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**LITURGY**

**First reading:** Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18

**Response to the Psalm:** The Lord is my light and my salvation.

**Second reading:** Philippians 3:17-4:1

**Gospel Acclamation:** Glory to you, O Christ, Wisdom of God the Father. From a bright cloud, the Father's voice was heard: 'This is my beloved Son, listen to him' Glory to you, O Christ, Wisdom of God the Father.

**Gospel:** Luke 9:28b-36

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**Dear Parishioners**

Many of us have learned to depend on ourselves, to look for good jobs so we can enter more actively into consumerism and buy ourselves happiness. Eventually we come to realise that we are not in full control. Daily crosses eventually creep in, even when we try to ignore them. Perhaps our health begins to fade, a loved one dies and we begin to feel that numbness caused by loneliness.

Lent is a time to reflect on taking up our crosses. We may be able to ignore our little crosses today, but bigger ones are on the horizon. We do not have an infinite horizon to sail toward; the real horizon is always getting closer even when we don't notice it or choose to ignore it.

During Lent we enter into Jesus' suffering through reflection and penance. We can also share in the suffering of the body of Christ through the people we see around us: in the fear of children who have been deprived of the innocence of childhood, in the aimlessness of youth who do not appreciate their own worth, in the empty eyes of the aged who often forget and are themselves forgotten, in the half of the world that struggles to survive on less than £2 per day, and in the immigrant family who searches for adequate employment to feed his family.

But it is much easier to preach to others, or to work to ease the pain of others, without even admitting that we ourselves carry a heavy burden. Lent is a time for us to re-examine suffering and to try to discern God in the midst of it.

**God Bless  
Fr. Benedict OSB**

# St Mary's Roman Catholic Church

103 Alcester Road Studley Warwickshire B80 7NW

Telephone 01527 852524

Email: [stmarysstudley@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysstudley@gmail.com)

WEBSITE: [stmaryscatholicchurchstudley.org.uk](http://stmaryscatholicchurchstudley.org.uk)

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 C**

**Week commencing Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

**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 concerns.

### Masses

Sat 15 <sup>th</sup> March	5.00pm	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent C	Kathleen McLoughlin RIP
Sun 16 <sup>th</sup> March	10.30am	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent C	Kathleen O'Brien RIP
Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> March			
Tues 18 <sup>th</sup> March			Private Intention
Wed 19 <sup>th</sup> March		St. Joseph (Sol)	
Thurs 20 <sup>th</sup> March			
Fri 21 <sup>st</sup> March		Passing of St. Benedict (Sol)	
Sat 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	5.00pm	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent C Jubilee Mass	Douai Abbey Community
Sun 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	10.30am	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent C	Joyce Grant 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, Agnes Wilkins, Alma Finnerty, Bud Sollis, Agnes Finn.

### 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, Richard Thornton-Pett, Mary Scally and all those for whom we have been asked to pray.

## INFORMATION

### Sunday Coffee

Please come and join us for coffee and biscuits.

The next Sunday coffee morning will be on **Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March**

Thank you to Wendy and Barbara for volunteering.

**Thank you to those who have volunteered up until March. We need volunteers from May please. The form is at the back of the church to sign up. Thank you.**

### Unwanted Gifts

So that we are able to keep the bric-a-brac table stocked, we are appealing for any unwanted gifts and any contemporary paperback fiction please.

Thank you to everyone who has donated items for the Bring & Buy table, your support is really appreciated.

Please leave any donations for the table in the black box at the back of the church and not directly on the table in the conservatory.

Thank you for your help.

### Missio

Please could you return your red boxe as soon as possible so that the money can be counted. Please leave them on the front bench of the church.

Many thanks.

### Fr. Benedict OSB

On Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> March there is a special Mass for Fr. Benedict who will be celebrating the Silver Jubilee of his ordination. Everyone is very welcome, in fact the more the merrier. Abbot Paul Gunter OSB will be her to offer the Mass.

Please come and join us.

Because of GDPR we need to inform you that photographs will be taken before and after the celebration Mass. Photos will be displayed in church after the Mass and some will be published on the parish website. These photos will also be kept in the parish archive at Douai Abbey.