



**LITURGY**

**First reading:** Genesis 18:20-32

**Response to the Psalm:** On the day I called, you answered me, O Lord.

**Second reading:** Colossians 2:12-14

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia. You have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, 'Abba! Father!' Alleluia.

**Gospel:** Luke 11-1-13



**Dear Parishioners**

There is something in our human nature that makes it easier to hold a grudge than to forgive. We may go through the motions of forgiving, but still harbour the memory of the hurt. If that's the case, have we really forgiven?

How many times have we said the Lord's prayer without really listening to the words? Have we really heard what we tell God to do when we say: "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." What does this mean? It means that we are telling God to limit His own forgiveness so that it matches our own ability to forgive others! There won't be any negotiations such as Abraham has with God in the first reading this week. Just as Sodom was eventually destroyed so too our sins will remain unforgiven if we cannot forgive others.

When Jesus came into this world St. Paul tells us he "emptied himself." This is what we should do too. We can empty ourselves of our hurts, our prejudices, our grudges and embrace the emptiness that leaves behind. Yet, since nature abhors a vacuum we must fill that space with something. Let that something be love, not a self-serving love, but a love that seeks the best for the other with no strings attached. Love because it is the only real way to forgive. Love because it is, in the end, the only way to really live.

**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



**17<sup>th</sup> Week of Year C**

**Week commencing Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> July 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 26 <sup>th</sup> July	5.00pm	17 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Year C	Private Intention
Sun 27 <sup>th</sup> July	10.30am	17 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Year C	Mick Wall RIP
Mon 28 <sup>th</sup> July			
Tues 29 <sup>th</sup> July		SS Martha, Mary & Lazarus (mem)	
Wed 30 <sup>th</sup> July			People of the Parish
Thurs 31 <sup>st</sup> July		St. Ignatius of Loyola (mem)	Douglas & Millie Thompson RIP
Fri 1 <sup>st</sup> Aug.			
Sat 2 <sup>nd</sup> Aug.	5.00pm	18 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Year C	Les Hedley RIP
Sun 3 <sup>rd</sup> Aug.	10.30am	18 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Year C	Philomena & Austin

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 27<sup>th</sup> July

Thank you to Wendy for volunteering.

This will be the last coffee morning until September due to the summer holidays. We will resume on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September. **A new list, for volunteers to sign up is now available at the back of church.** Please do help and try to sign up for a couple of times a year. Thank you.

### Second Collection.

The second weekly collection will normally be for help towards 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.

Because of the age of the buildings the work is continuous and ongoing.

On occasion there will be other second collections and these will be noted here.

### 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.

### Safeguarding

If you are a parish volunteer please could you pick up the envelope at the back of church, near the hymn books, with your name on it and complete the enclosed form. When you have completed the form please could you post it through the presbytery door asap or return it to Helen Woodhouse. Many thanks for your cooperation.