worse. But no transformation comes about in this way, because I'm looking at the wrong person. Jesus said, "Love your enemies." Love your opposite, don't just use them as a justification for not changing your own life. In time you may come to realise that the problems you have with them are precisely your own problems – your own problems projected. It is always useful to ask yourself, Why is this person my enemy? He touches something painful in me, reminds me of something I would rather forget. In the end I may even learn to say, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner!" That is the sincerest form of prayer: it is the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth.