

Ezekiel 2:2-5

The spirit came into me and made me stand up, and I heard the Lord speaking to me. He said, 'Son of man, I am sending you to the Israelites, to the rebels who have turned against me. Till now they and their ancestors have been in revolt against me. The sons are defiant and obstinate; I am sending you to them, to say, "The Lord says this." Whether they listen or not, this set of rebels shall know there is a prophet among them.'

Psalm 122(123)

Our eyes are on the Lord till he shows us his mercy.

To you have I lifted up my eyes,
you who dwell in the heavens;
my eyes, like the eyes of slaves
on the hand of their lords.

Like the eyes of a servant
on the hand of her mistress,
so our eyes are on the Lord our God
till he show us his mercy.

Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.

We are filled with contempt.
Indeed all too full is our soul
with the scorn of the rich,
with the proud man's disdain.

2 Corinthians 12:7-10

In view of the extraordinary nature of these revelations, to stop me from getting too proud I was given a thorn in the flesh, an angel of Satan to beat me and stop me from getting too proud! About this thing, I have pleaded with the Lord three times for it to leave me, but he has said, 'My grace is enough for you: my power is at its best in weakness.' So I shall be very happy to make my weaknesses my special boast so that the power of Christ may stay over me, and that is why I am quite content with my weaknesses, and with insults, hardships, persecutions, and the agonies I go through for Christ's sake. For it is when I am weak that I am strong.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! The Word was made flesh and lived among us: to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God. *Alleluia!*

Mark 6:1-6

Jesus went to his home town and his disciples accompanied him. With the coming of the sabbath he began teaching in the synagogue and


Next Week: Sunday of Week 15 in Ordinary Time

Scripture readings: Amos 7:12 – 15 / Ps 85:9 – 10, 11 – 12, 13 – 14 / Ephesians 1:3 – 14 / Mark 6:7 – 13

If I can give you any advice, I beg you to get closer to the Eucharist and to Jesus... we must pray to Jesus to give us the tenderness of the Eucharist.
St Teresa of Calcutta.

Exposition and Benediction at St Nicholas

Sunday 1800—1900	Expositon and Evening Prayer 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month
Monday 1500—1600	Exposition and Rosary
Friday 1100—1130	Exposition and Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick 1st Friday of the month
Friday 1930—2000	Exposition and prayer for priests
Saturday 1700—1740	Exposition and Sacrament of Confession




A prophet. Collection of the British Museum.

most of them were astonished when they heard him. They said, 'Where did the man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been granted him, and these miracles that are worked through him? This is the carpenter, surely, the son of Mary, the brother of James and Joset and Jude and Simon? His sisters, too, are they not here with us?' And they would not

accept him. And Jesus said to them, 'A prophet is only despised in his own country, among his own relations and in his own house'; and he could work no miracle there, though he cured a few sick people by laying his hands on them. He was amazed at their lack of faith.

PRAYER FOR PRIESTS AND EUCHARISTIC DEVOTION

Do take home a copy of the card of prayer for priests. Also why not arrange a regular time each week to come to church for quiet prayer before the Blessed Sacrament?



Scripture readings from the Jerusalem Bible are published and copyright © 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton, Longman & Todd, Ltd and Doubleday, a division of Random House, Inc, and used by permission of the publishers. Text of the Psalms: Copyright © 1963, The Grail (England). All rights reserved.

The Ordinary of the Mass is found on p200 ff of Laudate.

The settings of Gloria, Holy, Memorial Acclamation and Lamb of God for Ordinary Time are 1013 ff in Laudate.



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



Pope Francis on the Commandments

Today, we begin a series of catecheses on the theme of the Commandments. The Commandments of the Law of God. To introduce it, let us draw from the passage just heard: the encounter between Jesus and a man — he is a young man — who, on his knees, asks Jesus how he can inherit eternal life (cf. Mk 10:17-21). And in that question is the challenge of every life, ours too: the desire for a full, infinite life. What must we do to achieve it? What path must we take? To truly live, to live a noble life... How many young people try to 'live' and destroy themselves by following things that are fleeting.

Some think that it would be better to extinguish this impulse — the impulse to live — because it is dangerous. I would like to say, especially to young people: our worst enemy is not practical problems, no matter how serious and dramatic: life's greatest danger is a poor spirit of adaptation which is neither meekness nor humility, but mediocrity, cowardice.¹ Is a mediocre young person a youth with a future or not? No! He or she remains there, will not grow, will not have success. Mediocrity or cowardice. Those young people who are afraid of everything: 'No, this is how I am...'. These young people will not move forward. Meekness, strength, and not cowardice, not mediocrity.

Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati — he was a young man — used to say that one must live, not just get by. The mediocre just get by, living by their life force. One must ask the heavenly Father, for today's young people, for the gift of a healthy restlessness. But, at home, in your homes, in every family, when a young person is seen sitting idle all

Continued on page 3

Take your part in Mass when on holiday

It has never been easier to find out the times of masses and the locations of churches. Your reliable friend is Google! Just type in Catholic churches in X, (ie the place you are visiting.) You will probably get a list of churches and a map. If you are lucky the website of each church will come up too, and that is where you will be able to check Mass times quickly and easily.

Many churches will provide you with the Sunday readings in English, but if they don't then why not get the *Universalis* App. for your phone. It gives you the readings of the Mass for each day in English, and also the Order of Mass in English and in the major European languages as well as in some African and Indian languages. It is also a helpful spiritual resource for all year round.



Masses Week 14 in Ordinary Time

Su	7	Sunday of 14th Week in Ordinary Time	1700 1800	Exposition and Sacrament of Confession Anne McGrath RD (O'Gorman)
Su	8	Psalter Wk 2	0900 1100 1800	Gerald McGuigan RD (Redmond) For the parish Exposition and Evening Prayer (2nd Sunday)
M	9		1000 * 1500	John Hanbury RIP (Brennan) Expositon of the Blessed Sacrament and Rosary
T	10		1000 *	Chris Hickey RIP (Hickey)
W	11	St Benedict	1000	Edward Rodgers RIP Anniv (Sterling)
Th	12			
F	13		1900 * 1930	Jim Lay RD (Sterling) Exposition and Prayer for Priests (30 mins)
S	14	Sunday of 15th Week in Ordinary Time	1700 1800	Exposition and Sacrament of Confession Bridget Quinlisk RIP (Gill)
Su	15	Psalter Wk 3	0900 1100	For the parish Tom Kelly RIP

The church is open daily (except Thursdays) from 8am to 6pm

Morning/Evening Prayer 20 mins before weekday Masses, as indicated above *.
Exposition: & Vespers 2nd & 4th Suns, 6-7pm; **& Rosary** Mon 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 Bernadette Evans, Josephine Garvey, Margaret Stroud, Gino Mastroianni, Philip Redmond, Jude Turner, Margaret O'Gorman, Peter & Olwyn Foster, Mary Gavin, Frank Kemp, 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 Sheila Duckworth who died recently, Tony Prescott, Teresa Astley, and all whose anniversaries are at this time. **Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, may they rest in peace.**

Parish

Thank you for donations to the **World Development Group** which raised £796.08

Retiring Collection this week for the *Apostleship of the Sea* which helps support those working at sea - often a very vulnerable and easily exploited group of people. www.apostleshipofthesea.org.uk

Dads' Get Together Following Monday's meeting a series of meetings for the first Mondays of October, November and December are being planned. Each will be based around ten minute talk and then supper and a chance to chat/discuss. Talks will be given by local leaders in school, police etc and will all be of particular interest to Dads.

Journey of Faith Monday July 16th at 7pm. A meeting to introduce the Journey of

Parish Pilgrimage 2019

Plans are being made for a parish pilgrimage from July 1-5 next year. Four options are being considered

- Walsingham and East Anglia (staying in Walsingham and travelling out for example to Norwich and Ely)
- Paris (inc visits to chapel of Miraculous Medal, tomb of Vincent de Paul, and attending veneration of the relic of the Crown of Thorns at Notre Dame.)
- Medjugorje • Lourdes

If you are interested please mark your preference on list so planning can be taken to the next stage...

Faith group to those considering whether they would like to learn more about the Catholic Faith, and perhaps - in time - to be received into the Catholic Church or to complete their sacramental initiation (if for example they have been baptised but not received communion or been confirmed.)

The Bell Next issue available at Mass next Sunday. Cost £1.00

Preparation for Baptism of Infants. The next preparation programme begins Sat 28 July from 11-12noon, in the Benedict Room. Pl see Fr Allen before hand and complete an application form.

Rosary for Vocations. The Rosary group meets in church on Mondays at 3pm to pray for vocations. All welcome.

Refreshments in Benedict Room after Sunday 9 and 10am Masses (and 10am Mass on Tuesdays). All welcome.

Book Club Next meeting is at 8pm on Monday 17 September and the book *The Diaries of Etty Hillesum 1941-3*, "A story of spiritual growth such as I have seldom seen anywhere... Etty's diaries complete Anne Frank's... a marvellous gift."

Do you drive to church on Sunday morning? If so - and if you can - please use the school car park, accessible at the end of Wakefield Close, the next turning on the right, away from Boldmere Road. This keeps the church car park relatively free for those who most need to use it.

St Columba's Church Rev Becca Allen will be Instituted to ministry at St Columba's, Banners Gate Road, B73 6TX by Bishop Anne Hollinghurst Tues 17 July at 7.30pm. All welcome.

Wednesday Scripture group 7pm on 25th July. We are beginning to read the Gospel of Luke - the Gospel that we will hear on Sundays and Feast days beginning in Advent this year. Those coming to the meeting are asked to read Chapters 1 and 2 of the Gospel in preparation for the meeting - and if they can to bring along a piece of music or art associated with the chapters...

Diocese
St Joseph's Home,

Coleshill, offers residential care to older people and those living with dementia in a Catholic setting. There are vacancies at present. Ring 01675 434500 for a chat or to arrange a visit.

Other

Adoremus, the Eucharistic Congress. Takes place in Liverpool from 7-9 Sept, tickets for Sat 8 remain, at £40. Speakers including Bishop Robert Barron and Cardinal Vincent Nichols. To find out more and to book a place visit www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/adoremus.

Recharge & Revive Retreat Day at Maryvale. Saturday 14 July 2018. Details in the porch.

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! More information from 0788 729 6983 or www.retrouvaille.org.uk

Part time carer needed. Details in porch.

POPPING INTO THE CHURCH TO PRAY BEFORE THE BLESSED SACRAMENT?

In addition to the parish booklet for sale for £1 in the Repository, a one-sheet aid is available for free at the back of the church.

Continued from page 1

day, at times mom and dad wonder: 'is he sick; is something wrong?', and they take him to the doctor. The life of young people is about moving forward, being restless, healthy restlessness, the capacity not to be content with a life without beauty, without colour. If young people are not hungry for an authentic life, I wonder, where will humanity end up? Where will humanity go with young people who are idle and not restless?

The question of that man in the Gospel passage that we have heard is inside of each of us: how can we find life, life in abundance, happiness? Jesus answers: 'You know the commandments' (v. 19), and cites part of the Ten Commandments. It is a pedagogical process, by which Jesus wishes to lead to an exact place; in fact it is already clear, from that man's question, that he

does not have a full life; he seeks more and is restless. Thus, what does he need in order to understand? He says: 'Teacher, all these I have observed from my youth' (v. 20).

How do we pass from youth to maturity? When we begin to accept our own limitations. We become adults when we 'relativize' and become aware of 'what is lacking' (v21). This man is forced

to acknowledge that everything he is able to 'do' does not rise above a 'ceiling'; it does not exceed a margin. How great it is to be men and women! How precious our existence is! Yet, there is a truth that, in the history of the last centuries, mankind has often rejected, with tragic consequences: the truth of our limitations.

In the Gospel Jesus says something that can help us: 'Think not that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them but to fulfil them' (Mt 5:17). The Lord Jesus gives us the fulfilment; he came for this. That man had to come to the brink, where he had to take a decisive leap, where the possibility was presented to stop living for himself, for his own deeds, for his own goods and — precisely because he lacked a full life — to leave everything to follow the Lord.³ Clearly, in Jesus' final — immense, wonderful — invitation, there is no proposal of poverty, but of wealth, of the true richness: 'You lack one thing; go, sell what you have, and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me' (Mk 10:21).

Being able to choose between an original and a copy, who would choose the copy? Here is the challenge: finding life's original, not the copy. Jesus does not offer surrogates, but true life, true love, true richness! How will young people be able to follow us in faith if they do not see us choose the original, if they see us adjusting to half measures? It is awful to find half-measure Christians, — allow me the word — 'dwarf' Christians; they grow to a certain height and no more; Christians with a miniaturized,

closed heart. It is awful to find this. We need the example of someone who invites me to a 'beyond', a 'plus', to grow a little. Saint Ignatius called it the 'magis', 'the fire, the fervour of action that rouses us from slumber'.³

The path of what is lacking passes through what there is. Jesus did not come to abolish the Law nor the Prophets, but to fulfil. We must start from reality in order to take the leap into 'what we lack'. We must scrutinize the ordinary in order to open ourselves to the extraordinary.

In these catecheses we will take the two tablets of Moses as Christians, taking Jesus' hand, in order to pass from the illusions of youth to the treasure that is in heaven, walking behind Him. We will discover, in each of these laws, ancient and wise, the door opened by the Father who is in heaven so that the Lord Jesus, who has crossed the threshold, may lead us to true life. His life. The life of the children of God.

Pope Francis.
Catechesis at General Audience.
13 June 2018

[1] The Fathers speak of cowardice (*oligopsychia*). Saint John Damascene defines it as 'the fear of completing an action' (Exact exposition of the Orthodox faith, ii, 15) and Saint John Climacus adds that 'cowardice is a childish disposition, in an old, vainglorious soul' *Ladder of Divine Ascent*, xxi, 2.

[2] 'The eye was created for light, the ear for sounds, each thing for its particular purpose, and the desire of the soul for soaring toward Christ' (Nicholas Cabasilas, *The Life in Christ*, ii, 90).

[3] Address to the 36th General Congregation of the Society of Jesus, 24 October 2016: 'It is a *magis*, that plus that leads Ignatius to undertake initiatives, to follow them through, and to evaluate their real impact on peoples' lives in matters of faith,

Living Theology Revelation

This two day course will interest anyone who would like to learn about theology and Christian life, or who enjoys thinking about their faith. There is one course of three talks which everyone attends, and then each person has a choice from each of two groups of topics.

All can attend ▼

► The Parables of Jesus James Crampsey SJ

and choose one of ▼

► B1 Religion and Peacebuilding Theodora Hawksley CJ

► B2 Practical Theology Michael Smith SJ

and choose one of ▼

► C1 Introduction to the Psalms James Crampsey SJ

► C2 Teilhard de Chardin: his life and work. Michael Smith SJ

■ The course takes place on Saturday July 21st and Sunday July 22nd 2018, starting at 10.15am and ending by 4.30pm each day.

■ It will be held at St Paul's Convent, 94 Selly Park Road, Selly Park, Birmingham B29 7LL.

■ There is a suggested donation of £40 if you can manage it for the two days, including refreshments and a light lunch each day.

■ Full details are available at www.living-theology.uk

■ Please book at secretary@living-theology.uk stating your choices for courses B and C

A Future for All...



Implementing the Christian imperative to care for our World

ECO CHURCH
AN A1001A UK PROJECT

Saturday 14th July 10.00am - 4.00pm
Priory Rooms, Bull Street, Birmingham, B4 6AF

An ecumenical day of worship, speakers, workshops and conversations.
Register at: centralenglandquakers.org.uk/futureforall

Pray with Pope Francis

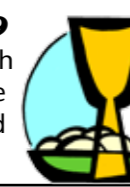
The Pope's prayer intention for July is for priests, who experience fatigue and loneliness in their pastoral work. May they find help and comfort in their intimacy with the Lord and friendship with their brother priests.



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

First Communion and Confirmation 2018-19

Application forms and first details of next year's parish programmes are available in the porch. Details of the catechesis for children, for those at a Catholic school and those who are not, will be available at a later date.



In Hospital or going there?

Roman Catholic Chaplains are appointed to all 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, and also the phone number of a family member/friend.

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.