



LITURGY

First reading: 1 Samuel 16:6-7, 10-13

Response to the Psalm: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Second reading: Ephesians 5:8-14

Gospel Acclamation: Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus. I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life. **Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus.**

Gospel: John 9: 1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38



Dear Parishioners

Not everyone rejoiced at what had happened to the blind man. He used to beg; he was a marginalised person. Once healed, he was not believed by everyone and was driven away. For some, the man who had come from the margin of disability and poverty was still to be kept at bay. Jesus took yet another initiative. When Jesus heard that they had driven away the formerly blind man, he went and found him. There was more light to be given to the man, the light of faith of which the giving of natural sight was a sign. The One, who is light, is also love. The healing is done by Jesus spitting on the ground, making a paste with the spittle and daubing it on the man's eyes. It is an extremely tactile process, described in a detailed and prolonged way. This is not love from a distance. After that, far from wanting to drive the cured man away, Jesus goes and finds him. Jesus is reconstituting our damaged humanity, our communion with God and each other. We can hear echoes of Adam's creation in what Jesus does to the blind man, Genesis in a fallen world. We often speak about coming to understand something we had not understood before as a 'coming to see': 'now I see' can mean now I understand. The cured man was brought by love to see not just the natural world, but also to see and share in the world being transformed in Jesus Christ.

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



4th Week of Lent Year A

Week commencing Sunday 15th March 2026

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 or safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concerns.

Masses

Sat 14 th March	5.00pm	4 th Sunday of Lent A	Zita, Harold & Family RIP
Sun 15 th March	10.30am	4 th Sunday of Lent A	Kathleen O'Brien RIP
Mon 16 th March			
Tues 17 th March		St Patrick (Feast)	
Wed 18 th March			People of the Parish
Thurs 19 th March	6.00pm	St. Joseph (Sol)	Confirmations
Fri 20 th March			
Sat 21 st March	5.00pm	5 th Sunday of Lent A	Donald Newell RIP
Sun 22 nd March	10.30am	5 th Sunday of Lent A	Private Intention

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, Ken Faulkner, John Butler.

Those who have recently died:

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, Sheila Eastham, 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 coffee morning will be on Sunday the 15th March. Thank you to Anna and Rob.

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.

Missio

If you have one of the red Missio boxes please could you bring them to church asap and leave them on the front row of the benches, so that they can be collected and the money counted. Thank you.