

## Acts 2:14,36-41

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd in a loud voice: ‘The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ.’

Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, ‘What must we do, brothers?’ ‘You must repent,’ Peter answered ‘and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself.’ He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, ‘Save yourselves from this perverse generation.’ They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number.

## Psalm 22:1-6

*The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want.*

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit.

He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear. You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort.

You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord’s own house shall I dwell for ever and ever.

## 1 Peter 2:20-25

The merit, in the sight of God, is in bearing punishment patiently when you are punished after doing your duty.

This, in fact, is what you were called to do, because Christ suffered for you and left an example for you to follow the way he took. He had not done anything wrong, and there had been no perjury in his mouth. He was insulted and did

not retaliate with insults; when he was tortured he made no threats but he put his trust in the righteous judge. He was bearing our faults in his own body on the cross, so that we might die to our faults and live for holiness; through his wounds you have been healed. You had gone astray like sheep but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

## Gospel Acclamation

*Alleluia, alleluia! I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my own sheep and my own know me. Alleluia!*

## John 10:1-10

Jesus said: ‘I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.’

Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them.

So Jesus spoke to them again:

‘I tell you most solemnly, I am the gate of the sheepfold.

All others who have come are thieves and brigands; but the sheep took no notice of them.

I am the gate. Anyone who enters through me will be safe: he will go freely in and out and be sure of finding pasture.

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy.

I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full.’



Hermitage, St Petersburg



## 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

## Introducing younger children to the Liturgy

A well-structured and well-celebrated Children’s Liturgy of the Word can greatly help the children learn how to take their full part in our ‘regular’ celebrations of Mass.

At present we have very few people ready and able to lead (or assist) at these Liturgies. So I write to ask whether you would be ready, perhaps with a couple of friends, to come and learn more about these Liturgies, and see whether you would be willing to train to become part of the team who prepare and lead them.

The intention would be to have the Liturgy offered every other week at each Sunday Mass (ie Sat 6pm, and Sun 9am and 11am). It will be helpful to have each Liturgy led by three trained ministers – supported by an experienced leader/catechist.

I hope it will prove practical to have two teams supporting each Mass time. If that can be the case team members would only be called on to serve once a month, on average. It is to the advantage of the children if we can have both women and men involved as leaders in the groups.

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## Keeping Easter ...

The core mystery of our Christian faith is the Paschal Mystery of Jesus Passion, Death and his Resurrection. The Passion and Death of Jesus raise a question about the abiding significance of the Incarnation, and the ministry of Jesus. What does these really matter if they end with his death?

God’s answer is that Jesus death is not the end of Jesus, but is the beginning of the end of death and sin – especially of their power over us. For this we celebrate.

Explore the Mystery of the Resurrection, using the Stations posted on our parish blog twice a week during the Easter season.

**for 50 days !**

## Take fresh heart

A new parish group to which all who are bereaved or grieving are warmly invited.

The group is not about counselling or therapy - but offers a ‘safe place’ for people to come to be with others, who are not going to be embarrassed as they struggle with the pain of loss, or celebrate what has given them joy and for which they are grateful.

If you would be interested in learning more about what such a group might do and how you could contribute to it, please come to a meeting in the Benedict Room at 2pm on Monday 22nd May.

## Masses Fourth Week of Easter

Sa	6	1800	<b>4th Sunday of Easter</b> Psalter Wk 4	Tony Lawlor RD (Macerola)
Su	7	0900 1100		Joseph Drozd RIP - 25th Anniv (Drozd) Tony Lawlor RD (Mooney)
M	8	1000		Bill Fitzgerald (Devane)
T	9	1000		Tony Lawlor RD (Hughes)
W	10			
Th	11	1000		Joanne Taylor RD (Gould)
F	12	1900		Tony Lawlor RD (Hempenstall)
S	13	1800	<b>5th Sunday of Easter</b> Psalter Wk 1	Teresa Gill (Gill)
Su	14	0900 1100		Aidan Redmond RIP (Birthday) (Redmond) Brian Healy RD (Maxwell)

**Morning/Evening Prayer** 15 mins before weekday Mass.

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

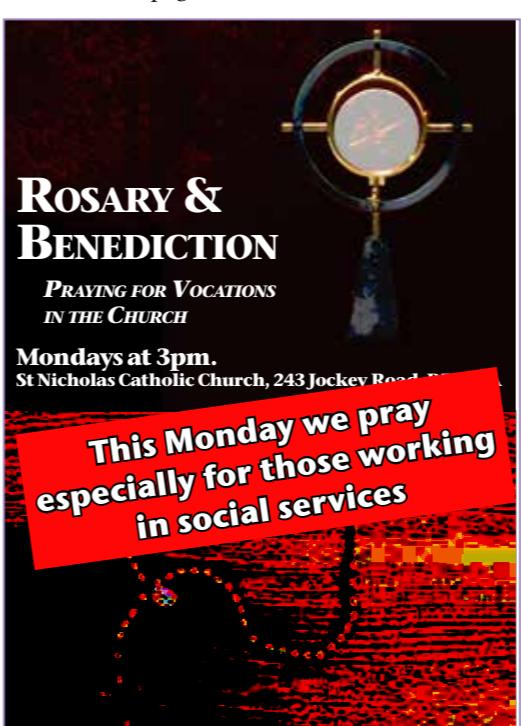
**Rosary and Benediction** Mondays at 3pm

**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 Sara Gallagher, Ray Finn, Diane Jukes, David Freeman, Margaret Knowles, 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 Mary Burgess, Pauline Handsome, Joseph Drozd, Monica Brugger, Eileen Bartropp, Peggy Brookes 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.**



In Lent/Easter we use the Church's Baptismal Creed, the Apostles Creed, at Sunday Mass - Laudate p205.

## Parish

### Tea and Coffee after 9 am and 11am

**Mass** on Sunday morning resumes next Sunday. Would you be willing to volunteer to be 'trained' to open up the Carpenter's Arms as they are letting us open up/lock up. It would be good to have a rota of four or more people willing to do this. It would mean one person opening up before the end of 9am Mass and another locking up at 1pm after the 11am Mass. If you can help please let Fr Allen know.

**Welcoming Team and Ministers of Holy Communion.** New Rotas available on web and on shelf outside the repository. The rotas for ministers are also now all posted on the two notice boards inside the Church - the rotas for Welcomers, for the Offertory and for Church cleaners are on the left hand side as you enter the church, and the rotas for Readers and Ministers of Holy Communion are on the right. They are also all available on the website: <http://www.stnicholasboldmere.co.uk/service-to-the-liturgy.html>

**Please pray** for the children of our parish, and others who attend St Nicholas School, who are preparing to receive Holy Communion for the first time during the 11am Mass on 14<sup>th</sup> May and at all Masses on 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> May; and receive the Sacrament of Confirmation at Mass on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm.

**Travelling Solo** The next lunch is after the 11am Mass TODAY! All who 'travel alone' - single, the divorced or separated, widows and widowers - are welcome.

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

**Viv Everitt** thanks all for prayers during her recent illness.

**Parish Scripture Study Group;** Next meeting: Weds 17 May at 7.30pm. NB **Change of Date!!!** 'Homework' for the

**Pilgrimage to ASSISI for the Feast of St Francis Led by Fr Allen Morris**



Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> - Fri 6<sup>th</sup> Oct 2017

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

## Pray with Pope Francis

The Pope's prayer intention this month is:

That Christians in Africa, in imitation of the Merciful Jesus, may give prophetic witness to reconciliation, justice, and peace.

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

meeting is to read Chapters 1-15 of the Acts of the Apostles. All are welcome - especially Parish ministers of the word (Catechists, readers, etc). The group will help us deepen our knowledge of the Scriptures.

**Baptism Preparation.** The next preparation programme begins on Sat 3 June from 11-12noon, in the Benedict Room. Parents should see Fr Allen before hand and complete an application form.

**An Ecumenical Pentecost service** 4th June, 6.30pm at Chester Road Baptist Church. Come and build on the good experience of our working together to support Taize: Birmingham

## Diocese

**Birmingham's Pilgrimage to Walsingham 13 May.** Details in porch.

## CAFOD School Volunteers needed!

Could you talk about the work of CAFOD in our school, other local Catholic primary and secondary schools and parish youth groups? CAFOD Birmingham are looking for volunteers in our area to give a short talk or presentation to children and young people to help them learn about the world and to inspire them to take action on poverty with CAFOD. Full training and resources supplied. For further information please contact CAFOD Birmingham on 01922 722944 or email birmingham@cafod.org.uk.

## Other

**You Can Help Your Marriage** – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. This programme has helped 10s of 1000s of couples experiencing difficulties in their marriage. For confidential information about, or to register for, the next programme commencing with a residential weekend on 9th-11th June email info@retrouvaille.org.uk; call or text 0788 729 6983 or visit [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)

**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.

**Poland 2017 Fri 25 Aug - Sun 3 Sept:**

A great opportunity for 16-30 year olds



## 28th September. Day outing to Liverpool by coach

Includes visit to the city's two cathedrals. £22.50 inc. of coach.

Full details and application form are available in the porch.

An event organised for Churches Together in Boldmere



to experience faith, new cultures, sight seeing and prayer opportunities with young people from Poland and Israel. The group will stay in Mogilno, Poland and explore the theme of vocation. This opportunity is funded by the Erasmus scheme, so will incur very minimal costs to participants. Only 20 places are available so please act soon to avoid disappointment. Deadline for applications

## In Hospital or going into Hospital?

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.

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 as they prepare to go to hospital, especially if they are going for a more serious operation. If you would like to receive the Sacrament, please let Fr Allen know.

## The Bishop Walsh Award Scheme

is open to all Catholic pupils going into Year 7 in September, whether or not they are or are going to be in Catholic schools after September.

Those who enrol in the scheme volunteer to two hours of parish service each month for a year (if the service is at Mass the total service time per month will need to include some non-Mass time volunteering. At the end of the year those on the scheme write a short reflection on their experience, and become eligible for the certificate of achievement. There will be two social events for volunteers during the year.

Application forms for the scheme are being circulated to children in Year 6 at St Nicholas, and are also available in the porch.

All Year 6 children are **Bishop Walsh Award 2017/18** welcome.



26th May. For an application form please email Christopher.pell@bcys.co.uk.

**Past Staff, Governors and Directors of St Joseph's School** are invited to blessing of new school building by Bishop Byrne at 9.30am on Weds 7 June. If you wish to attend please email knowe.green@stjosutton.net as seating is limited.

**Jubilee Debt Campaign A Moral Economy - Ann Pettifor** 7pm Weds May 10th, Carrs Lane Church Centre, B4 7SX. Book free place at [www.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk) – simply search for 'Ann Pettifor' with the location as Birmingham UK, or contact John Nightingale: 07811 128831

## Bethany Food Bank

### In April you helped

• 229 people helped by the voucher system (215)

Food was also provided in bulk to :

- 100 needy people in Handsworth (100)
- 160 needy people in the Lyndhurst (120)
- 40 people helped by the YMCA (30)
- 48 people helped by the Jesus Fellowship (65)
- 35 people Tipton/Bilston Assembly of God (75)
- 75 people in Beauty behind Gospel (75)

NB Numbers in brackets are for last month.

**Collection THIS WEEKEND then 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> June**  
**All dry foods welcome.**



## Introducing younger children to the Liturgy *continued*

The prospect of the work might seem daunting, and there is something of a learning curve in developing the skills needed. However it is not complicated and with support and encouragement people can quickly find themselves confident and able for the work – and enjoying it.

It is an important work, a work that can make a real contribution to the prayer life and faith of the children and their families. Parents of younger children will surely also find that the work is a help to them as their children begin their own preparation for First Holy Communion.

If you would like to learn more, please do email me and come to a 30 minute meeting in the Benedict Room (behind the church) on Saturday 13th May at 0930am.

Fr Allen

## For the sick and those who care for them

**A new monthly gathering for prayer & social time.**

**11am First Fridays, from 2nd June.**

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, with prayer for the sick and for carers, and the offer of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick followed by tea and sandwiches.

If you would like to offer help to those who cannot get to the service under their own steam, or with refreshments, please see Fr Allen as soon as possible.

## Parish Meeting Update

Just before Holy Week there was a parish open meeting to consider three practical matters:

- Management of the car park to ensure that it is always available first for those here for parish activities.
- Looking at a new lighting design for the church, and preparing for the rewiring of the church.
- Upgrading the facilities in the Benedict Room and McEvilly room so that they can be more regularly used by the parish and the wider community.



Thank you to those who came to the meeting, and for their contributions. One of the things we spend a good deal of time discussing was the parish car park. It was helpful to be able to clarify that the intention is not to 'monetise' the car park - ie charge people for parking - but to help us be able to ensure it is available for those attending the church for weddings/funerals and other core parish events, in addition to sharing our car park with St Nicholas school to help meet their needs. The law is such that the only way to enforce regulation of parking is to have a formal permit/permited parking scheme. If people do not follow the regulations they leave themselves liable to a fine. Hopefully being liable to a fine will deter unauthorised parking, and free up the car park for the benefit of those coming to church. Conversations with the Archdiocese on all these matters are underway.

- The current plan is to have the building/electrical work ready to begin in July 2018.
- A first design for the refashioning of the Benedict Room is displayed in the porch.
- The practicalities of the car park scheme will continue to be discussed and reflected on.

## School Sign-In

Schools in the St. John Paul II Multi-academy, including St Nicholas and Bishop Walsh schools, give priority to applications from practicing Catholic families. They invite families to submit a letter of recommendation from their parish priest to evidence their Catholic practice.



To ensure that there is some objective record to support such letters, those who will apply to these schools are invited to 'sign-in' on occasional Sundays during the 2 years before they submit their application for Primary or Secondary School.

- At present those who will apply for admission up to 2019 are invited to sign-in.
- If signing in to support applications for Secondary School, both a parent and the child concerned should sign in
- 'Sign-In Sundays' are always announced at the end of Mass.
- Signing in books for those already registered are available in the McEvilly Room. (If signing in for the first time please use one of forms provided, but DO NOT put them in the book, but in the basket provided.)
- For more information regarding admission please check the schools' websites.
- If particular circumstances mean a family is not at Mass at St Nicholas weekly they are invited to make an appointment to meet with Fr Allen at the earliest opportunity so that the circumstances can be discussed and understood.