



**LITURGY**

**First reading:** 2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23

**Response to the Psalm:** O let my tongue cleave to my mouth if I remember you not.

**Second reading:** Ephesians 2:4-16

**Gospel Acclamation:** Glory and praise to you, O Christ! God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son: everyone who believes in him has eternal life. Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

**Gospel:** John 3:14-21



**Dear Parishioners**

Christ says 'the Son of Man must be lifted up' - must be exalted, must be crucified - so that people had to show who they were. He is like a lantern raised on a pole in a dark place, to whom those who are of the light are drawn like moths to a flame, while those who prefer to skulk in the darkness scurry away like rats. When God gave up his only Son, allowed him to be lifted up on the gibbet, he shone a spotlight on every evil act, however trivial, however unnoticed. Jesus's death on the cross says to us: 'Open your eyes. Look what you are doing!' So when God's glory shines in the world from the cross, revealing the true state of the world we have made, and the state of our own souls, we may well recoil. The cross is, after all, a hideous thing. But we have chosen to stare unblinkingly at that reality, however painful, rather than to cover our faces with our pillows, roll over and go back to sleep. And indeed, St Paul says that God has raised us up with him. In our union with Christ, we are the light of the world, you and I. We are God's torches. It is our job to go out there and shine the light of Christ in every dark corner of the world, to show up evil for what it is; to show up the darkness and call people into the light

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**



**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent Year (B)**

**Week commencing Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March 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 13 <sup>th</sup> March	5pm	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent</b>	Kathleen O'Brien RIP
Sun 14 <sup>th</sup> March		<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent</b>	All Mothers
Mon 15 <sup>th</sup> March			
Tue 16 <sup>th</sup> March			Zita & Harold Sollis and family RIP
Wed 17 <sup>th</sup> March			
Thur 18 <sup>th</sup> March			Stephen Paul Clark
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup> March			
Sat 20 <sup>th</sup> March	5pm	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent</b>	Stephen Paul Clark
Sun 21 <sup>st</sup> March		<b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent</b>	Donald Newell 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, Jean Monica Tucker, Fr. John Fallon.

**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**