



LITURGY

First reading: Sirach 35:15b-17, 20-22b

Response to the Psalm: The lowly one called and the Lord heard him.

Second reading: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia. God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation Alleluia.

Gospel: Luke 18:9-14



Dear Parishioners

One of the often repeated themes of sacred scripture is the special care God has for the poor, the underprivileged and the outcasts of society. We find that theme in this week's readings.

St. Luke is especially known for his sympathy for the plight of the outcasts. He tells the stories of the woman taken in adultery, the forgiveness of the paralytic; and the good thief on the cross. This week we hear the memorable story of the Pharisee and the tax collector. If ever there was an outcast of society in the time of Jesus, it was the local tax collector. He had plenty of power and plenty of money, most of it skimmed off the taxes he collected.

But in this parable, the tax collector has repented all the crimes that he committed. He kneels at the very back of the temple, unworthy to approach the altar and confesses his sinfulness to the Lord. But the Pharisee, standing proudly in the front of the temple, trumpets his achievements.

When we read the parables, we usually identify with one of the characters depicted in the story. If I were to ask you with whom, in this story, you most easily identify, you probably say the tax collector. That means we like what he did. It also means we think we are more like him than we are like the Pharisee, and that is something we need to question. If most of us are like the tax collector, there would be no point in Jesus telling this story. He is suggesting, ever so subtly, that maybe we are sometimes very much like the Pharisee. Something to think about?

**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



30th Week of Year C

Week commencing Sunday 26th October 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 25 th Oct.	5.00pm	30 th Sunday Year C	Stan Timmins RIP
Sun 26 th Oct.	10.30am	30 th Sunday Year C	John O'Brien RIP
Mon 27 th Oct.			
Tues 28 th Oct.		Ss Simon & Jude (Feast)	
Wed 29 th Oct.			
Thurs 30 th Oct.			Lillian Pownall RIP
Fri 31 st Oct.			
Sat 1 st Nov.	5.00pm	All Saints	Kathleen Neville
Sun 2 nd Nov.	10.30am	All Saints	Zita, Harold & deceased Sollis Family 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, Michael Howell.

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, 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 16th November. Thank you to Sarah and Wendy 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 above.

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.

Don't forget the clocks go back!

Remember that the clocks go back by one hour on Sunday 26th October at 2am. Before going to bed on Saturday evening make sure you change your clock, unless it does so automatically.

Remembrance Sunday, 9 Nov 2025

Please allow extra time when coming to 10.30 Mass on Remembrance Sunday. There will be road closures, particularly The Alcester Road near the War Memorial. If you say you are coming to the church you will be allowed through.