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**LITURGY**

**First reading:** Exodus 3:1-8, 13-15

**Response to the Psalm:** The Lord is compassion and love.

**Second reading:** 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12

**Gospel Acclamation:** Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!  
Repent, says the Lord, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand. Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!

**Gospel:** Luke 13:1-9



**Dear Parishioners**

Lent is a time for doing penance, and we make all kinds of gestures as a way of expressing this. But of course the result of these disciplines of fasting, of generosity towards others and of prayer shouldn't just be a temporary spring clean of the soul. It's about changing our minds, about reorienting ourselves *permanently* towards the good, a decision to choose the life that God offers us, and to keep choosing it each day from now on.

This reorientation is an important way to help us deal with life. It's what we might call a stress buster, because it takes our attention away from fear of the unknown, the worry about the suffering that the future may hold. It focuses us on the present moment, on the things that we do have some degree of control over – our attitudes to God, to ourselves and to others.

The reality is that conversion takes time and a lot of grace. It requires us not only to make up our minds that we want to change, but also for us to be willing to work patiently with God's help to allow the change to happen. So we need to set ourselves on the road, and be patient and merciful with ourselves if it takes a while to get things right. When it comes to living with God, we work to God's timetable, not ours.

But there's one thing we should remember. *We need to take that first step* – the step which is a yes to Christ, a yes to his kingdom, a yes to living and loving as he wants us to. And we need to take that same first step again each day – not just every day of our Lenten journey, but every day of our lives. It's by doing this that we will become the kind of people that we are called to be – fruitful people who are fit for God's kingdom.

**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**



**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent Year(C)**

**Week commencing Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

**Parish Safeguarding: Mrs. Helen Woodhouse**

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

### Masses

|                             |         |                                                 |                                        |
|-----------------------------|---------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Sat 19 <sup>th</sup> March  | 5pm     | <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent<br/>Year C</b> | Kathleen O'Brien RIP                   |
| Sun 20 <sup>th</sup> March  | 10.30am | <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent<br/>Year C</b> | Zita & Harold Sollis<br>and family RIP |
| Mon 21 <sup>st</sup> March  |         |                                                 |                                        |
| Tues 22 <sup>nd</sup> March |         |                                                 | People of the Parish                   |
| Wed 23 <sup>rd</sup> March  |         |                                                 | Private Intention                      |
| Thur 24 <sup>th</sup> March |         |                                                 | People of Ukraine                      |
| Fri 25 <sup>th</sup> March  |         |                                                 |                                        |
| Sat 26 <sup>th</sup> March  | 5pm     | <b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent<br/>Year C</b> | Mary Cross RIP                         |
| Sun 27 <sup>th</sup> March  | 10.30am | <b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent<br/>Year C</b> | Helen McCarthy RIP                     |

**Mass is celebrated privately daily.**

**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, *please do not place it in the collection bag*. Thank you.**

#### **Those Who Have Asked for Prayers:**

Derek Sollis, , Georgette Cowell, Dolores Flynn, Fred Chadfield. Alan Clatworthy, Anthony Woodhouse, Chanel Mullings, Clive Rickhards, Deacon Peter.

#### **Those who have recently died:**

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. Tony Lyons, Michael Russell, Mary Cross.

### **Information**

We are still respectfully requesting that people wear a face covering in church if they can and that people please use the hand sanitizer on entry into the church.  
**Could I also please ask for more volunteers to be readers and ministers of communion for both Saturday and Sunday**

### **Request**

If you put your collection money in an envelope it would help us a great deal if you could put the date on the envelope and if you are a Gift Aid member also your number. Many thanks.

#### **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