



**LITURGY**

**First reading:** Numbers 21:4b-9

**Response to the Psalm:** Never forget the deeds of the Lord.

**Second reading:** Philippians 2:6-11

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia. We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you, because by your Cross you have redeemed the world. Alleluia.

**Gospel:** John 3:13-17



**Dear Parishioners**

What was the meaning of the Cross in Jesus’ mind? It was the full and final expression of the love of God for his people and for his creation. He was born to be ‘God with us’, and he died as ‘God with us’. He will never take that back, no matter how we treat him, no matter what we do. He could have escaped from the cross. In the Garden he told his disciples that he could command twelve legions of angels to come to his aid. But if so, how would the Scriptures be fulfilled? (Matthew 26: 53-4). God knew that we would try to reject our Saviour. The Old Testament had made that quite clear. The history of Israel had been one of continual unfaithfulness. But the life and the death of Jesus is one of total faithfulness, the sacrificial offering of a human life lived with perfect love and self-giving, handed over to the Father: ‘into your hands I commend my spirit’ (Luke 23: 46). The cross is the conclusion of a life that is both fully human and totally divine. In the single event of the crucifixion we can see at the same time both the depths of human sin and degradation, and the heights of God’s forgiveness, love and power. He came as one of us, to abide with us, and make present among us his love and forgiveness. He came not just to restore to us the life that had been offered at the beginning, but to lead us even higher: to be with him, the Son, at the right hand of the Father. Jesus’ human life ended on the cross. So the cross stands for both death and life. It displays the fact of Jesus’ death at our hands, because of our wickedness. It also displays God’s forgiving love, which can never be put off by our rebellion.

**God Bless.**

# 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



## Exaltation of the Holy Cross Year C Week commencing Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September 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 13 <sup>th</sup> Sept.	5.00pm	Exaltation of the Holy Cross Year C	Helen & Bill McCarthy RIP
Sun 14 <sup>th</sup> Sept.	10.30am	Exaltation of the Holy Cross Year C	Dorothy Goodison RIP
Mon 15 <sup>th</sup> Sept.			
Tues 16 <sup>th</sup> Sept.			
Wed 17 <sup>th</sup> Sept.	9.45am	School Mass in Church	All Welcome
Thurs 18 <sup>th</sup> Sept.	10.15am	Funeral Service	Stan Phipps RIP
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup> Sept.			
Sat 20 <sup>th</sup> Sept.	5.00pm	25 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Year C	Anthony Kilburn RIP
Sun 21 <sup>st</sup> Sept.	10.30am	25 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Year C	Natalie Tonks 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, Judith Baylis, Jackie Gannon, Mick Sollis, Agnes Wilkins, Alma Finnerty, Bud Sollis, Agnes Finn, Anne Hazlewood.

#### 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, Fr. Anthony Rohan, James Joseph Flynn, Stan Phipps, Michael Howell 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 28<sup>th</sup> September.

Thank you to for volunteering.

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.

#### Knock Shrine

Jubilee Tour to Westport, Knock & Co Mayo, 10<sup>th</sup> November 2025. £799.00 pps. Price includes flight from Birmingham, 10kg hold luggage, 4 nights' in 4\* Castlecourt Hotel, Westport with Dinner, Bed & Breakfast. Full use of leisure facilities. All entertainment, excursions and transport included. Visit Knock Shrine, Ballintubber Abbey, Fr. Peyton Centre & Kylemore Abbey. Irish music nightly. Single supplement on

Enquiry. Contact 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or

email [knockpilgrimages@gmail.com](mailto:knockpilgrimages@gmail.com).