



LITURGY

First reading: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Response to the Psalm: Lord, make me know your ways.

Second reading: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! The kingdom of God is close at hand; believe the Good News. Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 1:14-20



Dear Parishioners

God's presence in human life has a twofold character, bringing joy and sorrow, clarity and blindness, love and fear, gentleness and rigour, comfort and terror. The familiar Christmas narratives in the Gospels please us with the tenderness of motherhood and a newborn child, with the joy of hope fulfilled and with the firm promise of peace on earth.

But there is also the contrary element: bewilderment and uncertainty for Mary and Joseph, myrrh foreshadowing death, the foretelling of the sword that will pierce the heart, the rage of Herod, the slaughter of the innocents, and the Holy Family escaping for their lives to become displaced persons in a foreign land.

It can be very different in the Gospels. In St. John, the death of Jesus is his glorification; the one who is lifted up draws all to himself. The death and resurrection are one event in which God is glorified by bringing his life to a fallen world. The last words of Jesus in St. Matthew are: "Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

So it is here, in today's Gospel reading. Jesus declares the Good News that the kingdom of God is close at hand, but to enter that kingdom we must repent and believe. Then he immediately calls together the core group of disciples, and at once commissions them to go out and become fishers of men. He gathers us together with Good News, and he sends us out with a task.

At every point in Christian life, therefore, we can expect this dual experience of God's touch. The call to repentance is constant, not just at Advent and Lent; but so is his consoling presence. He draws into a community, the Church, whose very existence is mission, movement, to go out and preach the Good News. He calls us to share in his enterprise which is one of total security, and at the same time one of unpredictable adventure.

It will certainly keep us on our toes --- and on our knees.

God Bless
Fr. Benedict OSB

St Mary's Roman Catholic Church

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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



3rd Sunday of Year (B)

Week commencing Sunday 24th January 2021

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 23 rd Jan	5pm	Week 3 Year B	Michael Russell
Sun 24 th Jan		Week 3 Year B	Enid Hodgetts RIP
Mon 25 th Jan			
Tue 26 th Jan			Susanna Westmeath RIP
Wed 27 th Jan			
Thur 28 th Jan		St. Thomas Aquinas(mem)	Pamela Young RIP
Fri 29 th Jan			
Sat 30 th Jan	5pm	Week 4 Year B	Paul Bunn RIP
Sun 31 st Jan		Week 4 Year B	People of the Parish

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: Faith Lyons, Steve Smith, Jane-Christina Thomson, Joan Smith, Derek Sollis, Michael Hall, Christopher Hurd, Edward O'Neill, Michael Smith, Barbara Wall, Mick Sollis, Margaret Birkett, Annie McHugh, Georgette Cowell, Dolores Flynn, Carol Shuck, Tony Lyons, Jackie Ingrams, Brian Arthur, Michelle Norton, Melvin Probyn, Peter Sollis, Fred Chadfield. Mary Cross, Alan Clatworthy.

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, Nell Bridge. Doleen Evans.

Parish Safeguarding Representative:- Gemma Holdsworth

Information and Prayers

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 and can be found on our website & 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.