



LITURGY

First reading: Jeremiah 20:10-12

Response to the Psalm: In your great love, answer me, O God.

Second reading: Romans 5:12-15

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! The Word was made flesh and lived amongst us; to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 10:26-33



Dear Parishioners

Jesus always gives us a bigger picture, revealing God’s truth and love for us. In today’s gospel, he is teaching his closest disciples that, despite persecutions they will suffer by following in his footsteps (Mt 10:25), they must overcome their human instinct to fear. He says it three times: ‘Do not be afraid.’ We can survive any earthly suffering, even bodily torment and death. Our only fear must be ‘fear of the Lord’, a deep humility before God the Almighty Creator, not because we imagine he wants to hurt us but because in his love he has given us a terrifying opportunity freely to return or reject that love. Jesus uses the image of sparrows dying or being sold two-a-penny – that looks like cruel Nature as described by Darwin. But, as Jesus tells it, ‘not one falls to the ground without your Father’ (Mt 10:29).

Translations sometimes add ‘without your Father knowing’ or ‘without your Father’s will’, and either works: God knows all things, and his providential will encompasses all things. The early commentator Origen clarified that God’s direct will is not in play when the sparrow falls; God only permits death, never actively desires it.

So this is what God’s care looks like: not preventing all suffering but holding all things in being and never letting sin or death have the last word. Supremely, we see this on the cross of Christ, when Love Himself submits to death and rises triumphant, offering us the ‘abundance of grace’ (Rom 5:17). Now we can look back on Adam’s sin as a ‘happy fault which earned for us so great, so glorious a Redeemer’.

**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



12th Week of (Year A)

Week commencing Sunday 25th June 2023

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

Information

Sunday Coffee

Do please come and join us after Mass **THIS SUNDAY AFTER MASS.**

There will often be a small tabletop sale of priced items. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible for coffee, cake and biscuits.

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.

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. No alcohol. Thank you!

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

Masses

Sat 24 th June	5.00pm	12 th Sunday Year (A)	Marie Wolahan RIP
Sun 25 th June	10.30am	12 th Sunday Year (A)	Mary Baker RIP
Mon 26 th June			
Tues 27 th June			Private Intention
Wed 28 th June		St Irenaeus (mem)	
Thur 29 th June	9.45am Parish/School	SS Peter & Paul Holy Day of Obligation	Douai Monks
Fri 30 th June			
Sat 1 st July	5.00pm	13 th Sunday Year (A)	Thomas Ryan RIP
Sun 2 nd July	10.30am	13 th 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, 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, Lionel Quigley.
Keith John Francis Cotterell, Anna Rose McGoldrick, Mary Baker.