

Wisdom 12:13,16-19

There is no god, other than you, who cares for every thing, to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly; Your justice has its source in strength, your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all. You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned and you expose the insolence of those who know it; but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement, you govern us with great lenience, for you have only to will, and your power is there. By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men, and you have given your sons the good hope that after sin you will grant repentance.

Psalm 85:5-6,9-10,15-16

O Lord, you are good and forgiving.

O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of love to all who call. Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer and attend to the sound of my voice.

All the nations shall come to adore you and glorify your name, O Lord: for you are great and do marvellous deeds, you who alone are God.

But you, God of mercy and compassion, slow to anger, O Lord, abounding in love and truth, turn and take pity on me.

Romans 8:26-27

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.



Detail of grave marker, Cimetière des Roumigières, near Grasse, France.

Next Sunday is 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

Scripture readings: 1 Kings 3:5, 7-12 / Psalm 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-130 / Romans 8:28-30 / Matthew 13:44-52

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind, so that we can see what hope his call holds for us. *Alleluia!*

Matthew 13:24-43

Jesus put another parable before the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?" "Some enemy has done this" he answered. And the servants said, "Do you want us to go and weed it out?" But he said, "No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn.'"

He put another parable before them, 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest shrub of all and becomes a tree so that the birds of the air come and shelter in its branches.'

He told them another parable, 'The kingdom of heaven is like the yeast a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour till it was leavened all through.'

In all this Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables; indeed, he would never speak to them except in parables. This was to fulfil the prophecy: 'I will speak to you in parables and expound things hidden since the foundation of the world.'

Then, leaving the crowds, he went to the house; and his disciples came to him and said, 'Explain the parable about the darnel in the field to us.' He said in reply, 'The sower of the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world; the good seed is the subjects of the kingdom; the darnel, the subjects of the evil one; the enemy who sowed them, the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; the reapers are the angels. Well then, just as the darnel is gathered up and burnt in the fire, so it will be at the end of time. The Son of Man will send his angels and they will gather out of his kingdom all things that provoke offences and all who do evil, and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. Then the virtuous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

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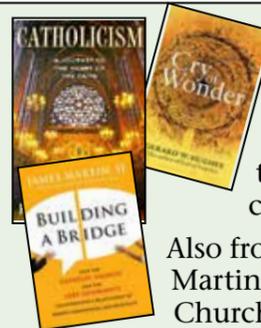


St Nicholas Catholic Church, Boldmere

Address: 243 Jockey Rd., Boldmere, Sutton Coldfield, B73 5US
Telephone: 0121 354 1763 **Email:** stnicholasrc@btinternet.com
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

Some suggested Summer Reading



An accessible and enlivening overview of Catholic Faith is provided in Robert Barron's *Catholicism*. Many parishes have followed the Video course of the same name - but the book stands in its own right as a very fresh and healthy consideration of the defining elements of Catholicism.

Also from the USA comes *Building a Bridge*, a book from Fr James Martin SJ. It specifically addresses the relationship between Church and the LGBT community, but his wisdom has much to say to all Christians about living decent, godly lives. The focus on respect, compassion and sensitivity contains much that is encouraging and no little that is challenging.

Those who would like to take further the contemplation of the mystery of their lives in God's love will find help in Gerry Hughes' *Cry of Wonder*. His reflections on Unity, Peace and Holiness are sustaining and helpful.

Holidays give us the opportunity to both rejoice in the beauty of creation and see more clearly how it is exploited and damaged. President Trump seems not to have read his copy, but at this time of year you might find it helpful to read Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si'*. Or the very readable and lively *Evangelii Gaudium* - The Joy of the Gospel, the text which underpins the vision for the continued life of the Church in Boldmere, Birmingham and beyond!

Other books (even without yellow covers) are available! If you've not been there for a while pop into St Paul's bookshop by the Cathedral. See what catches your fancy and feed your faith this summer.



Liturgy and Prayer 16th Week in Ordinary Time

S	22	Sunday of 16th Week in Ordinary Time	1700 1800	<i>Exposition and Sacrament of Confession</i> For the parish
Su	23	<i>Psalter Wk 4</i>	0900 1100 1800	Patrick Devenney RIP (Devenney) Duffy/Reynold family Ints <i>Exposition and Evening Prayer</i>
M	24		1000* 1500	Ron Wilkinson RIP 1st Anniv (Wilkinson) <i>Exposition and Rosary</i>
T	25	St James	1000*	Geoff Sterling RIP (Anniv) (Sterling)
W	26	Ss Joachim and Anne	1900*	Ints of family and friends of late Una May
Th	27			
F	28		1900*	Marjorie Leese RIP (Leese)
S	29	Sunday of 17th Week in Ordinary Time	1700 1800	<i>Exposition and Sacrament of Confession</i> Sean Kennedy RIP
Su	30	<i>Psalter Wk 1</i>	0900 1100	For the Parish Peace in the world

Morning/Evening Prayer* 15 mins before weekday Mass.

Exposition & Vespers 2nd & 4th Suns, 6-7pm

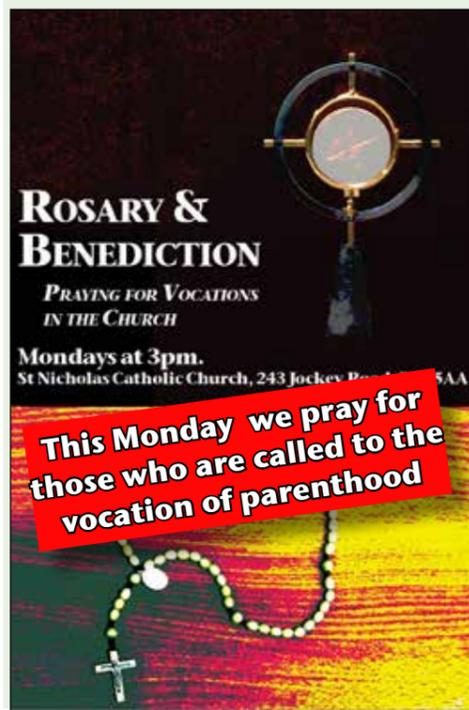
Rosary and Benediction Mondays at 3pm

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 Betty Sawbridge, Ray Finn, Diane Jukes, David Freeman, Tim and Brenda Davies; Leah Burke, Tess Carnero, Joan James, Sarah Johnston, Bridie Moffatt, Bernie Morton, Danuta Evans, Michael McDermott - and also for Fr Gabriel Maguire, our Dean, who is not well. **Please pray for all who have died**, including Fred Rhodes, Geoffrey Sterling, Christine Foster, Ron Wilkinson Pat Manning whose funeral Mass is here on at 10am on Tuesday 25 July, and Teresa Astley, Mary Harrison, Michael McInerney, Ruth Loughran-Smith and all whose anniversaries are at this time. **Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, may they rest in peace. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.**



ROSARY & BENEDICTION
PRAYING FOR VOCATIONS IN THE CHURCH

Mondays at 3pm.
St Nicholas Catholic Church, 243 Jockey Road, Sutton Coldfield, B73 5AA

This Monday we pray for those who are called to the vocation of parenthood

Parish

Thank you for your donations to the Apostleship of the Sea. A total of £369.61 was collected. If you missed the collection then please use one of the envelopes available at the entrance to the church and put in the collection this week, or make your donation on line at www.apostleshipofthesea.org.uk/what-we-do

Welcomers Rota The new rota is on the website, and on the notice board just inside the church. Spare paper copies are available in the porch. Additional welcomers needed to join the team. Please don't leave this important work to others - if you can volunteer to help once a month, please email judy pocock@hotmail.co.uk

New servers training? If your child missed the recent raining for new servers please make a note that first training is also available on Saturday 9th Sept at 10am. All are welcome - especially pupils in new Year 4 and Year 7.

Rosary and Benediction Each Monday from 3-4pm - praying for parishioners and for faithfulness in our various vocations.

Baptism Preparation. The next preparation programme begins on **Sat 9 Sept** from 11-12noon, in the Benedict Room. Parents should see Fr Allen before hand and complete an application form.

Travelling Solo Next meeting is after the 11am Mass on 6th August: lunch in the Sutton Park Hotel. All who 'travel alone' - single, the divorced or separated, widows and widowers - are welcome.

Planning to get married? A reminder that a minimum of six month's notice is required for those who intend to marry in the paperwork. Giving 12 months notice, makes it much easier to take part in a marriage preparation course etc.

Carpenters Arms Parish Tea and Coffee on Sunday mornings begins again on Sunday 10th September. A new rota will be drawn up by the end of this month. If you are on the rota but do NOT want to continue, please email Fr Allen. If you are not on the rota and want to be, also email Fr Allen, and let him know whether you are able to help after the 9am or 11am Mass. Thank you to all those who have helped over the past year.

Parish Scripture Study Group; Next meeting: Weds 23 August at 7.30pm. 'Homework' for the meeting is to read St Paul's 1st Letter to the Corinthians. Questions to bear in mind as you read. • What strikes you about the letter? • How does Paul's message relate to your relationship with Jesus and the Church? All are welcome - especially Parish ministers of the word (Catechists, readers,

Coffee Morning

Philip Bailey - one of our senior servers - is doing the *Duke of Edinburgh award* and as one of his takes is organising a coffee morning at 10am on Saturday 29th July at Francis House, 1C Cofield Road, B73 5SD

All funds raised go to the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme



etc). The group will help us deepen our knowledge of the Scriptures.

Knit and Natter on summer break until Sept 7, when it resumes at 25 Mayfield Rd.

Diocese

Office Administrator St Mary's College, Oscott wishes to appoint an Academic Office Administrator, with experience of administration, preferably in an educational context, and with very good IT skills. This role combines office based administrative responsibilities with support and assistance to the teaching staff and seminarians. Further details available at <http://www.oscott.net>

St Chad's Pilgrimage, 23 Sept Archbishop Bernard and the Bishop of Lichfield invite you to join a pilgrimage from St Chad's to Lichfield Cathedral. We are welcome to join at Sutton Park. More details soon - but put the date in your diary now.

SVP Birmingham Annual Mass 23 September 2017. Bishop Robert Byrne will celebrate Mass at 12 noon in St Chad's Cathedral (light buffet will be served. Followed by meeting where principal speaker is the Rt Hon Ann Widdecome. All welcome.

Praying with Our Lady of Fatima National Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima, with the relics of Saints Jacinta and Francisco. St Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham, Sat 29th July and Sun 30th July 2017. The Cathedral will be open 2.00 pm-8.00 pm on Saturday and 9.00 am-5.00pm on Sunday. Mass, Sat 29th 4.30 pm with Archbishop Longley,

Other

You Can Help Your Marriage - Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue

Opportunities for Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament

Following on the encouragement from Bishop Bernard (see page 1 of the Newsletter) a reminder of the opportunities there in the parish.

- The opportunity for **private prayer** during the day (perhaps parents might like to make use of this to pray with their children before or after school. There is a sheet available on the hymn book trolley offering prayers for a brief 'private' visit.
- Each Monday at 4pm - **a Holy Hour and Rosary to pray for**

vocations in the Church. (If there are particular areas of vocation you would like us to pray for, please mention to Fr Allen.)

- **Sunday** eves (twice a month) for **Exposition and Evening Prayer**
- From 5pm before the Saturday Mass
- Each month as part of the **1st Friday service for the sick and carers**

If you are unable to come to church you might like to join with the prayer at any of these times by using the following prayer:

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul.

I am unable to come before you in church today, but please come into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you.

Based on prayer of St Alphonsus de Ligouiri

Young Catholic Adults Weekend 20-22nd Oct 2017 YCA are running a retreat at Douai Abbey, it will feature Fr. Lawrence Lew O.P., and Canon Poucin ICKSP. The weekend will be full-board. YCA will be Schola Gregoriana of

Cambridge of Cambridge who will be holding Gregorian Chant workshops. There will also be a Marian Procession, Rosaries, Sung Masses, Confession and socials. All Masses will be celebrated in the Extraordinary form.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Thank you to the seven parishioners - including the two people new to the team - who came together on Saturday to begin planning for this special provision for our youngest children. CLW is for children aged between 4 and 7 - from the time they start Reception to the end of Year 2.

CLW is *not* Sunday School, but an adapted form of the Liturgy of the Word, so the children can better engage with Jesus present in the Gospel proclaimed, and learn to pray and make use of the ritual of the Liturgy for their future, more independent, participation in Mass.

In the Autumn this Liturgy will be offered only at the 9am Mass, and will be offered on the following Sundays: Sept 10; Sept 17; Oct 8; Oct 15; Nov 5; Nov 12; Dec 3; Dec 10. So as to help your child get maximum benefit from the provision you might like to make note of the days. If they don't accompany you to Mass every Sunday, you might like to ensure they do come those Sundays.

One change for when we start back, suggested by the leaders, is that the children will leave the rest of the congregation earlier than previously. They will leave immediately after the Opening Hymn and greeting. So it is even more important for families to be at Mass in good time to get the children settled before the Mass begins. For a variety of reasons, once the group has gone through it is not possible for other children to come in to join them.

Parents whose children are taking part in CLW are strongly encouraged to buy a copy of A Beginner's Guide to Praying the Mass from the Repository, and use it with their children - together with a hymn-book - during Mass, so as to further support their child's active learning and participation.

For the sick and those who care for them

A simple and brief 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 4th August

First Communion and Confirmation



Application forms and timetables for the programmes are in the porch, and on the website.



Preparation for children NOT at Catholic schools



Pray with Pope Francis

The Pope's prayer intention this month is that our brothers and sisters who have strayed from the faith, through our prayer and witness to the Gospel, may rediscover the merciful closeness of the Lord and the beauty of the Christian life.

To find the Pope's other current prayer intentions please visit <http://www.apostleshipofprayer.org/>

The St Nicholas 'out and about' group...

Following the success of the last week's parish trip to Harvington Hall, a new parish group is being started up. It will organise regular parish outings, maybe once a month.

The next one is already on the books...

Saturday 2nd September

Birmingham Art Gallery, Victoria Square - a 30 minute tour of the galleries looking at the development of approaches to 'religious paintings' and then a simple exercise to help us learn better how to 'look at paintings'. Followed by tea and coffee and chat...

Outing led by Geraldine Foster and Fr Allen

Meet up in the Gallery's Edwardian Cafe ready to start at 1030am.



Would you like to help organise a trip for us in October or November? If so, please see Fr Allen as soon as possible



Knights of St Columba meet monthly at Holy Trinity Church. 2nd Weds of the month at 8 pm. Next meeting August 9th.

More details from David Baddoe on 0121 329 3036

Pilgrimage to ASSISI for the Feast of St Francis Led by Fr Allen Morris **Tues 3rd - Fri 6th Oct 2017**

Full details and application forms are available in the porch and on the website.



Preparing a funeral

Whether you want to leave some details of your preferences for your own funeral or if you are looking for help in preparing for the funeral of a family member of friend you will find help on our parish website. www.stnicholasboldmere.co.uk/funerals-and-praying-for-the-dead.html

Copies of the *Preparing MY funeral* form are available in the porch.

Maryvale

Interested in taking up the offer of courses at Maryvale Institute?

Check out the booklets and leaflets available in the porch. For more information see Fr Allen.

