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**LITURGY**

**First reading:** Isaiah 35:4-7

**Response to the Psalm:** My soul, give praise to the Lord.

**Second reading:** Letter to St. James 2:1-5

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, Alleluia, Speak, Lord, your servant is listening: you have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!

**Gospel:** Mark 7:31-37

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**Dear Parishioners**

In Biblical times physical defect implied spiritual defect. For example in Leviticus it states that no Priest's son who was blind or lame or whatever it might be could exercise ministry. Inner unworthiness was manifested by his defect. Remember in John 9 the disciples themselves ask the question: "Who sinned, this man or his parents?" about the blind man.

However, it is 'fit' people who demonstrate that it is *they*, who benefit from literal sight and hearing, who are by prejudice and discrimination *inwardly* blind and deaf when they fail to heed the appeal for understanding and support signaled from those with physical (and mental and emotional) afflictions. We need to become listening learners and grasp afresh the idea that God calls on us to recuperate and sustain our own selves and our neighbours.

First, we need to clear ourselves of illusions about our personality, and be aware of the inner contortions thwarting well-being; as it were demons seeking possession. We need to face up to the multiplicity of our malign attitudes, such as arrogance, disdain and self-seeking and pray for the grace of purification and for a self that we may value. There is much to gain as indifference and animosity are transformed into having love to give!

We are likely to fall short of the whole person God wants us to be, but if we want to be true and compassionate disciples, contrition will turn us around and help us forward. The Gospel depicts people perhaps activated by both concern and wariness. Our pilgrim way through life accompanies others. We have to be supportive, liberated from the attitudes of dismissal and discrimination. Divisions arising from race and class, destitution, infirmity, marginalization. We must desist from distancing, and meet our brothers and sisters, looking and behaving like us or not, who with us make up the world of diverse humanity which is radically one.

God Bless,  
Fr. Benedict OSB

# St Mary's Roman Catholic Church

103 Alcester Road Studley Warwickshire B80 7NW

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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**



**23<sup>rd</sup> Week of Year (B)**

**Week commencing Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> September 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 4 <sup>th</sup> Sept.	5pm	<b>23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday (Year B)</b>	Marcello Manca RIP
Sun 5 <sup>th</sup> Sept.		<b>23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday (Year B)</b>	People of the Parish
Mon 6 <sup>th</sup> Sept.			
Tues 7 <sup>th</sup> Sept.			
Wed 8 <sup>th</sup> Sept.		<b>The Nativity of the Blessed virgin Mary(F)</b>	
Thur 9 <sup>th</sup> Sept.			
Fri 10 <sup>th</sup> Sept.			
Sat 11 <sup>th</sup> Sept.	5pm	<b>24<sup>th</sup> Sunday (Year B)</b>	Private Intention
Sun 12 <sup>th</sup> Sept.		<b>24<sup>th</sup> Sunday (YearB)</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, Anthony Woodhouse, Bud Sollis, Chanel Mullings.

**Those who have recently died:**

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, Judy Husband Graham Janes, Elizabeth Watton, Maurice Andrews, Max Stoddart.

**Parish Safeguarding: Mrs. Helen Woodhouse**

Contact in confidence [sg.stmary.studley@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.stmary.studley@rcaob.org.uk)

### **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*



### **INFORMATION**

#### **Saturday or Sunday**

As we are only able to offer one Mass over the weekend for the foreseeable future,

I would like to know which day people would prefer once the clocks go back in October. A number of people have said they would prefer to come to Mass at 10.30 am on a Sunday morning during the winter months rather than on a Saturday evening. Perhaps you could let me know what you think. You can email the office or telephone or when you are filling out your Track and Trace form simply write either Saturday or Sunday on the reverse, whichever is your preference. I look forward to hearing from you.

**Fr. Benedict OSB**