

**Jeremiah 23:1-6**

'Doom for the shepherds who allow the flock of my pasture to be destroyed and scattered – it is the Lord who speaks! This, therefore, is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says about the shepherds in charge of my people: You have let my flock be scattered and go wandering and have not taken care of them.

Right, I will take care of you for your misdeeds – it is the Lord who speaks! But the remnant of my flock I myself will gather from all the countries where I have dispersed them, and will bring them back to their pastures: they shall be fruitful and increase in numbers. I will raise up shepherds to look after them and pasture them; no fear, no terror for them any more; not one shall be lost – it is the Lord who speaks!

'See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I will raise a virtuous Branch for David, who will reign as true king and be wise, practising honesty and integrity in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel dwell in confidence. And this is the name he will be called: The-Lord-our-integrity.'

**Psalms 22(23)**

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.

**Ephesians 2:13-18**

In Christ Jesus, you that used to be so far apart from us have been brought very close, by the blood of Christ. For he is the peace between us, and has made the two into one and broken down the barrier which used to keep them apart, actually destroying in his own person the

**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** Exposition 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



hostility caused by the rules and decrees of the Law. This was to create one single New Man in himself out of the two of them and by restoring peace through the cross, to unite them both in a single Body and reconcile them with God: in his own person he killed the hostility. Later he came to bring the good news of peace, peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near at hand. Through him, both of us have in the one Spirit our way to come to the Father.

**Gospel Acclamation**

*Alleluia, alleluia!* The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice, says the Lord, I know them and they follow me. *Alleluia!*

**Mark 6:30-34**

The apostles rejoined Jesus and told him all they had done and taught. Then he said to them, 'You must come away to some lonely place all by yourselves and rest for a while'; for there were so many coming and going that the apostles had no time even to eat. So they went off in a boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But people saw them going, and many could guess where; and from every town they all hurried to the place on foot and reached it before them. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd, and he set himself to teach them at some length.

**Next Week: Sunday of Week 17 in Ordinary Time**

Scripture readings: 2 Kings 4:42 – 44 / Psalm 145:10–11, 15–16, 17–18 / Ephesians 4:1 – 6 / John 6:1 – 15

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**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**

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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*



**Pope Francis on the Commandments**

I speak again about these Commandments which, as we have said, more than commandments are the words of God to his people to help them journey properly, obeying the Father's loving words.

The Ten Words begin in this way: 'I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage' (Ex 20:2). This beginning would seem foreign to the true and proper laws that follow. But it is not so.

Why does God make this proclamation about himself and about liberation? Because one reaches Mount Sinai after having crossed the Red Sea: the God of Israel first saves, then asks for trust.[1] In other words: the Decalogue begins from God's generosity. God never asks without giving first. First he saves; first he gives; then he asks. Such is our Father: a good God.

Let us understand the importance of the first declaration: 'I am the Lord, your God'. There is a possessive; there is a relationship; there is belonging. God is not extraneous: he is your God.[2] This illuminates the entire Decalogue and also reveals the secret of Christian action, because it is the very same attitude of Jesus, who says: 'As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you' (Jn 15:9). Christ is loved by the Father, and he loves us with that love. He puts not himself but the Father first. Often our deeds fail because we put ourselves, and not gratitude first. And one who begins with himself: where does he end up? He ends up with himself! He is incapable of making headway; he turns in on himself. It is precisely this selfish attitude that, in jest, people say: 'that person is just I; me; with me and for me'. He begins and ends with himself.

Christian life is above all the grateful response to a generous Father. Christians who only fulfil their 'duties' do not have a personal experience with that God who is 'ours'. I must do this, this, that.... Only duties. But you lack something! What is the foundation of

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**This summer may you walk with God in whatever you do and wherever you go... May you talk to God every day and in every situation.**

**Masses Week 16 in Ordinary Time**

<b>S</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>Sunday of 16th Week in Ordinary Time</b> <i>Psalter Wk 4</i>	1700 1800	Exposition and Sacrament of Confession Freda Gately RIP (Ord)
<b>Su</b>	<b>22</b>		0900 1100 1800	For the parish Brigid Barron RIP (Barron) Exposition and Evening Prayer (4th Sunday)
<b>M</b>	<b>23</b>	St Bridget of Sweden	1000 * 1130 1500	Geoff Sterling RIP (Anniv) <b>Funeral of Sheila Duckworth</b> Expositon of the Blessed Sacrament and Rosary
<b>T</b>	<b>24</b>		1000 *	Ron Wilkinson RIP Anniv (Wilkinson)
<b>W</b>	<b>25</b>	St James	1000	Pauline Thomas RIP (O'Gorman)
<b>Th</b>	<b>26</b>			
<b>F</b>	<b>27</b>		1900 * 1930	Annie Clancy intentions (Leese) Exposition and Prayer for Priests (30 mins)
<b>S</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>Sunday of 17th Week in Ordinary Time</b> <i>Psalter Wk 1</i>	1700 1800	Exposition and Sacrament of Confession For the parish
<b>Su</b>	<b>29</b>		0900 1100	Thanksgiving and for the sick (Redmond) Kathleen McCrossan - Ints

**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/](http://livingeucharist.wordpress.com/)

**Please pray for sick parishioners** including Bernadette Evans, 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** Josephine Garvey who died on Friday, and for Sheila Duckworth whose funeral service is on 23 July at 1130, and for Ruth Loughran-Smith, Fred Rhodes, Geoffrey Sterling, Christine Foster, Ron Wilkinson and all whose anniversaries are at this time. **Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, may they rest in peace.**

## Parish

**The Bell** New issue on sale today: £1.00

**Travelling Solo lunch** All who 'travel solo in life' for whatever reason are warmly invited to meet for pub lunch straight after the 11am Mass on Sun 5 August.

**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.

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

**Confirmation** Bishop Robert has written to give the date of Confirmation as Thursday 13 Dec at 7pm. Details of whole-parish programme, including

### 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.

**11am on First Fridays. Next service is August 3rd**

### 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.



### 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.

### 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.

### Would you like to be part of a parish group offering hospitality to local people wanting time and space just to chill out.

Mondays 10.30-1.30 and the Benedict Room are available for us to offer care and welcome. Want to help? See Fr Allen!



rehearsal, have been updated on website.

**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.

**Refreshments** in Benedict Room after Sunday morning masses start again in September.

Volunteers to serve coffee etc needed. Please sign up on list by the Offertory Table in church.

**Book Club** Next meeting is at 8pm

on Monday 17 September and the book *The Diaries of Ety Hillesum 1941-3*, "A story of spiritual growth such as I have seldom seen anywhere... Ety's diaries complete Anne Frank's... a marvellous gift."

**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

**Two 3-month-old kittens** from a good home are in need of a good home.



See leaflet in porch for details or contact Jeremy on 07527 794398.



### Adoremus, the Eucharistic Congress.

Takes place in Liverpool from 7-9 Sept, tickets for Sat 8 remain, at £40. Speakers

### POPPING INTO THE CHURCH TO PRAY BEFORE THE BLESSED SACRAMENT?

A parish booklet, costing £1 is on sale in the Repository.

A free 1-sheet aid is available at the back of the church.

### Bethany Food Bank helped 1054 people in June.

Collection each weekend, but BIG COLLECTION on 1st weekend of the month.

	2016	2017	2018
January	350	561	938
February	280	620	971
March	400	697	1130
April	468	687	989
May	429	632	1101
June	390	613	1054
July	373	664	
August	370	825	
September	550	735	
October	445	805	
November	455	823	
December	539	3842	
	5049	11504	6183

including Bishop Robert Barron and Cardinal Vincent Nichols. To find out more and to book a place visit [www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/adoremus](http://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/adoremus).

**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! Info from 0788 729 6983 or [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)

**Part time carer needed.** Details in porch.

### Loving 4 Life Marriage Enrichment

Loving4Life offers marriage enrichment weekends for married couples to help rediscover the joy of love, drawing on the Theology of the Body. The next one takes place 6th-7th October at the Dowry House, Walsingham, Norfolk NR22 6BZ. For bookings, contact Jane Deegan, Coordinator at [jane@loving4life.net](mailto:jane@loving4life.net), or visit <https://www.loving4life.co.uk/>, tel: 07595 724300 or Marriage and Family Life at [family@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:family@rcdow.org.uk), tel: 020 7931 6064.



### Would you like to help with the parish Confirmation and First Communion programmes?

It is a privileged opportunity to support children and families and take part in something very enjoyable.

Please see Fr Allen for more details.



### LIVE FAITH and make a difference

Are you aged between 18-35? Have you ever wanted to spend a year making a real difference in the community? Have you thought about trying to live out Gospel values in a faith-filled community?

If the answer to these questions is yes, then become a Vincentian Volunteer - living in community, serving the needy in our society and living out your faith practically. Spend a year that will change your life.

[www.vincentianvolunteers.org.uk](http://www.vincentianvolunteers.org.uk)

VINCENTIAN VOLUNTEERS

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How can a young person want to be Christian, if we start with obligations, responsibilities, consistency and not with liberation? But being Christian is a journey of liberation! The Commandments free you from your selfishness and free you because it is God's love that leads you forward. Christian formation is not based on willpower, but on the acceptance of salvation, on letting oneself be loved: first the Red Sea, then Mount Sinai. First salvation: God saves his people in the Red Sea; then on Sinai he tells them what they have to do. But those people know that they are doing these things because they have been saved by a Father who loves them.

Gratitude is a characteristic of a heart that has been visited by the Holy Spirit. In order to obey God, it is above all necessary to remember his benefits. Saint Basil says: 'Those who do not let such benefits fall into disregard orient themselves towards good virtue and towards all works of justice' (Shorter Rules, 56). Where does all this take us? To perform a memory exercise:[3] how many wonderful things God has done for each of us! How generous our Heavenly Father is! I would now like to propose a small exercise in silence. Each can answer in his or her own heart. How many beautiful things has God done for me? This is the question. Let each of us reply in silence. How many beautiful things has God done for me? And this is the liberation of God. God does many beautiful things and he frees us.

And yet some may feel that they have not yet truly experienced God's liberation. This can happen. It may be that one looks inside oneself and finds only a sense of duty, a spirituality of servants, not of sons and daughters. What should be done in this case? As the Chosen People did. The Book of Exodus reads: 'And the people of Israel groaned under their bondage, and cried out for help, and their cry under bondage came up to God. And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob. And God saw the people of Israel, and God knew their condition' (Ex 2:23-25). God thinks of me.

God's liberating action placed at the beginning of the Decalogue — that is, the Commandments — is the response to this groaning. We do not save ourselves on our own, but a cry for help can escape us: 'Lord save me; Lord teach me the way; Lord caress me; Lord give me some joy'. This is a cry for help. It is up to us to ask to be liberated from selfishness, from sin, from the chains

of slavery. This cry is important. It is prayer; it is being conscious of what is still oppressed and not liberated within us. There are many things fettered in our soul. 'Save me; help me; set me free'. This is a beautiful prayer to the Lord. God awaits that cry because he can and wants to break our chains. God did not call us to life to remain oppressed but rather to be free and to live in gratitude, obeying with joy to the One who has given us so much, infinitely more than we could ever give to him. This is beautiful. May God always be blessed for all that he has done, does and will do within us!

Pope Francis.

Catechesis at General Audience.

27 June 2018

1. In rabbinic tradition there is an enlightening text on the matter: 'Why were the 10 words not proclaimed at the beginning of the Torah? ... To what can they be compared? A man, taking on the governing of a city, asked its inhabitants: 'May I govern you?' But they answered: 'What good have you done that you would claim to govern us?' So, what did he do? He built them a protective wall and channels to provide water for the city; then he fought wars for them. And when he asked again: 'May I govern you?', they answered, 'Yes, yes.' Just as the Lord made Israel leave Egypt, split the sea for them, made manna descend for them and water rise from the well, brought them quails flying and lastly fought the war against Amalek for them. And when he asked them: 'May I govern you?', they answered: 'Yes, yes' ('The gift of the Torah, Commentary on the Decalogue of Ex 20' in R. Ishmael's Mekilta, Rome, 1982, p. 49).

2. Cf. Benedict XVI, Encyclical Letter *Deus Caritas Est*, 17: 'The love-story between God and man consists in the very fact that this communion of will increases in a communion of thought and sentiment, and thus our will and God's will increasingly coincide: God's will is no longer for me an alien will, something imposed on me from without by the commandments, but it is now my own will, based on the realization that God is in fact more deeply present to me than I am to myself. Then self-abandonment to God increases and God becomes our joy'.

3. Cf. Homily, 7 Oct 2014: 'What is prayer? It means 'remembering our history, before God. Because our history' is 'the history of his love for us'.