



LITURGY

First reading: Isaiah 35:4-7

Response to the Psalm: My soul, give praise to the Lord.

Second reading: James 2:1-5

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

Gospel: Mark 7:31-37



Dear Parishioners

In Biblical times physical defect implied spiritual defect. For example, in Leviticus it states that no Priests son who was blind or lame or whatever it might be could exercise ministry. Inner unworthiness was manifested by his defect. Remember in John 9 the disciples themselves ask the question: "Who sinned, this man or his parents?" about the blind man.

However, it is 'fit' people who demonstrate that it is *they*, who benefit from literal sight and hearing, who are by prejudice and discrimination *inwardly* blind and deaf when they fail to heed the appeal for understanding and support signaled from those with physical (and mental and emotional) afflictions. We need to become listening learners and grasp afresh the idea that God calls on us to recuperate and sustain our own selves and our neighbours.

First, we need to clear ourselves of illusions about our personality, and be aware of the inner contortions thwarting well-being; as it were demons seeking possession.

We need to face up to the multiplicity of our malign attitudes, such as arrogance, disdain and self-seeking and pray for the grace of purification and for a self that we may value. There is much to gain as indifference and animosity are transformed into having love to give!

We are likely to fall short of the whole person God wants us to be, but if we want to be true and compassionate disciples, contrition will turn us around and help us forward. The Gospel depicts people perhaps activated by both concern and wariness. Our pilgrim way through life accompanies others. We must be supportive, liberated from the attitudes of dismissal and discrimination. Divisions arising from race and class, destitution, infirmity, marginalisation (homosexuals and AIDS sufferers to the fore these days): we must desist from distancing, and meet our brothers and sisters, looking and behaving like us or not, who with us make up the world of diverse humanity which is radically one.

**God Bless
Fr. Benedict OSB**

St Mary's Roman Catholic Church

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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



23rd Week of Year B

Week commencing Sunday 8th September 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 7 th Sept	5.00pm	23 rd Sunday Year (B)	Claire Hurley RIP
Sun 8 th Sept	10.30am	23 rd Sunday Year (B)	Bernadette Parker RIP
Mon 9 th Sept			
Tues 10 th Sept			
Wed 11 th Sept			
Thurs 12 th Sept			
Fri 13 th Sept		St. John Chrysostom (Mem)	
Sat 14 th Sept	5.00pm	24 th Sunday Year (B)	Dorothy Goodison RIP
Sun 15 th Sept	10.30am	24 th Sunday Year (B)	John Woodard 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, Chanel Mullings, Clive Rickhards,, Jill Spurrell, Stan Phipps, Judith Baylis, Jackie Gannon, Mick Sollis, Tim Harrison, Agnes Wilkins, Alma Finnerty.

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, Bill McCarthy, Bernadette Mary Parker, Mary Phipps, Alan Clatworthy, Abbot Finbar Kealy OSB, Katherine McCallion Fr. Boniface Moran OSB and all those we have been asked to pray for.

INFORMATION

**WE ARE BACK IN CHURCH AS FROM THIS WEEKEND
7TH/8TH SEPTEMBER
PRAISE THE LORD**

Sunday Coffee

Because of the current situation with regard to the church and conservatory, unfortunately there will be no coffee until the end of September.

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.

**THE SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK WILL BE FOR THE
CATHOLIC EDUCATION FUND**

Crowdfunding Page

We have started a crowdfunding page to help raise money for the church roof. If you click on the following link <https://gofund.me/c97767fe> It will take you there if you would like to donate. You can also donate directly to the parish. Please could you do so in an envelope marked church roof and if you pay gift aid, please put that on the envelope together with your name. There are prepared envelopes in the conservatory and in the porch of the church. Many thanks.

***A big Thank you to the people who have already
donated to the church roof fund. It is really appreciated.***

Church Scaffolding

Please be very careful when using the church car park and steer clear of the scaffolding. If you are driving round or walking to the rear of the church be very careful as the scaffolding does protrude a little.