



LITURGY

First reading: 1 Kings 3:5, 7-12

Response to the Psalm: Lord, how I love your law!

Second reading: Romans 8:28-30

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 13:44-52



Dear Parishioners

The Gospel this week is a practical invitation to put aside all the distractions that can take the place of God in our hearts. It may be power, possessions, prestige or the comforts of an easy life. While they are important, if we overvalue them we devalue God. Nothing in the world should take priority over our pursuit of God's kingdom. There is a pearl for everyone and the price to be paid to acquire it is the ability to detach ourselves and walk away. What counts when we die it is not the possessions we have acquired in life but the type of people we have become in the process of living. The pearl of great price is to be found in doing God's will which brings meaning, direction, happiness and peace into our own lives and in discovering this we find our true selves.

As a Christian community we are surrounded by the blessings of God's kingdom.

Our pathway through life is studded with the rich symbols of Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist and other Christian sacraments. For the want of making space for God in prayer, they may have become treasures we have overlooked, taken for granted and failed to recognise. In today's Gospel Christ is pleading with us not to let our faith in the kingdom of God lie buried on the seabed. He is inviting us to open our eyes and become aware of the treasure each of us has received. We are being called to come back to God and to put Christ and his teaching first in our lives.

As we were unable to encourage enough volunteers to be cleaners here in the church, it has been decided that we will employ a company to do the job for us. We do however still need volunteers to act as Stewards, so please let me know if you are willing to do so as soon as possible please. Our opening has been delayed by the fact that floor to the sacristy is collapsing and we have to undergo major emergency repairs! Please pray that we can find the funding for this work.

God Bless, Fr. Benedict OSB

Parish Safeguarding Representative:- Gemma Holdsworth

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Registered Charity Number 1063237

This parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham and served by the Benedictine Monks of Douai Abbey

Parish Priest: Fr. Benedict Thompson O.S.B

Rev. Deacon Peter Griffiths



Week 17 Year (A)

Week commencing Sunday 26th July 2020

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

The Douai Abbey Parishes Trust is responsible for our Parish and is committed to ensuring high standards of information security, privacy and transparency. Check our website, address above, for full details

Masses

Sat 25 th July		17th Sunday (Year A)	Mick Wall RIP
Sun 26 th July		17th Sunday (Year A)	Nancy & Nicky Flynn RIP
Mon 27 th July			
Tue 28 th July			
Wed 29 th July		SS Martha, Mary & Lazarus (m)	
Thur 30 th July			
Fri 31 st July			
Sat 1 st Aug		18th Sunday (Year A)	People of the Parish
Sun 2 nd Aug		18th Sunday (Year A)	Paul Bunn RIP

Mass is celebrated daily except on Mondays.

If you would like a mass offered for a particular intention, please email the parish or put a note through the door of the presbytery.

Those Who Have Asked for Prayers: Doleen Evans, Faith Lyons, Steve Smith, Jane-Christina Thomson, Joan Smith, Derek Sollis, Michael Hall, Christopher Hurd, Edward O'Neill, Michael Smith, Barbara Wall, Pamela Young, Mick Sollis, Margaret Birkett, Nell Bridge, Annie McHugh, Georgette Cowell, Dolores Flynn, Carol Shuck, Tony Lyons, Jackie Ingrams, Brian Arthur, Michelle Norton, Melvin Probyn, Peter Sollis, Fred Chadfield. Mary Cross.

Those who have recently died:

Jennifer Harvey, Anne Nora Finnegan, Mary Hadley, Barbara Flowers, Gerald Clarke, Alma Clarke, Eric George Dunton, Jill Smith, Paula Brookes, Jean McCarthy, Joe Brennan, Paul Bunn, Richard Flynn, Denis Charlton, Mary Gardner, Charles Maries, Sheila Hall, Donald Newell, Helen Meaney, Bridget Clarke, Sylvia Flanagan, Robert McCarthy, Pamela Young, Norah O'Neill-Thomas, Susanna Westmeath.

Information and Prayers

Please keep in your prayers all the people who continue to send cheques and money to keep the parish financially viable at this time. God Bless you.

PRAYER FOR A SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in this Holy Sacrament of the altar.



I love You above all things and I passionately desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul so that I may unite myself wholly to You now and forever. Amen

Based on a prayer of St Alphonsus Liguori

How to support your Parish

At this present time, the Parish is only receiving a small amount of income via standing orders and has lost the valuable weekly collection that helps to keep our Church afloat.

We still have bills to pay whilst we are closed.

It would help greatly if you are able to donate directly to St Mary's R C Parish in any of the following ways:

- downloading & completing the 'Standing Order' form from this website & sending it to the Parish
- posting cheques made payable to **St Mary's R C Parish** through the presbytery door. Please put your name & address on the reverse of the cheque
- posting cash in an envelope through the presbytery door. Please include your name & address
- posting your planned giving envelopes through the door

Please let us know if you are Gift Aid registered for any donations you make & please consider completing the Gift Aid form if you are not already registered & include it with your donation. Thank you!

A big 'Thank You' to all those people who have sent cheques and cash over the last week. Please let us keep each other in our prayers.

Do please check out our great new website where you will find up to date information, including the current bulletin, photos and other useful facts and advice about the resumption of Mass.