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**LITURGY**

**First reading:** Genesis 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18

**Response to the Psalm:** I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

**Second reading:** Romans 8:31-34

**Gospel Acclamation:** Glory and praise to you, O Christ! From the bright cloud the Father's voice was heard: 'This is my Son, the beloved. Listen to him.' Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

**Gospel:** Mark 9:2-10



**Dear Parishioners**

Life is a tension between our aspirations somewhere in the stars and our reality somewhere in the mud. And every year the first two Sundays of Lent present that whole range of human existence. In the readings from the First Sunday, Jesus' temptations remind us of the mud every human being since Adam and Eve have had to slog through. Today holds out a side of Jesus' starry transformation in glory. Jesus' transfiguration was more than a merely external change in appearance. The Greek word Mark used, from which we get our *metamorphosis*, means that Jesus' form was changed, as with a butterfly from a chrysalis. His clothes became dazzling white, such brightness could come from nowhere earthly. In the Scriptures, final glory is seen in terms of white garments; here, Jesus is revealed in the glory of the final age. The fact that Moses, the law giver par excellence, appeared indicated that the whole purpose of the law was to prepare for Christ. The appearance of Elijah, the prototype of prophets, signified that all the prophets looked forward to the same end.

There is always tension between the stars we aspire to and the reality of daily life. The stars are our ideals; we can't quite succeed in reaching them. But, like seafarers on the seas, we choose them as our guides and, following them, to reach our destiny. During this Lent, which is in a special way our whole life writ small, let's look into our hearts for whatever God has in store for us - mud or stars - and answer with Abraham: "Ready!"

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



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Week of Lent (Year B)

**Week commencing Sunday 25th 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 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
Mon 26 <sup>th</sup> Feb			
Tues 27 <sup>th</sup> Feb			
Wed 28 <sup>st</sup> Feb			Private Intention
Thurs 29thFeb			
Fri 1 <sup>st</sup> March		St. David (Feast)	
Sat 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	5.00pm	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent B	Eugene Whelan RIP
Sun 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	10.30am	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent B	Faith Wellsted 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 is this Weekend 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.