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**LITURGY**

**First reading:** Isaiah 58:7-10

**Response to the Psalm:** The good man is a light in the darkness for the upright.

**Second reading:** 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! I am the light of the world, says the Lord, anyone who follows me will have the light of life. Alleluia!

**Gospel:** Matthew 5:13-16

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**Dear Parishioners**

There may be many reasons why, at times, we choose the way of the clenched fist rather than the open hand: hurt and disappointment, tiredness and indifference, fear and misunderstanding, selfishness and disdain.

Whatever the reasons, the clenched fist always involves turning from our own kin and denying, in effect, that others are of the same kin. The open hand, however, means turning towards others as our kin, fellow human creatures, brothers and sisters, children of the same heavenly Father sharing a common call and a common hope.

The good works of the open-handed shine forth so that people might praise the Father for the holiness they glimpse in His creatures. We have come to know that this is what God is like, causing his sun to rise on bad and as well as good, and his rain to fall on honest as on dishonest people

Are we to turn in and close ourselves away, hardening our heart and clenching our fist? Or are we to follow Christ by opening our hands and our hearts, by reaching out to others in generosity and justice? What is the point in opening our hands in prayer to God if we do not lend a hand of kindness to our brothers and sisters in their need?

**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



**5<sup>th</sup> Week of Year(A)**

**Week commencing Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

**Parish Safeguarding: Mrs. Helen Woodhouse**

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

## Masses

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
Mon 6 <sup>th</sup> Feb			
Tues 7 <sup>th</sup> Feb			
Wed 8 <sup>th</sup> Feb	9.45am	SCHOOL MASS	Eugene McLoughlin RIP
Thur 9 <sup>th</sup> Feb			Wellbeing of the EBC
Fri 10 <sup>th</sup> Feb		St. Scholastica (F)	
Sat 11 <sup>th</sup> Feb	5.00pm	6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Year A	Mary Moore RIP
Sun 12 <sup>th</sup> Feb	10.30am	6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Year A	People of the Parish

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

Coffee mornings will run on the last Sunday of each month. The next one will be on 26<sup>th</sup> February. 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