



**LITURGY**

**First reading:** Wisdom 12:13. 16-19

**Response to the Psalm:** O Lord, you are good and forgiving.

**Second reading:** Romans 8:26-27

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind, so that we can see what hope his call holds for us. Alleluia!

**Gospel:** Matthew 13:24-43



**Dear Parishioners**

Jesus uses the familiar image of weeds in a field of wheat to convey his message about good and evil in our lives. Our world is far from perfect and none of us needs convincing about the existence of evil as every day the media brings its own litany of bad news. Human frailty makes us aware that there are weeds in our own make up, and despite our good intentions we seem incapable of changing and of living the type of life we want to live. We hear so much about suffering, hatred, violence and death that we are left wondering has evil triumphed, is good in danger of being suffocated and has God's kingdom dissolved into nothingness? There tends to be so much emphasis on what makes colourful headlines that the good news is left unmentioned and goes unnoticed. It is there all the same in all the unspoken acts of kindness, in the offers of help to neighbours in need from people whose lives are genuinely committed to gospel values. I am sure that each one of us can count numerous individuals whose daily lives are grounded in compassionate love.

While we sort through the weedy areas and dark crannies of our own lives in order to become better people who learn from our difficulties, as a church we are called to be open, inviting and forgiving to sinners, as was Christ. An important spiritual lesson to be drawn from today's gospel is that our God is not in a hurry and that his patience comes from a great understanding and love for us. We are invited in our own lives to imitate his mildness and leniency, and to develop that capacity of looking beyond appearances to see the best in others, believe the best about them and encourage the best from them.

**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



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

**Week commencing Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2023**

**Parish Safeguarding: Mrs. Helen Woodhouse**  
Contact in confidence [sg.stmary.studley@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.stmary.studley@rcaob.org.uk)

### Masses

Sat 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	5.00pm	16 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Year (A)	John Kickham RIP
Sun 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	10.30am	16 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Year (A)	Leslie Hedley RIP
Mon 24 <sup>th</sup> July			
Tues 25 <sup>th</sup> July		St. James (Feast)	Private Intention
Wed 26 <sup>th</sup> July		SS Joachim & Anne (mem)	
Thur 27 <sup>th</sup> July			
Fri 28 <sup>th</sup> July			
Sat 29 <sup>th</sup> July	5.00pm	17 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Year (A)	Zita & Harold Sollis & Family RIP
Sun 30 <sup>th</sup> July	10.30am	17 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Year (A)	Mick Wall 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, 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.

## INFORMATION

### Sunday Coffee

Do please come and join us after Mass THIS WEEKEND SUNDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> JULY. There will be no coffee morning during August because of the holidays. We will resume in September and a new list for volunteers to sign is available at the back of the church. 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