

**Please pray** for the children who will be making their First Communion shortly. This week they are making their first Confessions, celebrating the love and mercy of God which reaches out to us, especially when we most need him.

A reminder for the rest of us if we are unable to celebrate the Sacrament but would wish to, then we are encouraged instead to make an Act of Contrition.

Perfect contrition (or a Contrition of Charity) is true and real sorrow for our sins which is created when we realise the immense love of God for each one of us. We express this contrition when we realise how we offend God by our sinful words, deeds and omissions in contrast to the immeasurable love and mercy that He continually shows us. Earlier in the Pandemic, the Bishops reminded us: 'This requires us to be contrite of heart for what we have done, know and be overwhelmed by the love and mercy of God for His children, and to approach this grace with humility and resolution not to sin again.'



### Guiding People to Free Debt Advice

A webinar run by Advice4Renters on the 11th November from 6.30pm to 8.30pm aimed at helping those who advise on problems of personal or household debt. The workshop covers the causes of debt problems and how to respond when someone tells you they're in debt. Join online by signing up at <https://bit.ly/3k4M5GH>

### Cleft lip, palate & club foot abortion bill

A cross-party group of MPs have come together to bring forward the Abortion (cleft lip, cleft palate and club foot) Bill. The Bill will change the law to clarify that cleft palate, cleft lip, and club foot are not grounds for abortion in the UK. Please visit [www.standupandsmile.org.uk](http://www.standupandsmile.org.uk) to email your MP asking them to support the Bill.

### November Masses for the Dead.



- Envelopes are available at the offertory table for those who wish to arrange a 'November' Mass for deceased family and friends.
- In addition Mass on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November at 7pm will be offered for everyone who has died during the past year: parishioners, family, friends - everyone. The circumstances of the year have meant that often people have not been able to attend funerals. This Mass is an opportunity to come together to spend time together and with the Lord and pray for them.

### Blessing of Graves

- The usual Deanery services for the Blessing of graves cannot take place this year. However people are free to make their own private visits and pray. Prayers to use on these visits will be provided at Mass on Sunday 31 Oct/1 Nov. That Sunday, also, Mass will begin with the blessing of water - including water to use in the blessing of graves, and in our homes, over the following weeks, especially during Advent - so bring a bottle of water with you - and possibly another too, for a housebound neighbour!

### An Act of Contrition

My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Saviour Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In his name, my God, have mercy.

### The local Catholic Secondary Schools in the St John Paul II MultiAcademy

are unable to invite prospective pupils and parents to visit for Open Evenings this year because of the Covid situation - but information is available on their websites.



[www.bishopwalsh.net/open-evening-2020](http://www.bishopwalsh.net/open-evening-2020)  
[www.stedcamp.bham.sch.uk](http://www.stedcamp.bham.sch.uk)

### On-line Support for Prayer

- Weekly parish Zoom prayer meetings - Sun at 4pm for Lectio Divina and Mon at 7pm for Rosary.

*Zoom links are posted on the parish Blog on the day. Do join us - especially if you are not confident in returning to church for Mass.*

- Reflections on the Readings and Prayers of the following Sunday's Mass are posted daily on the parish Blog (Weds to Sun).

*Spending time with the readings and prayers before Mass is a good way of helping Mass be more fruitful for us.*



### NB Sunday now begins in Boldmere at 4pm on Saturdays!

Our experiment with a 4pm Mass on Saturdays (1st Mass of Sunday) has proved successful. It will continue for the foreseeable future. Thank you to those who have volunteered for stewarding and cleaning, and who make this possible.

The next 4pm Masses will be on 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> October - and they will resume on 28<sup>th</sup> November, after the first COmmunion Masses on 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> or 21<sup>st</sup> November.



## St Nicholas Catholic Church, Boldmere

**Address:** 243 Jockey Rd., Boldmere, Sutton Coldfield, B73 5US  
**Telephone:** 0121 354 1763 **Email:** [stnicholas.boldmere@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:stnicholas.boldmere@rcaob.org.uk)  
**Website:** [www.stnicholasboldmere.co.uk](http://www.stnicholasboldmere.co.uk)  
**Parish Blog:** [www.stnicholasboldmere.wordpress.com](http://www.stnicholasboldmere.wordpress.com)

**Parish Priest:** Fr Allen Morris **E-mail:** [stnicholas.boldmere@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:stnicholas.boldmere@rcaob.org.uk)  
**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*

**Fratelli Tutti** is a timely and hopeful (and long) letter from Pope Francis on how our world is and how it is called to be - and on our proper part in it all.

Before Covid-19 - if you can remember that far back - a number of *Owning Our Faith & Calling* groups were meeting monthly to help us all reflect on our lives in the light of our Christian faith and vocation.

These paused as the Pandemic hit. But *Fratelli Tutti* is an opportunity to start those groups up again, in our changed circumstances. Materials for a series of 10 meetings to support a slow reading of *Fratelli Tutti* are in preparation.

Group leaders are invited to contact their members and see if they would like to meet again as a Zoom or Teams group, and if so whether they want to meet monthly or weekly.

Fr Allen will lead a **weekly** group (open to all) meeting using this material at 5pm on Sundays. But other new groups - and new members for current groups - are welcome too.

The resources for the meetings will be available for all to use at their own pace - including those who do not want to join a group. More details on the parish website and parish blog.

### Present Arrangements for Mass

**Face coverings:** Regulations require members of the congregation, aged 5 and over, to wear face-coverings over their nose and mouth throughout the time we are in church. *If you have an exemption certificate please confirm in advance with Fr Allen, so that appropriate seating to be arranged for you and to safeguard others.*

**Social distancing:** If you are attending Mass with others, then the group you attend with should not exceed more than six people. Your group of six can be made up of people from outside your household, but strict social distancing must be maintained between members of different households at all times.

**Offertory:** There is no offertory collection at present, but there is a basket for your offerings on the table just inside the church.

**Thank you for your cooperation.**

### Retiring collection this week for World Mission Sunday.

On World Mission Sunday the whole Church unites in prayer for its missionary activity, and in collecting funds to support Catholic communities across the world living in situations of poverty and privation. The need is even greater this year due to the Covid-19 pandemic, especially in countries with inadequate financial and medical resources.

The theme chosen by Pope Francis for this year's World Mission Sunday is 'Here I am, send me!' In these difficult and uncertain times, the Holy Father encourages us with these words: 'God continues to look for those he can send into the world, and to the nations, to bear witness to his love, his deliverance from sin and death, and his liberation from evil.'

Donations go to a Universal Solidarity Fund in order to meet the spiritual and material needs of peoples and churches throughout the world. Thank you for your support of Missio through prayer and charity. [www.missio.org.uk](http://www.missio.org.uk)

### MASS DURING THE HEALTH CRISIS

*On days when there is no public Mass (because no volunteers for stewarding/cleaning) Fr Allen celebrates Mass 'privately' in the church usually at 0830.*

Sa	17	4pm	29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME <i>Psalter Week 4</i>	
		6pm		Anne Gallagher RIP (Evans)
Su	18	9am		For the parish
		11am		Gahan Family Ints
M	19	10am		Betty Sawbridge RIP (Sawbridge)
T	20	10am		Mary Gavin RD (Lawlor)
W	21			
Th	22			
F	23	7pm		Harriet Fay RD (O'Gorman)
Sa	24	4pm	30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME <i>Psalter Week 4</i>	
		6pm		Teresa Gill RIP (Gill)
Su	25	9am		For the parish
		11am		Michael Xavier McDermott (McDermott)

**Sacrament of Reconciliation** The current restrictions make it impractical to celebrate the Sacrament in the Confessional room. However, if you wish to celebrate Reconciliation, please contact Fr Allen who will be happy to arrange a time and place to celebrate this sacrament of mercy with you.

**Please pray for sick parishioners** including Betty Barker, Lyn Hunt; Joan James; Thomas Stevenson; Lea Burke. Please pray for Martin Murphy, Kathleen Hughes, Thomas, Henaghan, and Michael McDermott whose anniversaries occur at this time. **Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, may they rest in peace.**

### The Introductory Rites

*The Introductory Rites help the faithful to come together as one, establish communion and prepare themselves properly to listen to the Word of God and to celebrate the Eucharist worthily.*

### The Penitential Act

#### The Gloria

Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you, we bless you,  
we adore you, we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great glory,  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us;  
you take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

### The Collect

### The Liturgy of the Word

*By hearing the word proclaimed in worship, the faithful again enter into the unending dialogue between God and the people of the covenant shared in Christ, a dialogue sealed as we share the Eucharistic food and drink. The proclamation of the word is essential to the Mass*

*A brief time of quiet after the readings allows those present to take the word of God to heart and begin to prepare a prayerful response to what we have heard.*

### Isaiah 45:1,4-6

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus,  
whom he has taken by his right hand  
to subdue nations before him  
and strip the loins of kings,  
to force gateways before him  
that their gates be closed no more:

‘It is for the sake of my servant Jacob,  
of Israel my chosen one,  
that I have called you by your name,  
conferring a title though you do not know me.  
I am the Lord, unrivalled;  
there is no other God besides me.  
Though you do not know me, I arm you  
that men may know  
from the rising to the setting of the sun  
that, apart from me, all is nothing.’

### Psalm 95(96):1,3-5,7-10

O sing a new song to the Lord,  
sing to the Lord all the earth.  
Tell among the nations his glory  
and his wonders among all the peoples.

The Lord is great and worthy of praise,  
to be feared above all gods;  
the gods of the heathens are naught.  
It was the Lord who made the heavens,

Give the Lord, you families of peoples,  
give the Lord glory and power;  
give the Lord the glory of his name.  
Bring an offering and enter his courts.

Worship the Lord in his temple.  
O earth, tremble before him.  
Proclaim to the nations: ‘God is king.’  
He will judge the peoples in fairness.

### 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5

From Paul, Silvanus and Timothy, to the Church in Thessalonika which is in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; wishing you grace and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

We always mention you in our prayers and thank God for you all, and constantly remember before God our Father how you have shown your faith in action, worked for love and persevered through hope, in our Lord Jesus Christ.

We know, brothers, that God loves you and that you have been chosen, because when we brought the Good News to you, it came to you not only as words, but as power and as the Holy Spirit and as utter conviction.

### Gospel Acclamation

*Alleluia, alleluia!* Your word is truth, O Lord:  
consecrate us in the truth. *Alleluia!*

### Matthew 22:1-10

The Pharisees went away to work out between them how to trap Jesus in what he said. And they sent their disciples to him, together with the Herodians, to say, ‘Master, we know that you are an honest man and teach the way of God in an honest way, and that you are not afraid of anyone, because a man’s rank means nothing to you. Tell us your opinion, then. Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not?’ But Jesus was aware of their malice and replied, ‘You hypocrites! Why do you set this trap for me? Let me see the money you pay the tax with.’ They handed him a denarius, and he said, ‘Whose head is this? Whose name?’ ‘Caesar’s’ they replied. He then said to them, ‘Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar – and to God what belongs to God.’

### Homily

**Prayer of the Faithful** (*omitted at the Bishop’s request*)

### Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

*At the words that follow, up to and including the Virgin Mary, all bow.*

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended into hell;  
on the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand  
of God the Father almighty;  
from there he will come  
to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting.  
Amen.

### The Liturgy of the Eucharist

*The Eucharist is the source and summit of the whole Christian life. It is the vital centre of all that the Church is and does, because at its heart is the real presence of the crucified, risen and glorified Lord, continuing and making available his saving work among us.*

### The Offertory

*There is no offertory collection at this time. Instead, you are invited to place your offerings in the basket at the entrance to the church as you arrive, or as you leave.*

### THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

*The Eucharistic Prayer, the centre and summit of the entire celebration is a memorial proclamation of praise and thanksgiving for God’s work of salvation, a proclamation in which the Body and Blood of Christ are made present by the power of the Holy Spirit and the people are joined to Christ in offering his Sacrifice to the Father*

### The Preface Dialogue

*Priest:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And with your spirit.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right and just.**

### Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

### The mystery of faith.

Save us, Saviour of the world,  
for by your Cross and Resurrection  
you have set us free.

### THE COMMUNION RITE

*Eating and drinking together of the Lord’s Body and Blood in a Paschal meal is the culmination of the Eucharist. The themes underlying these rites are the mutual love and reconciliation that are both the condition and the fruit of worthy communion and the unity of the many in the One.*

### The Lord’s Prayer

### Invitation to Communion

*Please wait in your pew until it is time to move forward to the priest for Holy Communion, always aware of the regulations on social distancing in the orderly queue.*

*As you approach the priest, please do so with arms at “full stretch” to keep a good distance between you and the priest.*

*Communion will be given silently, and in the hand only. (Your hands - palms upwards, one of top of the other - should be extended as flatly as possible.)*

### Prayer after Communion

### The Concluding Rites

*The brief Concluding Rite sends the people forth to put into effect in their daily lives the Mystery of Christ’s Death and Resurrection and the unity in Christ which they have celebrated. Their mission is to witness to Christ in the world and to bring the Gospel to the poor.*

### Blessing

### Dismissal

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### The Rosary

In this month of October - the month of the Rosary why not join our regular Monday evening Zoom group to pray the Rosary for 30 minutes or so.

Or if you would like to pray alone - even a decade a day, you may find some help in the on-line resources at *Prayer From The Catholic Tradition*. The pages for the Mysteries are grouped in the left hand column! (<https://catholicprayersblog.wordpress.com/>)

**Financial support for the Church:** You will appreciate that parish income has been cut right back over the past months, but our bills have not reduced by anything like as much! If you are in a position to help, you might like to consider the following.

- **GIFT AID** allows the Church reclaim tax paid on your offering, to raise a further 25% for the church at no further cost to you.
- **STANDING ORDERS** are a helpful way of making your offering. *Forms for GA and SO are available from Fr Allen or the parish website.*
- **GIFT AID OFFERTORY ENVELOPES** Numbered envelopes are available or those in the Gift Aid scheme who still use the envelopes.

### Preparing for Mass

Reflections on readings and prayers from next Sunday’s Mass are posted daily on the parish Blog (Weds to Sun). *Spending time with the readings and prayers before Mass is a good way of helping our time at Mass to be more fruitful.*