



LITURGY

First reading: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Response to the Psalm: O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts.

Second reading: 1 Corinthians 7:32-35

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to mere children. Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 1:21-28



Dear Parishioners

There are situations in which whole societies, usually totalitarian, seem to be possessed by a demonic power which drives them on to places like the killing fields in Cambodia or to create the destructive machines of National Socialism which lead to Dachau and its incinerators. Such societies have been taken over by a dominating diabolic power.

This is how St. Mark sees the world into which Jesus comes. It was not neutral ground but occupied by Satan. The Messiah will have to be involved in this cosmic battle. The whole Gospel is shaped in these terms.

In our sophisticated society we may be embarrassed with all this talk of demons and Satan. Surely, we have moved on from such simplistic ideas? We may have moved on in the ways we explain, in modern medical terminology, some of the manifestation of disease and sickness, but a brief glance at the newspapers will remind us that the presence of evil is still very much present in our society. The good news of the Gospel is that for individuals with their personal demons, and for societies with their collective addictions, Christ can still exorcise these demons. Where? At the Mass and through the other sacraments, through exorcisms, through prayer, fasting and in all the other ways that Jesus brought his kingdom nearer and routed Satan.

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



4th Sunday of Year (B)
Week commencing Sunday 31st 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 30 th Jan	5pm	Week 4 Year B	Paul Bunn RIP
Sun 31 st Jan		Week 4 Year B	People of the Parish
Mon 1 st Feb.			
Tue 2 nd Feb		The Presentation(F)	Robert McCarthy RIP
Wed 3 rd Feb			
Thur 4 th Feb			
Fri 5 th Feb			Nickie Flynn RIP
Sat 6 th Feb	5pm	Week 5 Year B	Jill & Tony Smith RIP
Sun 7 th Feb		Week 5 Year B	Douglas Thompson 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: 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

Ash Wednesday is 17th February and Mass will be at 7pm. Ashes will be sprinkled on the head, so there will be no actual contact. Of course you do not have to receive the ashes if you feel unsafe doing so. If you would like to attend the Mass then please book your place on Monday 8th February by ringing Lin Rea on 01527 545460.

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.

