



## The Newman Cluster

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr Simon Ellis

Parish Office for the Cluster

Email: [christ-the-king.bham@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:christ-the-king.bham@rcaob.org.uk)

Tel: 0121 373 0988

Opening Hours: Mon-Fri 8.30am- 3pm

### The Newman Cluster is a growing into a united Catholic community comprising the following places of worship

Christ the King ("CTK")  
124 Warren Farm Road  
Kingstanding  
B44 0QN

Our Lady of the Assumption ("OLAM")  
82 Old Oscott  
Maryvale  
B44 9SP

St Margaret Mary ("SMM")  
59 Perry Common Road  
Perry Common  
B23 7AB

#### Other Clergy in the Cluster

Assistant Priest: Fr Leonard Cox [fr.leonard.cox@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:fr.leonard.cox@rcaob.org.uk)

Parish Deacons: Rev. Mr. Gary O'Brien [dcn.gary.obrien@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:dcn.gary.obrien@rcaob.org.uk)  
and Rev. Mr. Dominic Fahey [dcn.dominic.fahey@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:dcn.dominic.fahey@rcaob.org.uk)

Convent of the Sisters Minor of St Francis  
192 Hawthorn Road Kingstanding B44 8PU  
Phone +44 121 3500 716

Email: [smsfbirmingham@gmail.com](mailto:smsfbirmingham@gmail.com)

### Welcome to Mass on the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### Today's Liturgy of the Word

**First Reading:** Isaiah 9:1b -4 *In Galilee of the nations h people have seen a great light.*

**Responsorial Psalm** The LORD is my light and salvation

**Second Reading:** 1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17 *I appeal to you that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you.*

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia! Alleluia! Jesus proclaimed the Gospel of the Kingdom and healed every affliction among the people. Alleluia!

**Gospel: Matthew 4:12-23** *Jesus went to Capernaum so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled.*

**LITURGIES AND EVENTS THIS WEEK:** Con: Convent; CTK: Christ the King; OLAM: Maryvale; SMM: St Margaret Mary's; MPS Maryvale Primary School

<b>Sat</b>	24/01/26	Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Vigil Masses)	12.00 CTK	Recitation of the Rosary
			12.30 CTK	Ethna Whatley (RIP)
			18.00 OLAM	Paul Thompson (RIP)
<b>Sun</b>	25/01/26	Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	<b>09.30 CTK</b>	Timi (Birthday)
			11.15 SMM	George Parks (RIP)
<b>Mon</b>	26/01/26	Memorial of Ss Timothy and Titus, Bishops	07.30 SMM	Sheila Reilly (RIP)
			08.00 Con.	Yvonne Cowman (RIP)
<b>Tue</b>	27/01/26	Feria In Ordinary Time	<b>09.30 MPS</b>	Kitty Heaney (RIP)
			16.00 CTK	Deacon Gary's Catechism Class
			19.00 SMM	Cluster Youth Club (11-18s): <b>debate night</b>
<b>Wed</b>	28/01/26	Memorial Of St Thomas Aquinas, Priest & Doctor of the Church	08.00 Con.	Catherine Maxwell (RIP)
			09.15 SMM	Alekutty Joseph (RIP)
			17.30 SMM	Sycamore: "Who is Jesus?"
<b>Thu</b>	29/01/26	Feria In Ordinary Time	<b>NO LITURGY TODAY</b>	
<b>Fri</b>	30/01/26	Feria In Ordinary Time	09.00 CTK	Maureen Dargan (RIP)
<b>Sat</b>	31/01/26	Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Vigil Masses)	12.00 CTK	Recitation of the Rosary
			12.30 CTK	Eddie McKeown (Anni)
			18.00 OLAM	Liam Curran (RIP)
<b>Sun</b>	01/02/26	Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time	<b>09.30 CTK</b>	Bill & Kath Rice (RIP)
			11.15 SMM	Mary Teresa Doyle (RIP)

**The Sacrament of Reconciliation:** A priest will be available to hear Confessions from 11.45 am on Saturdays (CTK) 5.15 pm on Saturdays (OLAM), 08.45 am on Sundays (CTK) and Wednesdays 08.15 (SMM) or by prior appointment.

**Urgent Appeal for Volunteers:** We need new volunteers to take charge of the PowerPoint and projection at the 11.15 Mass at SMM. Our thanks go to Christian and Yvonne who previously did this for us and who have relocated out of the Cluster.

**Sacrament of Holy Communion & Confirmation 2026:** A third and final enrolment date of Sunday 22/02/2026 9.30am has been arranged. Please contact the parish office on 0121 3730988 or [christ-the-king.bham@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:christ-the-king.bham@rcaob.org.uk) to confirm your attendance. Please hand in a completed enrolment form to the parish office before the enrolment date.

**Sycamore Course:** The Sycamore Course offers an opportunity to get to know our faith better and to reflect on it. Sessions take place in the Newman Gallery at SMM You reach the Newman Gallery via the Church. **Parents of children preparing for First Holy Communion and Confirmation are especially encouraged to attend.**

**Sanctuary Lamp Dedication** throughout January at CTK is dedicated to the Flynn and Rice families, and at OLAM to Gheorghe Andries (Bobby). There is still availability for February at CTK & OLAM.

**Racial Justice Sunday:** This year Racial Justice Sunday falls on 1<sup>st</sup> February. In recognition of this, the West Indian Chaplaincy invites you to a conference which begins at 10.30 am on **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> February** full details including venue and how to register are on the poster at the back of each Church..

**The parishes in the Cluster are part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No. 234216**



CTK: £179.03

OLAM: £62.77

SMM: £88.92

Mass Attendance: 335 (CTK); 65 (OLAM)

Mass attendance: 152

Last Week's Collection SMM

Last Week's Collection CTK

Loose: £358.06

Envelopes: £156.00

S/O

Total: £515.06

Loose: £208.61

Envelopes: £70.50

New Building Fund:

Total £279.11

Last Week's Collection OLAM

Loose: £ 108.46

Envelopes: £ 221.35

S/O

Total: £ 329.81

**Fr. Simon writes:** This Sunday is designated (by Pope Francis in 2016) as "Sunday of the Word of God", which is a time to really focus on our relationship to scripture in the light of Vatican II's rediscovery of the importance of the Word of God, together with the teaching of successive Popes. Saint Ephrem said, "Who is able to understand, Lord, all richness of even one of your words? There is more that eludes us than what we can understand". We are like the thirsty drinking from a fountain. Vatican II *Dei Verbum* [https://www.vatican.va/archive/hist\\_councils/ii\\_vatican\\_council/documents/vat-ii\\_const\\_19651118\\_dei-verbum\\_en.html](https://www.vatican.va/archive/hist_councils/ii_vatican_council/documents/vat-ii_const_19651118_dei-verbum_en.html) Pope Francis *Aperuit Illis* [https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/motu\\_proprio/documents/papa-francesco-motu-proprio-20190930\\_aperuit-illis.html](https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/motu_proprio/documents/papa-francesco-motu-proprio-20190930_aperuit-illis.html) Pope Benedict XVI *Verbum Domini* [https://www.vatican.va/content/benedict-xvi/en/apost\\_exhortations/documents/hf\\_ben-xvi\\_exh\\_20100930\\_verbum-domini.html](https://www.vatican.va/content/benedict-xvi/en/apost_exhortations/documents/hf_ben-xvi_exh_20100930_verbum-domini.html)

**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 Deane, Peter Hadland, Margaret Head and Anne Cunningham.

**RIP:** Please pray for Margaret Costello (Peggy), Patricia Anne Donnelly, Julie Geraldeane Flemming who died recently and for Mark Coupe, Esa Susan Morton, John Joseph Riordan, Terence Stephens, Alan Collins, Joseph Thomas, Dave Edgington, Jamie Arrowsmith, Jadzia Zarzycka, Averil Cozens, John Driver, Catherine Ivy Byrne, Dom Kevin Taggart OSB, Joyce Holloway, Fr. Simon Hall, Christopher Calland, Eddie Walsh, Jennifer Harrison, Grazyna Grunau, Brenda Jones, Hughie Patricik Underwood, Val Lennon, Danny McCrossan, Peggy Jackman, Julia Geradete Fleming, John Murtagh, Michael Patrick O'Donoghue, Anthony Crear, Ruth Black, Michael Coffey, Fr. Osmond Abbott, and Christopher Diggle. **Forthcoming Funerals:** Margaret Mary Costello's Funeral Service will be celebrated on 13<sup>th</sup> February at OLAM; Margaret will be received into church on 12<sup>th</sup> February at 5pm. Patricia Anne Donnelly's funeral service will be celebrated on 26<sup>th</sup> January at 12.00 at SMM and the funeral service of Julie Geraldeane Flemming will be celebrated on 16<sup>th</sup> February 11.30am at SMM. May the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace!

**Altar Servers' Retreat:** We have a Cluster youth event at Alton Castle 27 Feb - 1 Mar, which is for altar servers. The cost is (subsidised) at £45 per child for the weekend. If you are interested please deliver £45 cash to me clearly marked with child's name to church office or to me direct. Please also fill in young person consent form on: <https://www.tfaforms.com/5196821> And let Fr. Simon, know you have done so. **Final numbers will need to be counted by Saturday 31st January**, please make sure all payments are handed in to the parish office by this date.

**Mass Intentions:** We will do our best to respect specific dates and requests for particular places of worship, but we cannot absolutely guarantee it. In particular, we cannot necessarily ensure that a weekend Sunday Mass will be available. Please continue to put your envelope and stipend into the parish office so that we can keep a record of all Masses requested, **please also make sure to add a contact number to your intention**. There will need to be a discussion at the next Parish Pastoral Council meeting about the best long-term solution in the circumstances.

**Parish Office:** The parish office will be closed on 30<sup>th</sup> January and will reopen on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February.

**Next Meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council ("PPC"):** The next meeting of the PPC will be on **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2026 at 7.30 pm** in the Guild Room. If there are matters you would like to raise, please speak to any PP Councillor and it will get on to the agenda.

**Merger Consultation – Next Meeting:** There will be a meeting in the Maryvale Community Centre, Old Oscott Hill B44 9SP on **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2026 at 3 pm** to consider issues raised in the September consultation specifically about that area of the Cluster. Anybody in the Cluster is welcome to attend whether they worship regularly at OLAM or not.

**New Heights community Project** has a vacancy for a Community Development Officer. You will play a key role in developing and coordinating community events and activities. At 30 hours per week over five days and £31,736 per annum, if you think this could be for you please email Cameron at, [Cameron.archer@new-heights.org.uk](mailto:Cameron.archer@new-heights.org.uk) for more information or go to <https://new-heights.org.uk/get-involved/>

**Cluster Youth Group:** The Cluster Youth Group meets in the Newman Gallery at SMM on Tuesdays. Forthcoming dates and topics are: 27/01 (Debate Night: Abortion); 03/02 (Movie Night); 24/02 (Police Visit); 27/02-01/03 (Called to Serve Altar Servers' Retreat at Alton Castle); 10/03 (Art Night); 24/03 (Easter Biscuit making night).

**The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and National and Archdiocesan policies and procedures at all times.** Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives in the Cluster are Caroline Gorman (CTK), Angela Hooker (OLAM) and Renata Olkowska (SMM). To report concerns or issues email Caroline on [sg.christ-theking.bham@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.christ-theking.bham@rcaob.org.uk); Angela on [sg.ol-assumption.bham@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.ol-assumption.bham@rcaob.org.uk) and Renata on [sg.margaret.mary.bham@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.margaret.mary.bham@rcaob.org.uk) Alternatively concerns or issues can be reported to the Diocesan Safeguarding Team on **0121 230 6240** or [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk)