

LITURGY

First reading: Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18

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

Second reading: 1 Corinthians 3:16-23

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 5:38-48

Dear Parishioners

We have a responsibility to follow Christ. If we love our neighbour and pray for those who persecute us, Jesus tells us that this leads to perfection. Logically, this needs to transpose into our own lives in the circumstances in which we seek vengeance. It is therefore a radical idea to 'turn the other cheek', once we start to see this concept as being more than telling children off for fighting back if they are slapped in the playground. To forgive others: this can be one of the most difficult things to do, yet this is one of the central commands of Jesus. It also means giving up on things that we think give us freedom, but in fact end up shackling us to a cycle of vengefulness. If we don't take seriously the command to forgive and instead pick and choose which teachings of Christ to follow, then we shall reap what we sow. If we sow 'seeds' in the field of self-indulgence, then we get a harvest of corruption. If we sow in the field of the Spirit, then we get from it a harvest of eternal life. Sowing in the field of the Spirit is a struggle to accomplish, yet it is nonetheless a struggle where we shall get our harvest at the proper time. As Saint Paul wrote: when we have the chance, we must do good to all, especially to brothers and sisters in the faith.

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



7<sup>th</sup> Week of Year(A)

Week commencing Sunday 19<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 18 <sup>th</sup> Feb	5.00pm	7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Year A	Mary Moore RIP
Sun 19 <sup>th</sup> Feb	10.30am	7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Year A	Mary Cross RIP
Mon 20 <sup>th</sup> Feb			
Tues 21 <sup>st</sup> Feb			Kathleen McLoughlin RIP
Wed 22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	7.00pm	ASH WEDNESDAY	People of the Parish
Thur 23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb			Wellbeing of the EBC
Fri 24 <sup>th</sup> Feb			
Sat 25 <sup>th</sup> Feb	5.00pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent (A)	Danny Scally RIP
Sun 26 <sup>th</sup> Feb	10.30am	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent (A)	Bud & Mick Sollis (60 <sup>th</sup> W.A.)

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, Judith Baylis.

### 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 McLravey, 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

Our next 'Coffee Morning' will be after Mass on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> February. Do please come along and join us. Marie Andrews has very kindly agreed to have a sale of some of the wonderful crafts she produces to help us raise funds.

### Wednesdays During Lent

At 7pm on Wednesdays during Lent there will be Stations of the Cross together with Exposition and Benediction. Do please come along and use the service as part of your Lenten preparations.

#### 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