



## The Newman Cluster

Parish Priest: Fr Simon Ellis

Parish Office for the Cluster

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Tel: 0121 373 0988

Opening Hours: Mon-Fri 8.30am- 4pm

### 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

### Welcome to Mass on the Fourth Sunday of Easter:

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Acts 2:14a -41** *God has made him both Lord and Christ*

**Responsorial Psalm: 23** The Lord is my Shepherd there is nothing I shall want.

**Second Reading: 1 Peter 2: 20b – 25** *You have returned to the Shepherd of your souls.*

**Gospel Acclamation:** I am the Good Shepherd, says the Lord. I know my sheep and my own know me.

**Gospel: John 10:1-10** *I am the door of the sheep.*

<b>Sat</b>	25/04/2026	Feast of St Mark, Evangelist	10.30 CTK	Baptism of Frances Ezike
			12.00 CTK	Recitation of the Rosary
		Fourth Sunday of Easter (Vigil Masses)	12.30 CTK	Kevin Berns
			18.00 OLAM	Grace Deane (Anni)
<b>Sun</b>	26/04/26	Fourth Sunday of Easter	09:30 CTK	Lawrence & Patricia Tams (Anni)
			10.30 SJC	Polish Cake after mass
			10:30 SMM	Baptism of Amiri Ezekiel Hickey
			11:15 SMM	Barnabas Nchegla Agendia
<b>Mon</b>	27/04/26	Easter Feria	07:30 SMM	Owen O' Grady (RIP)
			08.00 Con	<b>Cancelled</b>
			<b>01:00 SMM</b>	<b>Requiem Mass of Micheal Long</b>
			<b>04:00 CTK</b>	<b>Received into Church Alan Horton</b>
<b>Tue</b>	28/04/26	Easter Feria	09.30 MPS	Bridget Faherty
			<b>10.30 CTK</b>	<b>Requiem Mass Alan Horton</b>
			19.00 SMM Newman Gallery	Youth Group debate: Euthanasia
<b>Wed</b>	29/04/26	Feast of St Catherine of Siena	08:00 Con.	Evelyn Butler
			09.15 SMM	Private Intention
			17.30 SMM	Sycamore: Details on next page
<b>Thu</b>	30/04/26	Easter Feria	<b>18:00 SMM</b> <b>18:30 Guild Room</b>	<b>Received into Church Micheal McNally</b> SVP Meeting
<b>Fri</b>	01/05/26	Memorial of St Joseph the Worker	09.00 CTK <b>12:00 SMM</b>	Maurice Kelleher (RIP Anni) <b>Requiem Mass Micheal McNally</b>
<b>Sat</b>	02/05/20	Memorial of St. Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor  Fifth Sunday of Easter (Vigil Masses)	12.00 CTK	Rosary
			12:30 CTK	John Warnaby (RIP) (Anni)
			18.00 OLAM	Margaret Costello (Peggy)
<b>Sun</b>	03/05/26	Fifth Sunday of Easter Frances Ezike will be dedicated at the 09.30 Mass today	09.30 CTK	Eileen Zeigestowski (Anni)
			11.15 SMM	Margaret Mary Canavan (Birthday)

## Prayer of the Faithful

Fr Simon writes: Many thanks for all the support for the Induction Mass last week, which was wonderful. This Sunday, known as Good Shepherd Sunday, is a reminder to pray for vocations on this World Day of Prayer for Vocations. In the words of Catherine of Siena (a saint for this week, and Doctor of the Church and Co-Patron of Europe!) "*If you are what you should be, you will set the whole world on fire*".

**Pope Leo's Prayer intentions for April:** When we pray for the Pope's intentions at the beginning of the Rosary, our Holy Father asks us during April specifically to pray for priests in crisis: "Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer."

**Sanctuary Lamp Dedication** throughout April, both at OLAM and at CTK, the Sanctuary lamp is dedicated to the intentions of Deacon Gary and his family.

**Pray For the Sick:** Hugh McConway, 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 Horton, Peggy O'Donovan, Pauline O'Brien, Elizabeth Teague, Christine Stephens, Margaret Coogan, Sadie Kennelly, Michael Deane, Peter Hadland, Margaret Head, Anne Cunningham and Anne O'Brien (Deacon Gary's mother).

**Please pray for the recently departed:** We offer our prayers for the repose of the souls of Alan Horton, Eddie Walsh, Jennifer Harrison, Grazyna Grunau, Brenda Jones, Hughie Patrlcik Underwood, Val Lennon, Danny McCrossan, Peggy Jackman, John Murtagh, Michael Patrick O'Donoghue, Anthony Crear; Ruth Black, Michael Coffey, Fr. Osmond Aisbitt, Esther Hill, Margaret Greenleaf, Deacon Stephen O'Connor, Nola Murray, Edward Oliver Bailey, David Fitzsimons, Takii Mariam, Christopher Diggle, William Vincent Moloney, Alan Horton, Patricia Donnelly, Paul Walker (né Paul Brian Tover), Prof. Judith Champ, Eugene Michael McNally, Michael Long, John Fleming, Nicola Vizard Howell, Christy O'Reilly, Henry Joseph Cunningham, Joan Ivory, Bridget Margaret Hynes, Kitty Woulfe, Lilian Fellows, and Dot (Florence) Myles all of whom have recently died.

**Forthcoming Funerals:** **Michael Long's** Funeral Service will take place at SMM on 27<sup>th</sup> April at 1pm. **Alan Horton** will be received into Church on 27<sup>th</sup> April at 4pm at CTK and his Requiem Mass will be celebrated on 28<sup>th</sup> April at 10.30 at CTK (Profound apologies to Alan's family concerning the misprint of time in last week's newsletter). **Joan Ivory's** Funeral will take place at Sandwell Valley Crematorium on 30<sup>th</sup> April at 11.30am. **Michael (Eugene) McNally** will be received into Church on 30<sup>th</sup> April at 6pm at SMM and his Requiem Mass will be celebrated on 1<sup>st</sup> May at SMM at 12.00 noon. **Patricia Donnelly** will be received into Church on 6<sup>th</sup> May at 4.30pm at OLAM, and her Requiem Mass will be celebrated on 7<sup>th</sup> May in OLAM at 11am. **Paul Tovey (also known as Paul Walker):** Paul's funeral will take place at Streetly Crematorium West Chapel on 12<sup>th</sup> May at 2pm. **Joseph Wall:** Joseph's Requiem Mass will take place at St Margaret Mary's on 19<sup>th</sup> May at 11am. **May the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.**

**Remembrance of our Faithful Departed:** Thank you to everyone who supported this initiative either by attending in person or on the live stream. Deacon Gary was greatly encouraged by the kind comments he received afterwards. This service combines Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, the Official Prayer of the Church for the Faithful Departed and Benediction. Since those watching on-line will not have this service in their Missal, the service sheet will be circulated in advance with the emailed copies of the Newsletter and posted on-line

**Masses in the Convent:** We are very grateful to Bishop David who is always willing to celebrate a Mass at 08.00 on Mondays and Wednesdays whenever his diary permits. From time to time, it is not possible to provide Mass in the Convent. **We try to give as much notice as we can but please help the Parish Office by making sure that you put your telephone number on the Mass intention envelope so that we can contact you directly.** If Mass in the Convent must be cancelled, then any Mass intention set for it will be rescheduled.

**First Friday Masses in the Sacred Heart Chapel, Maryvale:** the First Friday in April coincided with Good Friday which is one of the two days in the year when the Church never celebrates Holy Mass. The next First Friday Mass will be on 3<sup>rd</sup> May at the usual time of 7 pm.

**Rosary during the Easter Season:** the Saturday Rosary Group has been asked to focus on the Glorious Mysteries until the Vigil of Pentecost (23<sup>rd</sup> May). The Glorious Mysteries are more attuned to our celebrations in the Easter Season.

**Prayer for the Sisters Minor of St. Francis:** The Sisters will be holding their 6<sup>th</sup> General Chapter from 1<sup>st</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> June at the Mother House in Tusa (Italy). As you know, these will be days of intense work, during which they will seek to discern God's will for their Congregation over the next four years, as well as to elect the Superior General and the General Council. To prepare themselves for this important time, they ask all of us to pray for them daily until 13<sup>th</sup> June.

## Cluster, Deanery and Diocesan Notices

### CTK



### OLAM



Today at all Masses there is a Second Collection for the Clergy Training Fund.

#### Last Week's Collection CTK

Loose:	£409.50
Envelopes:	£131.00
S/O	£171.31
<b>Total</b>	<b>£711.81</b>
<b>Mass count</b>	<b>324</b>

#### Last Week's Collection OLAM

Loose	£173.25
Envelopes:	£68.50
S/O	£73.58
<b>Total:</b>	<b>£315.33</b>
<b>Mass Count</b>	<b>TBC</b>

#### Last Week's Collection SMM

Loose	£208.14
Envelopes:	£58.04
S/O	£
<b>Total:</b>	<b>£266.18</b>
<b>Mass Count</b>	<b>152</b>

**Standing Orders in the Parish:** The amount given for the Standing Orders in the parish is always an average taken over a six month period. This allows the Parish Treasurer to take account of variations in payment patterns and changes in the list of those contributing by S/O. Thank you to all who support the Cluster in this way.

**Youth Group Meetings:** The next meeting after this week's will be on 12<sup>th</sup> May and will be a Movie Night.

**Sycamore Talks at SMM:** These take place in the Newman Gallery which is accessed via the steps at the back of the Church. The topic for the forthcoming talk is: "the existence of God". 29 April A God who speaks; 6 May Who is Jesus? 20 May The Holy Spirit and the Church; 3 June The Holy Bible; 17 June Gift of Faith; 24 June Baptism and the Sacraments 1 July The power of Prayer; 8 July Forgiveness, healing and mission

**Document on the Ordinariates:** The Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith (a Department of the Vatican in Rome) has recently issued a document concerning the Ordinariates established under the Apostolic Constitution *Anglicanorum Coetibus*. The Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham of which Fr. Simon and Fr. Leonard and others in the Cluster are members is one such Ordinariate. The Prefect of the Dicastery (Cardinal Victor Manuel Fernández) has requested that the document be disseminated as widely as possible. There are copies at the back of each Church and more can always be requested from the Parish Office.

**Retrouvaille Marriage Ministry:** Retrouvaille is a marriage ministry, run by Catholics, to support marriages in trouble. It runs two programmes each year, catering to about 75 couples, who need help to find hope and healing in their relationship. The majority of couples find out about this ministry through parish newsletters and you might like to include the following in your bulletin: From relationships that are 'Just in a Rut', needing some refreshment or more serious issues - If you are open to try again – Retrouvaille could be the solution. We have helped thousands of couples get their relationship back on track as they rediscovered hope and trust in the marriage. To find out more: [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk) +44 797 338 0443.

**New Heights:** New Heights are looking to recruit a volunteer with a passion for Crocheting, to guide their warm and friendly group. Whether you are an experienced at crocheting or would just love to teach people as much as you know this could be for you. For further information please contact Jo at new heights on [Joanna.Howl@new-heights.org.uk](mailto:Joanna.Howl@new-heights.org.uk) or call 01213864345

**Donations:** We are still looking for donations of bric-a-brac, bottles, chocolates and pretty much anything for future parish events. Please keep us in mind when having a spring clean, as one man's junk is another man's treasure. Please contact the parish office to arrange drop off Monday-Friday 8.30am – 4pm.

**St. Margaret Mary Centenary Booklets:** These are now available at the back of each Church.

**Parish Pastoral Council (CTK/OLAM):** The next meeting is on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April in the Guild Room. Parishioners are always welcome to pass queries or observations to any member of the Council who will raise them at the next meeting.

**SVP:** We currently have two SVP Conferences in the Cluster. We are very grateful for all the excellent work they do. Meeting venues and times will vary. After this week's meeting the next one will be on 21<sup>st</sup> May at 7 pm in the Guild Room at CTK. The next two meetings after that will be at SMM at 7 pm on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June and 27<sup>th</sup> July respectively.

## Highlights of the Easter Season in the Newman Cluster

30 <sup>th</sup> April	19.00 CTK	Remembrance Service for our Faithful Departed
3 <sup>rd</sup> May	09.30 CTK	Dedication of the newly baptised (Nigerian Rite)
9 <sup>th</sup> May	11.00 OLAM	First Holy Communion for children in Y3 at Maryvale Catholic Primary School.
14 <sup>th</sup> May	ALL	Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord (Holy Day of Obligation)
23 <sup>rd</sup> May	12.30 CTK	Vigil of Pentecost; Sacraments of Initiation for those in Deacon Gary's Catechism Class [OLAM Mass at 18.00 as usual].
24 <sup>th</sup> May	CTK	Pentecost: African Mass: time to be confirmed. Morning Masses as usual

**The Dedication of Frances Ezike on 3<sup>rd</sup> May:** In the Catholic tradition, the dedication of a child is a joyful occasion of thanksgiving to God for the gift of new life and a sacred moment in which parents reaffirm before the whole worshipping community their commitment to raise their child in the knowledge, love, and service of God within the life of the Church, as they originally promised at the Baptism of the child. This practice reflects the example of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Saint Joseph, who presented the Child Jesus in the Temple (Luke 2:22–40), offering Him to the Lord in faith and obedience. In the same spirit, parents today bring their child before God, renewing their prayers for His blessing, guidance, and protection as they undertake the responsibility of nurturing their child in the Christian faith. It is also a meaningful opportunity for the parish community to share in prayer and to support the family in this important commitment, encouraging the child to grow in faith and in the fellowship of the Church. The African form of the Offertory Procession which will be used on 3<sup>rd</sup> May is itself a prayer to that effect.

### Ministry in the Newman Cluster

#### Other Clergy in the Cluster

Assistant Priest: Fr Leonard Cox [fr.leonard.cox@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:fr.leonard.cox@rcaob.org.uk)  
 Also in the Parish: Fr. Jude Mbonu [fr.jude.mbonu@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:fr.jude.mbonu@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)

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 192 Hawthorn Road Kingstanding B44 8PU  
 Phone +44 121 3500 716  
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#### Ministry of the Word and Extraordinary Ministry of Holy Communion for 26/04/26:

CTK [12.30 pm]	OLAM [18.00]	CTK [09.30 am]	SMM [11.15 am]
<b>Ministers of the Word</b>	<b>Ministers of the Word</b>	<b>Ministers of the Word</b>	<b>Ministers of the Word</b>
Kathleen	Wendy Gasson	Thabani, Patience	Pino Chinyere
<b>Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion</b>	<b>Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion</b>	<b>Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion</b>	<b>Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion</b>
Sue, Chris	Paul and Kitty	Marian, Sisters [2], Joyce.	Ted, Laura

**Ministry of Catechist:** We need some extra support for the valuable work the Loretto and the Sisters do with our parish children who are not in Catholic Schools. This will require formation and training. For an initial discussion about what this vital ministry entails, please speak to Loretto or any of the Parish Clergy.

**Ministry of Children's Liturgy:** Many thanks indeed to Lisa Jarvis and Gemma Wilson who have generously volunteered to begin a Children's Liturgy Group at the 11.15 Mass at St. Margaret Mary. Some preparatory work is needed. Please keep your eye out for further information.

**Ministry of Safeguarding:** The Cluster 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.christtheking.bham@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.christtheking.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)

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