LITURGY

First reading: Acts 4:8-12

Response to the Psalm: The stone which the builders rejected has become the

corner stone.

Second reading: 1 John 3:1-2

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! I am the good shepherd, says the

Lord; I know my own sheep and my own know me. Alleluia!

Gospel: John 10:11-18

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Dear Parishioners

THE LORD IS RISEN INDEED ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA.

The early Church depicted Christ as a young shepherd lovingly caring for his sheep. In today's Gospel we find this image once more. We are reminded that it is Christ who knows each one of us, and that knowing gives us new life. He knows us and he knows the Father whose love he shares with us. This echoes the great command to love God and to love our neighbour. Here the knowing of which Christ speaks is one that binds us together. All those who hear his voice are drawn in unity to that one flock that knows the one true shepherd. Our knowing Christ makes us one. We are no hirelings.

This Sunday is designated as 'Vocations Sunday' or God's calling in our lives. Clearly each of us, as a Christian, has a calling that was born from the font of our baptism. Sadly, we take this vocation as a Christian for granted. If so, we need once again to hear the shepherd's voice calling to us amid our daily concerns and the loud drone of all our activities.

I think specifically though of those who may be called to the priesthood or the religious life. I don't believe that God suddenly stopped calling people to a religious vocation. Rather, today we so easily put God on hold. If you hear God speaking to your heart don't ignore such gentle voices. You might be at the start of your career and still a voice speaks to you. God calls us, but we for our part, must hear His voice. Don't reject the cornerstone of your life, don't refuse Christ's calling for you. Explore and discover if a religious vocation is part of you. At the end of the day, listening to this call is not wasted time. For the early Church the image of the youthful Christ shepherding his flock was an image of hope, let that same hope be yours. Hear the Shepherd's voice speaking to your heart.

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



4th Sunday of Easter (Year B) Week commencing Sunday 21st April 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 or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/ safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concern

Masses			
Sat 20 th April	5.00pm	4 th Sunday of Easter	Patricia Reardon RIP
Sun 21st April	10.30am	4 th Sunday of Easter	People of the Parish
Mon 22 nd April			
Tues 23 rd April		St. George (Sol)	
Wed 24th April			
Thurs 25th April		St. Mark (Feast)	
Fri 26 th April			
Sat 27 th April	5.00pm	5 th Sunday of Easter	Patricia Reardon RIP
Sun 28 th April	10.30am	5 th Sunday of Easter	People of the Parish

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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. Tim Harrison.

Those who have recently died:,

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, John Knox 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 on April 28th. Please come and enjoy a coffee, Biscuits, cake and a chat.

Second Collection THE SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEK IS FOR THE CLERGY TRAINING FUND.

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.

Missio

The 'Red Box' has been around for over 100 years. Whether you still have one at home, or remember having one growing up, we would love to hear from you as we plan for the future. Would you be happy to speak with us? If so, please complete a short form to show your interest and to find out more at: missio.org.uk/research or scan the QR code. If you cannot access the form online you can call 020 7821 9755. Thank you!

Please could you bring in your red boxes asap and leave them on the front bench of the church after Mass. Thank you.