



LITURGY

First reading: Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13

Response to the Psalm: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Second reading: Ephesians 5:8-14

Gospel Acclamation: Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God! I am the light of the world, says the Lord; anyone who follows me will have the light of life. Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!

Gospel: John 9:1-41



Dear Parishioners

Not everyone rejoiced at what had happened to the blind man. He used to beg; he was a marginalised person. Once healed, he was not believed by everyone and was driven away. For some, the man who had come from the margin of disability and poverty was still to be kept at bay. Jesus took yet another initiative. When Jesus heard that they had driven away the formerly blind man, he went and found him. There was more light to be given to the man, the light of faith of which the giving of natural sight was a sign. The One, who is light, is also love.

The healing is done by Jesus spitting on the ground, making a paste with the spittle and daubing it on the man's eyes. It is an extremely tactile process, described in a detailed and prolonged way. This is not love from a distance. After that, far from wanting to drive the cured man away, Jesus goes and finds him. Jesus is reconstituting our damaged humanity, our communion with God and each other. We can hear echoes of Adam's creation in what Jesus does to the blind man; We often speak about coming to understand something we had not understood before as a 'coming to see': 'now I see' can mean now I understand. The cured man was brought by love to see not just the natural world, but also to see and share in the world being transformed in Jesus Christ.

**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



4th Week of Lent Year(A)

Week commencing Sunday 19th March 2023

Parish Safeguarding: Mrs. Helen Woodhouse
Contact in confidence sg.stmary.studley@rcaob.org.uk

Masses

Sat 18 th March	5.00pm	4 th Sunday of Lent (A)	Hector, Phyllis & Sheila Hall RIP
Sun 19 th March	10.30am	4 th Sunday of Lent (A)	Sollis Family RIP
Mon 20 th March			
Tues 21 st March		Passing of St. Benedict (S)	Donald Newell RIP
Wed 22 nd March	7.00pm	Stations of the Cross & Benediction	People of the Parish
Thur 23 rd March			Wellbeing of the EBC
Fri 24 th March			Mike Soule RIP
Sat 25 th March	5.00pm	5 th Sunday of Lent (A)	Peter McGoldrick RIP
Sun 26 th March	10.30am	5 th Sunday of Lent (A)	Hedley Family (Living and Dead)

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, Rachel Severn.

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, Peter McGoldrick, Anthony Roache.

Information

Missio

Geraldine Flynn is the new secretary for Missio and will be available to collect your red Missio box from promoters and individuals after mass on Saturday Evening and Sunday morning of the weekend 18th and 19th of March. If for any reason you are unable to get your Missio box to us on these dates, please give her a call on 07719 488754 directly to make alternative arrangements.

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. No alcohol. Thank you!

Sunday Coffee

Our next Coffee Morning following Mass will be on Sunday 26th March and we look forward to as many of you as possible joining us for coffee cake and biscuits afterwards.

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.

Pam Young Memorial Service

Pam was a very faithful supporter of our parish for many years and willing to help anyone who needed it. Unfortunately, she died during the pandemic and only six people were able to attend her funeral which was held at the graveside. On Tuesday 4th April at 11.00am her family have arranged a memorial service for her here in St. Mary's which will include some of Pam's favourite hymns and readings plus a eulogy. It will conclude with the blessing of her grave followed by tea, coffee and biscuits in the conservatory. If you can, do please come along and say prayers for Pam.

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