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**LITURGY**

**First reading:** Acts 5:27b-32, 40b-41

**Response to the Psalm:** I will extol you, Lord, for you have raised me up.

**Second reading:** Revelation 5:11-14

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia. Christ is risen, who created all things and has shown compassion on the human race. Alleluia.

**Gospel:** John 21:1-19

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Dear Parishioners

Jesus' friendship with Peter had begun in Galilee. He had called him from his nets and fishing to be with him. The love had begun there too – the love of friendship, the gift given from above. "You did not choose me, I chose you, to go out and bear fruit!" Only love bears fruit. It does so in Jerusalem, where the Lord is crucified and Peter denied him three times. The love of Christ for Peter was shown upon the cross, in a bloody agony. Peter's heart had flushed with sorrow. It was too late! The Lord whom he loved was dead, lying on the floor of the tomb, his body limp.

Now he was alive! suddenly among them on the shores of Galilee. There is a new fire burning in Peter's heart. It is the fire of the resurrection. The Lord lights that fire by forgiving him...three times...for each and every failure. The friendship begins again for this is a morning of the resurrection. It is the fire of Easter and it lights in Peter's heart. It lights in every heart where the Paschal candle is lit. **It is the flame of love!** The fishermen carry it in the boat and it is an eternal flame that can never be extinguished.

Peter will eventually carry it to Rome. As an old man, he will be tied by the soldiers of Nero. He will be crucified with his feet upward – his own request, being so unlike his Master! His face will be low to the ground, close to the dust of men. In his heart...the shore of Galilee, the voice of Christ speaking to him, yesterday, today, and forever, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" "Yes, Lord, you know I love you."

This direct Easter question was given by Jesus to Peter and is given to us today. It is ours to answer Yes or No, not with our words but with our lives!

**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



**3rd Sunday of Easter Year C
Week commencing Sunday 4th May 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 or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/ safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concerns.

Masses

Sat 3 rd May	5.00pm	3 rd Sunday of Easter	People of the Parish
Sun 4 th May	10.30am	3 rd Sunday of Easter	Eugene McLoughlin RIP
Mon 5 th May			
Tues 6 th May			
Wed 7 th May			
Thurs 8 th May			Private Intention
Fri 9 th May			
Sat 10 th May	5.00pm	4 th Sunday of Easter	Margaret Kickham RIP & Family
Sun 11 th May	10.30am	4 th Sunday of Easter	Keith Cotterell 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 11th May

Thank you to Alane and Mike for volunteering.

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

Unwanted Gifts

So that we can 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.

Insurance Claim

We have finally made headway with the insurance company. After I requested that an independent assessor be appointed the insurance company offered to pay us £8000. I have agreed to this for two reasons. Firstly it's unlikely that the ombudsman would support our claim after the use of an independent assessor and secondly, because this amount together with what we raised as a parish pays not only for the inside work but also for the exterior work that was needed. I think we can now conclude that our claim is complete and everything has been paid for.

Thank you again to everyone who gave so generously to our fundraising campaign. .

Churchyard

I would please ask again for people not to use glass vases in the churchyard. They have a tendency to break or even worse shatter and are very dangerous, not only to visitors but to the gentleman who looks after our grounds. Please could you use a plastic alternative. If glass vases are found they will be removed.