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**LITURGY**

**First reading:** Samuel 3:3-10. 19

**Response to the Psalm:** Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.

**Second reading:** 1 Corinthians 6:13-15, 17-20

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Speak, Lord, your servant is listening; you have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!

**Gospel:** John 1:35-42

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Dear Parishioners

Today's readings have a lot to say about the call of the Lord and the meaning of discipleship. The question, "What are you looking for?" was asked not just of the two disciples but is asked of each one of us today. It is couched in many forms: What is the purpose and centre of your life? Are you happy? Do you know where you are going? Whose voice and values are you following? How genuine is your discipleship? We will only find answers to these questions if we heed the advice of the old priest, Eli, to Samuel, "Speak Lord, your servant is listening." We long for that kind of personal understanding where somebody will listen to our story without judging us, but will hear us, make us feel valued as a genuinely special human being.

We begin to listen to others by setting aside time for quiet and peaceful corners in our day. These graced moments enable us to leave behind our worldly cares and concerns and be alone to hear the voice of God calling us and inviting us along his pathway. Inner peace is a silence that is deeper than a lack of noise and is something we all need. Quietness, tranquillity and stillness lead us into the world of prayer, where time stands still and we can converse with our maker heart to heart. This way, we will discover Christ as the Way, the Truth and the Life and as the only one who can give meaning and purpose to our existence.

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



2nd Week (Year B)
Week commencing Sunday 14th January 2024

Masses

Sat 13 th Jan	5.00pm	2 nd Sunday Year B	The Hedley Family
Sun 14 th Jan	10.30am	2 nd Sunday Year B	Kathleen & John O'Brien RIP
Mon 15 th Jan			
Tues 16 th Jan		St. Anthony of Egypt (m)	
Wed 17 th Jan			People of the Parish
Thurs 18 th Jan			
Fri 19 th Jan			Private Intention
Sat 20 th Jan	5.00pm	3 rd Sunday Year B	Eugene McLoughlin RIP
Sun 21 st Jan	10.30am	3 rd Sunday Year B	Anthony Mathew 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, Dolores Flynn, Fred Chadfield. Alan Clatworthy, Chanel Mullings, Clive Rickhards,, Jill Spurrell, Stan Phipps, Judith Baylis, Jackie Gannon, Mick Sollis.

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, Georgette Cowell, Anthony Mathew.

INFORMATION

Sunday Coffee

Do please come and join us after Mass near the end of each month. **The next coffee morning will be on Sunday 28th January.** Please come and enjoy a coffee, cake & some shopping.

Coffee Rota

We hope to continue coffee mornings and sales once a month but need volunteers so that this can happen. **The rota sheet for 2024 is at the back of the church for you to sign if you can help.** We will also need new gift sets and other saleable items so please put aside any unwanted gifts you receive at Christmas. We are always happy to receive contemporary paperback fiction that is in good condition. We are unable to accept general bric-a-brac.

Euros

We were given a very generous donation of 45 euros which unfortunately we are unable to process through our bank. Please could I take this opportunity to ask people not to put euros into the collection. Many thanks.

Parish Safeguarding: Mrs. Helen Woodhouse

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Helen Woodhouse. She can be contacted at: sg.stmarys.studley@rcaob.org.uk or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/ safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concern