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**LITURGY**

**First reading:** Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13

**Response to the Psalm:** How happy are the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

**Second reading:** 1 Corinthians 1:26-31

**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:** Matthew 5:1-12

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**Dear Parishioners**

The teaching of Christ puts a literally infinite demand on us. We can't say, 'No more' or 'That's it'. His teaching admits no limits in what may be asked of us in the way of sacrifice. We express this in the *cultus* we pay to the martyrs, the first category of saint to be recognized in the Church. The Christian religion is a hard way. It is the way of the Cross. But it has the right to make an infinite demand, since it springs from an equally infinite succour, an equally limitless eagerness not only to help us but also to raise us up to share the divine life.

The heart of Christ wants each of us totally, everything about us: our intellect, our emotions, our energies, our talents, our surplus income, our imagination, our freedom. It wants them so as to consecrate them to the Father that God may be all in all, and we be who we were made to be, in God's image and likeness.

There has to be a powerful element of reckless, exuberant, self-abandoned, love of God in our lives – 'folly' was St Paul's word for it – or we shall never be on the wavelength of the excessive, ecstatic, mad love of God for humankind which made him enter his own creation in Jesus Christ and there be crucified to re-make us all.

**God Bless  
Fr. Benedict OSB**

# St Mary's Roman Catholic Church

103 Alcester Road Studley Warwickshire B80 7NW

Telephone 01527 852524

Email: [stmarysstudley@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysstudley@gmail.com)

WEBSITE: [stmaryscatholicchurchstudley.org.uk](http://stmaryscatholicchurchstudley.org.uk)

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> Week of Year(A)**

**Week commencing Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

**Parish Safeguarding: Mrs. Helen Woodhouse**

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

## Masses

Sat 28 <sup>th</sup> Jan	5.00pm	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Year A	Fallon & Gartland Families
Sun 29 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10.30am	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Year A	People of the Parish
Mon 30 <sup>th</sup> Jan			
Tues 31 <sup>st</sup> Jan		St. John Bosco (m)	
Wed 1 <sup>st</sup> Feb			
Thur 2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb		Presentation of the Lord (F)	Wellbeing of the EBC
Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup> Feb			
Sat 4 <sup>th</sup> Feb	5.00pm	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Year A	Jill & Tony Smith RIP
Sun 5 <sup>th</sup> Feb	10.30am	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Year A	Millie & Douglas Thompson RIP

Mass is celebrated privately daily except on Monday.

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, Chanel Mullings, Clive Rickhards,, Jill Spurrell, Stan Phipps.

### Those who have recently died: ,

Doleen Evans, Jean Monica Tucker, Fr. John Fallon, Judy Husband Graham Janes, Elizabeth Watton, Maurice Andrews, Max Stoddart. Tony Lyons, Michael Russell, Mary Cross, Agnes McIlravey, Helen McCarthy, Patricia O'Brien, Pauline Burton, Mary Judith Smith (nee Hewitt), Wyn Varley, Raimondo Gemeli, Anthony Woodhouse, Barbara Woodhouse, Kathleen McLoughlin.

## Information

### Second Collection

The weekly second collection will normally be for help towards the payment of the diocesan levy and the upkeep of the house and church buildings. Both the church and the house are Grade II listed so any work done has to be to a high standard as set by the requisite authority. Here are a few of the expenses for the coming year:

- Diocesan Levy      £5,500 p.a.
  - Building's upkeep    £36,000.00
  - Insurance            £3,744.77 p.a.
- Three Church Windows    £1775.00

At times the second collection will be for other charities and the details of these will be placed in the bulletin.

### Unwanted Christmas Gifts

We will be collecting any new, unopened Christmas gifts and gift sets after Christmas for future fundraising sales. Please keep anything that you think might be saleable and check the bulletin for details of when we will be collecting these items. Thank you!

### Sunday Coffee Mornings

Initially coffee mornings will run on the last Sunday of each month. The first one will be next weekend on 29<sup>th</sup> January. Do please come along and join us for a drink, sweet things and a chat.

At the back of the church there is a Coffee Volunteers Rota. If you are able, please could you sign up to look after the coffee mornings. Details are on the Rota. 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