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**LITURGY**

**First reading:** Genesis 9:8-15

**Response to the Psalm:** Your ways, Lord, are faithfulness and love for those who keep your covenant.

**Second reading:** 1 Peter 3:18-22

**Gospel Acclamation:** Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory! Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

**Gospel:** Mark 1:12-15

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**Dear Parishioners**

With the arrival of Lent people think of giving up little indulgences. It might be better if we thought of taking up new commitments.

The commitment we need to make above all is to love. To love our neighbour more and to love God more.

The Good News is that God has sent his Son into the world to die for us and rise to new life. To believe in that is to recognise that God's infinite self-giving love has become incarnate, has entered into our world, emptied of the arrogance we might have expected of God, and established the kingdom of God in our midst. For that reason we are called to repentance, which means a complete reversal of the arrogance to which our self-love inclines, making way for God in all his otherness, making way, in short, for love. That love acknowledges not only God's claim on us, but also our neighbour's claim too; we are not on our own, we belong to a whole community to whom God's saving love is extended. There is no love in isolation.

Perhaps we have become altogether too materialistic; our spiritual life needs refreshing, we need to pray more. Perhaps we have become too selfish, the need of helping others, by a real concern or by making contributions to the needy.

**Lent is not to be a negative time. It may involve fasting or giving things up as a means of ridding ourselves of arrogance. But the end is the discovery of the pure joy of real love.**

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



**1<sup>st</sup> Week of Lent (Year B)**

**Week commencing Sunday 18th February 2024**

**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](mailto:sg.stmarys.studley@rcaob.org.uk) or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/ [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) if you have any concern

### Masses

Sat 17 <sup>th</sup> Feb	5.00pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent B	Private Intention
Sun 18 <sup>th</sup> Feb	10.30am	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent B	Mary Cross RIP
Mon 19 <sup>th</sup> Feb			
Tues 20 <sup>th</sup> Feb			
Wed 21 <sup>st</sup> Feb			
Thurs 22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb		Chair of St. Peter (F)	
Fri 23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb			
Sat 24 <sup>th</sup> Feb	5.00pm	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent B	Sheila Hall RIP
Sun 25 <sup>th</sup> Feb	10.30am	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent B	Tony Sawyer 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 and all those we have been asked to pray for.

### INFORMATION

#### .Sunday Coffee

Do please come and join us after Mass near the end of each month. **The next coffee morning will be Next Weekend on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February.** Please come and enjoy a coffee, cake, some shopping and a chat.

#### 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.