

Jonah 3:1-5,10

The word of the Lord was addressed to Jonah: 'Up!' he said 'Go to Nineveh, the great city, and preach to them as I told you to.' Jonah set out and went to Nineveh in obedience to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was a city great beyond compare: it took three days to cross it. Jonah went on into the city, making a day's journey. He preached in these words, 'Only forty days more and Nineveh is going to be destroyed.' And the people of Nineveh believed in God; they proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest to the least.

God saw their efforts to renounce their evil behaviour. And God relented: he did not inflict on them the disaster which he had threatened.

Psalm 24:4-6,7-9

Lord, make me know your ways.

Lord, make me know your ways.

Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour.

Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.
In your love remember me.
because of your goodness, O Lord.

The Lord is good and upright.

He shows the path to those who stray,
He guides the humble in the right path,
He teaches his way to the poor.

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Brothers: our time is growing short. Those who have wives should live as though they had none, and those who mourn should live as though they had nothing to mourn for; those who are enjoying life should live as though there were nothing to laugh about; those whose life is buying things should live as though they had nothing of their own; and those who have to deal with the world should not become engrossed in it. I say this because the world as we know it is passing away.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! The kingdom of God is close at hand: repent, and believe the Good News.
Alleluia!

Mark 1:14-20

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

As he was walking along by the Sea of Galilee he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net in the lake – for they were fishermen. And Jesus

Stepping forward in Faith

- What does God's ask of you?
- What helps you respond positively to the call? What makes it more difficult?

said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you into fishers of men.' And at once they left their nets and followed him.

Going on a little further, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they too were in their boat, mending their nets. He called them at once and, leaving their father Zebedee in the boat with the men he employed, they went after him.



Prayer of the Church

Thank you to those who came to the meeting in the week to reflect together on how we pray Morning and Evening Prayer in the parish.

We talked about how we might encourage others to join in offering this prayer, and help make the experience still more prayerful and how to avoid the experience of it being too complicated, or just 'lots of words' or just 'going through the motions'.

We considered a variety of the most common books, and the *Universalis* App, and decided to continue with the volume *Morning and Evening Prayer*. Copies can be ordered from the Repository for £25, and a few copies are also available in the church for people to use. It is a big advantage for those who regularly pray the Office to have their own copy. They are welcome to keep their copy in the Confessional for its safe keeping!

If you have wondered about 'giving it a go' this may be the time to do just that! You will be very welcome! Office starts 20 minutes before Mass, as shown in the Liturgy timetable on page 1 of this newsletter.

The Ordinary of the Mass is found on p200 ff of Laudate.
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Next Week: Sunday of 4th Week in Ordinary Time
Scripture readings: Deuteronomy 18:15 – 20 / Psalm 95:1 – 2, 6 – 7, 7 – 9 / 1 Corinthians 7:32 – 35 / Mark 1:21 – 28



St Nicholas Catholic Church, Boldmere

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Website: www.stnicholasboldmere.co.uk
Parish Blog: www.stnicholasboldmere.wordpress.com

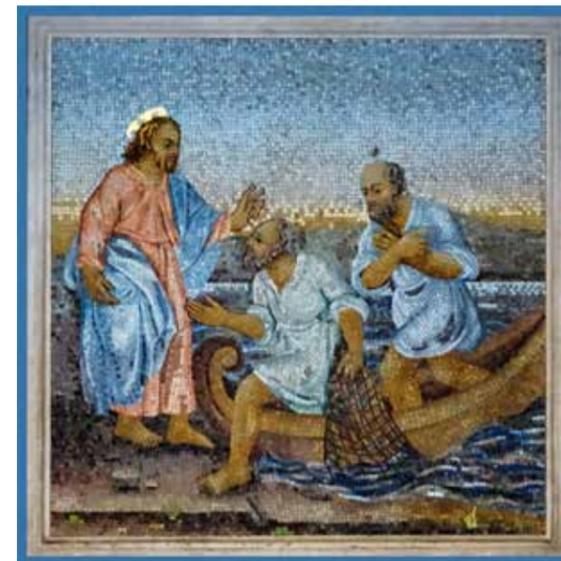
Parish Priest: Fr Allen Morris **E-mail:** frallenmorris@gmail.com
Parish Safeguarding: Ann Foulds (0121 355 7892) and Mary Rose (0121 354 4730)
Our Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No. 234216

What truly is prayer? It is first of all a dialogue, a personal relationship with God. Man was created as a being in a personal relationship with God who finds his complete fulfillment only in the encounter with his Creator. The path of life leads toward the definitive encounter with the Lord.

When Moses, before the burning bush, receives God's call, he asks Him His name. And how does God respond? "I am who I am" (Ex 3:14). This expression, in its original sense, expresses presence and favour, and indeed, immediately afterwards God adds: "the Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob". Thus, when Christ calls his disciples, he, too, calls them so that they may be with Him. This indeed is the greatest grace: being able to feel that the Mass, the Eucharist, is the privileged moment to be with Jesus and, through him, with God and with brothers and sisters.

Praying, as every true dialogue, is also knowing how to be in silence — in dialogues there are moments of silence — in silence together with Jesus. When we go to Mass, perhaps we arrive five minutes early and begin to chat with the person next to us. But this is not the moment for small talk; it is the moment of silence to prepare ourselves for the dialogue. It is the moment for recollection within the heart, to prepare ourselves for the encounter with Jesus. Silence is so important! We have not come to a spectacle, but to an encounter with the Lord, and silence prepares us and accompanies us. Pausing in silence with Jesus. From this mysterious silence of God springs his Word which resonates in our heart. Jesus himself teaches us how it is truly possible to "be" with the Father and he shows us this with his prayer. The Gospels show us Jesus who withdraws to secluded places to pray; seeing his intimate relationship with God, the disciples feel the desire to be able to take part in it, and they ask him: "Lord, teach us to pray" (Lk 11:1).

Pope Francis



Remember your mercy, Lord, and the love you have shown from of old.
In your love remember me, because of your goodness, O Lord.

Psalm 24

Liturgy and Prayer

S	20	3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Psalter Wk 3</i>	1700	<i>Exposition and Sacrament of Confession</i>
			1800	Annette Faherty RIP (Meehan)
Su	21		0900	Roddy Devlin RD (Broom)
			1100	Danny Scally RIP (Ward)
			1800	<i>Exposition and Evening Prayer to mark Week of Prayer for Christian Unity</i>
M	22		1000 *	Eileen Chapman RIP (Devane)
			1500	<i>Benediction and Rosary</i>
T	23		1000 *	Sean O'Healai (Healy)
			1430	For the parish
W	24	St Francis de Sales		
Th	25	Conversion of St Paul		
F	26	Ss Timothy and Titus	1900 *	Roddy Devlin RD (Sterling)
S	27	4th Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Psalter Wk 4</i>	1700	<i>Exposition and Sacrament of Confession</i>
			1800	Mary Gilnagh Int (Hempenstall)
Su	28		0900	Jerry Harrington RIP (Harrington)
			1100	Hempenstall family Ints
			1800	<i>Exposition and Evening Prayer</i>

Morning/Evening Prayer 20 mins before weekday Masses as indicated above*
Exposition & Vespers 2nd & 4th Suns, 6-7pm (*resumes 14th January*)
Rosary and Benediction Mondays at 3pm (*except 1st January*)

Reconciliation Sat. 1700-1730 (Exposition until 1740) and by arrangement.

Baptism, Matrimony, Anointing of the Sick: by arrangement

Nourishing prayer at home: livingeucharist.wordpress.com/

Please pray for sick parishioners including Philip Redmond, Jude Turner, Margaret O'Gorman, Peter and Olwen Foster, Mary Gavin, Frank Kemp, Josie Newman, Brenda Davies; Leah Burke, Tess Carnero, Joan James, Sarah Johnston, Bridie Moffatt, Bernie Morton, Danuta Evans, Michael McDermott - and Fr Gabriel Maguire, our Dean. **Please pray for all who have died** including Frank Bates whose funeral Mass is at 10am on Thurs 1st Feb and Marie Hedgetts, Frank Murnane, Emily Zytikewick and Ray Simmonds. **Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, may they rest in peace.**

Parish

Parish prayer for Christian Unity

This Sunday 21st Jan from 6-7pm. A time of quiet prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, Evening Prayer and homily by Rev. Stephen Monk, (Rector of CofE parish in Matlock, Derby). Please invite other *Christain friends to come and join you at this service and refreshments after.*

Tea and Coffee after Mass. For the future tea and coffee will be in the Benedict Room on Sundays rather, than in the Carpenters Arms. Presently we have teams to serve refreshments after the 9 and 11am Mass. If you would like to volunteer for a rota for refreshments after the Saturday 6pm Mass please complete a volunteer sheet - available in the porch - and pass it to Fr Allen.

Planning Parish Social Programme for 2018-19. A meeting at 7pm on Weds 31 Jan to confirm dates for St Nicholas Fair and other parish social events over the next 18 months. Would you like to have a St Patrick's Night? Or Pentecost Party? Come and help with the thinking and planning...

Journey of Faith - the group for adults preparing the first Sacraments - meets on Mondays at 6.30pm

Parish Traidcraft Stall open today.

St Nicholas World Development Group: AGM on Mon 29th Jan, 7.30pm, at 9 Brooks Road - all are welcome

Preparation for Baptism of Infants. The next preparation programme begins Saturday 20th January from 11-12noon, in the Benedict Room. Pl see Fr Allen before hand and complete an application form.

Parish Scripture Study Group. The next meeting is on Weds 21 Feb at 7pm to conclude our reading of St Mark's Gospel. During Eastertide we will resume meeting and begin a reading of the Book of the Psalms.

Parish Book Club. The book for the next meeting is Annie Dillard's Teaching A Stone To Talk. Mon 19th March at 8pm in the parish house.

Church cleaning teams. Please come to meet with Fr Allen after the 10am Mass on Tuesday 30th January.

Travelling Solo Next meeting is on Sunday 4th Feb after 11am Mass. All who 'travel alone' - single, the divorced or separated, widows and widowers - are welcome.

Parent Academy Representative (Governor) Election - Bishop Walsh Catholic School. The present term of office for our academy committee parent representatives is drawing to a close and both have been re-appointed as foundation representatives. The Board of Directors is hoping to appoint two new parent academy representatives with specialist expertise (Legal, HR or financial). If you would be willing to stand for a four year term of office then

First Holy Communion

The rota for children and their families to assist with the Offertory procession is available at the back of the church - and on the website.

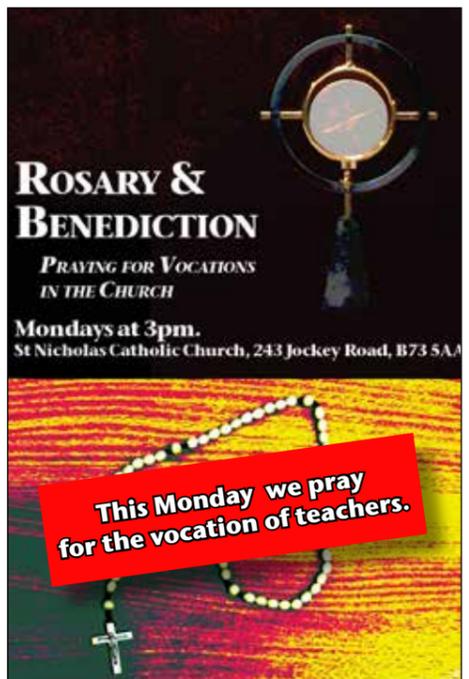
please contact Mr Farrell or Mrs Hayes at Bishop Walsh (0121 351 3215)

World Leprosy Day There will be a retiring collection next Sunday to support the work of Lepra.

Womens' World Day of Prayer will be held on 2nd March at 10.30 at All Saints Church, Belwell Lane, B74 4TR. The theme is 'All God's Creation is Very Good' and is prepared by the women of Suriname.

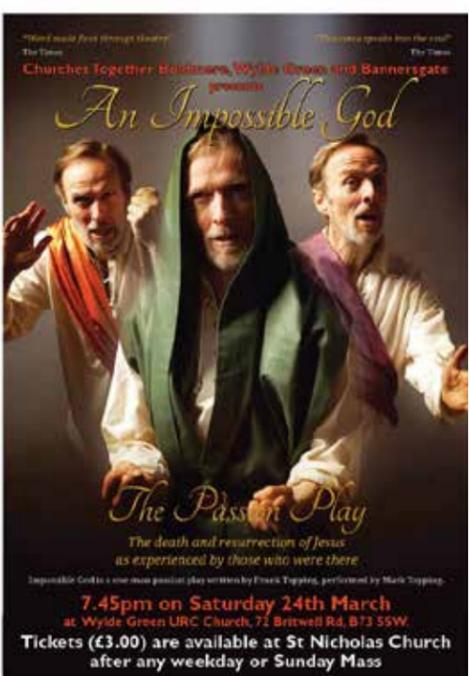
Diocese

Saint Brigid of Ireland Concert, Thurs 6 Feb at 7pm. Maryvale Institute, Old Oscott Hill, Birmingham, B44 9AG.



ROSARY & BENEDICTION
PRAYING FOR VOCATIONS IN THE CHURCH
Mondays at 3pm.
St Nicholas Catholic Church, 243 Jockey Road, B73 5AA

This Monday we pray for the vocation of teachers.



An Impossible God
The death and resurrection of Jesus as experienced by those who were there.
7.45pm on Saturday 24th March at Wyldes Green URC Church, 71 Britwell Rd, B73 5SW
Tickets (£3.00) are available at St Nicholas Church after any weekday or Sunday Mass

Bethany Food Bank

Thank you to all who support our local Food Bank by your donations.

The next 'big' parish collection is Sunday 4th February

Tickets £6 - proceeds to raise money toward car for car for Brigidine Sisters. 0121 360 8118

Job Vacancies at Maryvale. Head of Library and Learning Resources Part Time (Flexible 3 days/week) Start date: 1st March 2018. Permanent Post. **Marketing Manager** Part Time (Flexible 3 days/week) Fixed Term (12 months) w potential to extend. Full details at www.maryvale.ac.uk or from 0121 360 8118.

Other

A Lifeline for Marriages Is your marriage stressed, unloving, cold? Do you want to improve your communication? Have you separated, divorced, or are you thinking of doing so? Do you want to try again? The Retrouvaille programme may be just what you need! Next programme



In Hospital or going there?
Roman Catholic Chaplains are appointed to all of the local hospitals.
Patients, and relatives of patients, are urged to make sure that Catholic patients admitted to hospital are registered as Roman Catholic on admission. If they wish to be visited by the Catholic Chaplain, they should ask the ward nurse to arrange this.
Data protection legislation means that unless this is done your details will not be passed to the Chaplain.

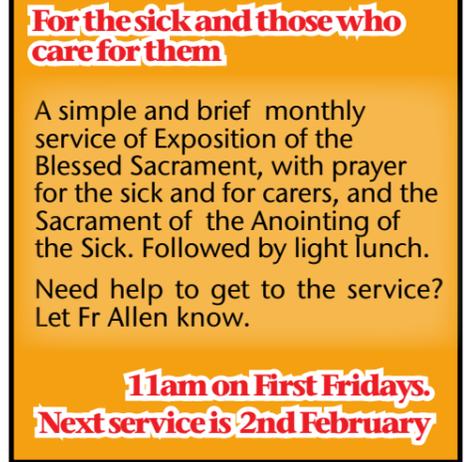
If you wish to be visited by Fr Allen as well as the hospital chaplain then please let him know. It is very helpful if you can give details of the ward the patient is on.
Many people find it helpful to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick when they experience serious ill health. If you would like to receive the Sacrament, please let Fr Allen know.

A Pilgrimage to Ephesus, Miletus & Izmir: 13-17 October 2018
Led by Fr Allen Morris
In the footsteps of St Paul



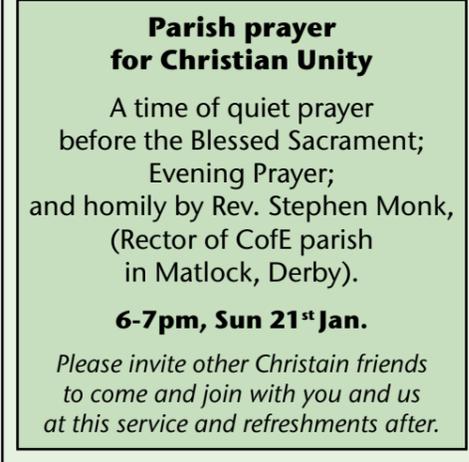
For more details please go to <http://bit.ly/2Aib5V1> or collect a leaflet and booking form from the church porch

begins 16th - 18th March 2018 in Welwyn Garden City, Herts. More info from 0788 729 6983 or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk



For the sick and those who care for them
A simple and brief monthly service of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, with prayer for the sick and for carers, and the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. Followed by light lunch.
Need help to get to the service? Let Fr Allen know.
11am on First Fridays. Next service is 2nd February

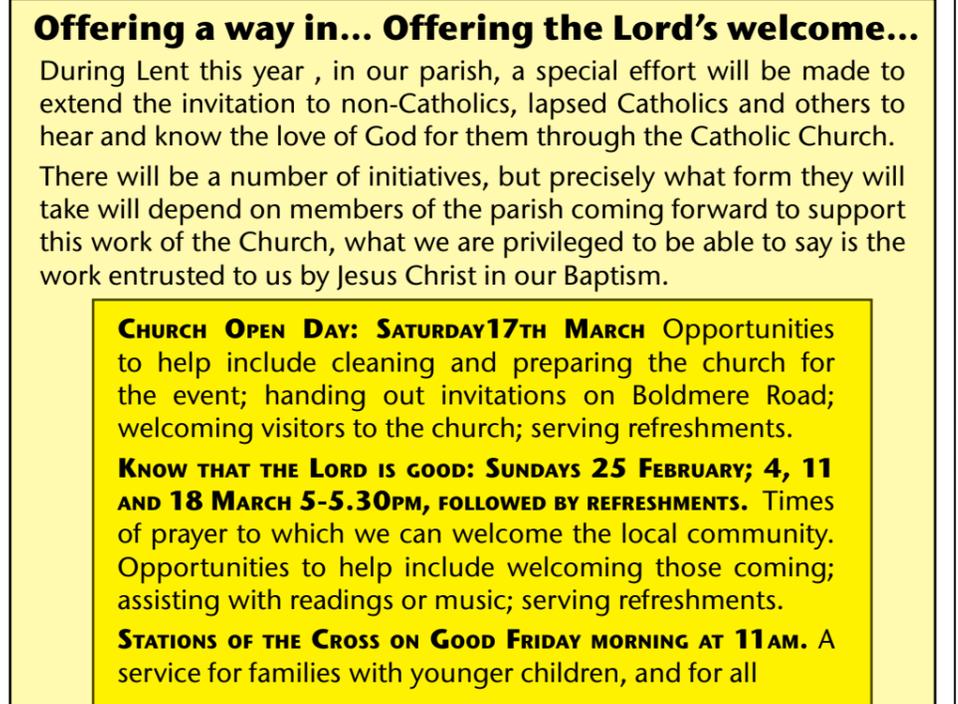
Week of Prayer for Christian Unity: 18-25 January 2018



Parish prayer for Christian Unity
A time of quiet prayer before the Blessed Sacrament; Evening Prayer; and homily by Rev. Stephen Monk, (Rector of CofE parish in Matlock, Derby).
6-7pm, Sun 21st Jan.
Please invite other Christain friends to come and join with you and us at this service and refreshments after.



CHURCHES TOGETHER
God of unity, Trinity of the Three, you call your people to be one that the world may believe. Grant us your Spirit that we might act and speak with one voice so that our world's pains and divisions may be transformed by healing, hope and reconciliation; our Lord's prayer be answered; and your name glorified and hallowed. Amen.



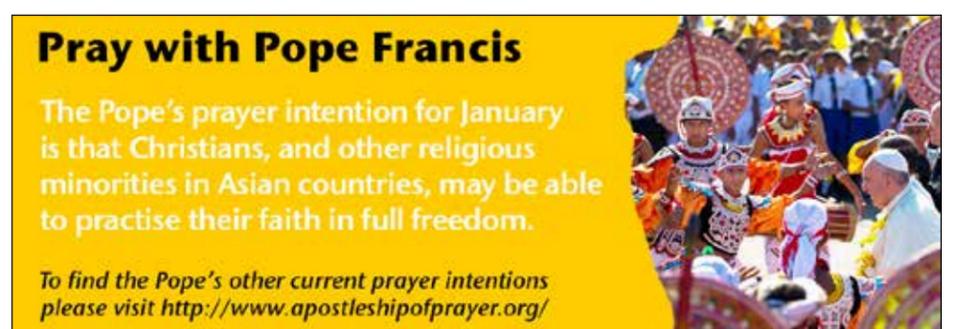
Offering a way in... Offering the Lord's welcome...
During Lent this year, in our parish, a special effort will be made to extend the invitation to non-Catholics, lapsed Catholics and others to hear and know the love of God for them through the Catholic Church. There will be a number of initiatives, but precisely what form they will take will depend on members of the parish coming forward to support this work of the Church, what we are privileged to be able to say is the work entrusted to us by Jesus Christ in our Baptism.

CHURCH OPEN DAY: SATURDAY 17TH MARCH Opportunities to help include cleaning and preparing the church for the event; handing out invitations on Boldmere Road; welcoming visitors to the church; serving refreshments.

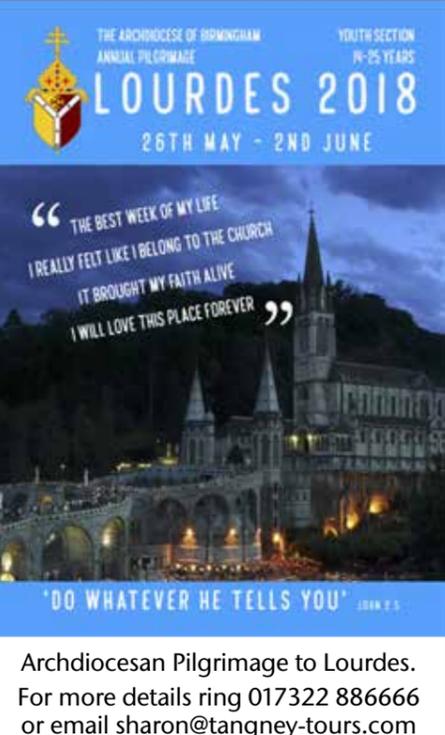
KNOW THAT THE LORD IS GOOD: SUNDAYS 25 FEBRUARY; 4, 11 AND 18 MARCH 5-5.30PM, FOLLOWED BY REFRESHMENTS. Times of prayer to which we can welcome the local community. Opportunities to help include welcoming those coming; assisting with readings or music; serving refreshments.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS ON GOOD FRIDAY MORNING AT 11AM. A service for families with younger children, and for all

The Church of God is a Sacrament of Jesus, present in us and as us, gifted by God to continue the ministry of Jesus from age to age. During Lent and Easter this year I hope that as a parish we can come together to offer an invitation to others to know Jesus and the Gospel, to find the family that is incomplete without them; a home that has a place at table for them; and a hospital where is no waiting list...
Want to play your part in these initiatives, and help others do the same? Please come to an introductory meeting to learn more - without obligation!
Sunday 28th January at 4pm in the Benedict Room.



Pray with Pope Francis
The Pope's prayer intention for January is that Christians, and other religious minorities in Asian countries, may be able to practise their faith in full freedom.
To find the Pope's other current prayer intentions please visit <http://www.apostleshipofprayer.org/>



LOURDES 2018
26TH MAY - 2ND JUNE
"THE BEST WEEK OF MY LIFE. I REALLY FELT LIKE I BELONG TO THE CHURCH. IT BROUGHT MY FAITH ALIVE. I WILL LOVE THIS PLACE FOREVER."
"DO WHATEVER HE TELLS YOU" - MARY
Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes. For more details ring 017322 886666 or email sharon@tangney-tours.com



ARCHDIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM
Eucharist & the Family
A day event 10am - 3.30pm - DISCOVERING THE HEART OF THE FAITH IN THE HEART OF THE FAMILY
WHO IS IT FOR? Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Parish Family workers, Teachers, Catechists, Parishioners etc.
- 1 DAY | 6 VENUES -
Across the Birmingham Archdiocese