



LITURGY

First reading: Genesis 9:8-15

Response to the Psalm: Your ways, Lord, are faithfulness and love for those who keep your ways.

Second reading: 1 Peter 3:18-22

Gospel Acclamation: Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory! Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

Gospel: Mark 1:12-15



Dear Parishioners
(Looking Towards Lent)

With the arrival of Lent people think of giving up little indulgences. It might be better if we thought of taking up new commitments.

The commitment we need to make above all is to love. To love our neighbour more and to love God more.

The Good News is that God has sent his Son into the world to die for us and rise to new life. To believe in that is to recognise that God's infinite self-giving love has become incarnate, has entered into our world, emptied of the arrogance we might have expected of God, and established the kingdom of God in our midst. For that reason we are called to repentance, which means a complete reversal of the arrogance to which our self-love inclines, making way for God in all his otherness, making way, in short, for love. That love acknowledges not only God's claim on us, but also our neighbour's claim too; we are not on our own, we belong to a whole community to whom God's saving love is extended. There is no love in isolation.

Perhaps we have become altogether too materialistic; our spiritual life needs refreshing, we need to pray more. Perhaps we have become too selfish, the need of helping others, by a real concern or by making contributions to the needy.

Lent is not to be a negative time. It may involve fasting or giving things up as a means of ridding ourselves of arrogance. But the end is the discovery of the pure joy of real love.

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



1st Sunday of Lent Year (B)
Week commencing Sunday 21st February 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 20 th Feb	5pm	1st Sunday of Lent	Sheila Hall RIP
Sun 21 st Feb		1st Sunday of Lent	Robert McCarthy RIP
Mon 22 nd Feb.		Chair of St. Peter(F)	
Tue 23 rd Feb			Sheila Hall RIP
Wed 24 th Feb			
Thur 25 th Feb			Robert McCarthy RIP
Fri 26 th Feb			
Sat 27 th Feb	5pm	2nd Sunday of Lent	People of the Parish
Sun 28 th Feb		2nd Sunday of Lent	Private Intention

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