

Parish Gardening Club

Meeting monthly on the second Saturday at 10:00am in the Church car park, starting on August 8th. The Club is being coordinated by Teresa Leese and Maggie O'Sullivan (to whom many thanks are due!)



All welcome.

Please bring hand tools and gloves!

A meditation from Anthony de Mello

In a small town a man called 016 for Directory Enquiries. A woman's voice at the other end said, 'I'm sorry. You will have to dial 015 for that.'

It seemed to him, when he did dial 015, that he was hearing the same voice at the other end. So he asked, 'Aren't you the lady whom I spoke to a while ago?'

'I am', said the voice, 'I'm doing both jobs today.'

First Holy Communion and Confirmation

It is still very unclear when we will be able to celebrate the First Holy Communion scheduled for May 2020, or what is going to be practical with regard to the celebration of Confirmation in the coming months.



So far as First Communion is concerned one challenge is the limited capacity of the church with social distancing, and another is how best to complete/conclude the preparation of the children concerned.

No firm plans will be made until schools return in the autumn, but in the meantime parents are welcome to speak with Fr Allen after Sunday Mass.

Preparation for First Holy Communion in 2021 begins in the autumn. Families whose children will be in year 3 in September should register as soon as possible. The form is available on the website, or in paper copy directly from Fr Allen after Sunday Mass.

Issues of capacity and preparation provide a change for next year's Confirmation programme also - only there is the additional issue of the impact of social distancing on the number of Masses that will face the bishop-elect, Rt Rev David Evans. So even more uncertainty here - but again, families whose children will be in Year 6 in September should register now: the form is available on the website, or in paper copy directly from Fr Allen after Sunday Mass.

Pray with Pope Francis

The Pope's prayer intention for August is for all those who work and live from the sea, among them sailors, fishermen and their families.

More information at www.popesprayer.va



The Church's **Season of Creation** begins on September 1, the World Day of Prayer for Creation, and ends on October 4, the Feast Day of St Francis of Assisi.

This year is the 5th anniversary of *Laudato Si'; On Care For Our Common Home*. CAFOD have resources to help us keep the season and progress to an ecological conversion.

<https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Laudato-Si-encyclical>

What might we do as a parish for the season?

Opening parish rooms?

A number of people have asked when the Benedict Room might be opened again.

Helpful guidance has been provided from the Diocese as to how to open such rooms safely. However the present requirements are rather prescriptive, especially in a room as small as the Benedict Room.



When people are not wearing face-masks (as they would not be during coffee mornings), social distancing of 2 metres has to be observed in the room (meaning only c 6 people could use the room at any one time, and they would have to be 2 metres away from each other, which rather defeats the object.) So such meetings are out for the time being.

Meetings where people are wearing masks at all times can take place under the 1 metre rule. The room is available for groups of up to 10 or 12 people. The guidance is that refreshments cannot be served, and groups would need to follow parish rules about siting of tables/chairs, as well as taking responsibility for cleaning of room after use. So at present the restrictions are rather onerous. But if any parish group wishes to use the Benedict Room under these conditions they should contact Fr Allen to discuss things further.

On-line Support for Prayer: During lockdown began a series of weekly parish Zoom prayer meetings - on Sunday afternoons at 4pm for *Lectio Divina* and on Mondays at 7pm for Rosary.

Zoom links are posted on the parish Blog on the day - **and NB there will be a new link for Rosary for this Monday only**



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:** 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

Mass of 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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.

1 Kings 19:9,11-13

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God, he went into the cave and spent the night in it. Then he was told, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord.'

Then the Lord himself went by. There came a mighty wind, so strong it tore the mountains and shattered the

Face coverings during Mass

Government regulations require members of the congregation to wear face-coverings which cover their nose and mouth throughout the time we are in church.

Thank you for your cooperation

rocks before the Lord. But the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind came an earthquake. But the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire. But the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there came the sound of a gentle breeze. And when Elijah heard this, he covered his face with his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

Psalm 84(85):9-14

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,
a voice that speaks of peace.
His help is near for those who fear him
and his glory will dwell in our land.

Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
and justice look down from heaven.

The Lord will make us prosper
and our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before him
and peace shall follow his steps.

Romans 9:1-5

What I want to say now is no pretence; I say it in union with Christ - it is the truth - my conscience in union with the Holy Spirit assures me of it too. What I want to say is this: my sorrow is so great, my mental anguish so endless, I would willingly be condemned and be cut off from Christ if it could help my brothers of Israel, my own flesh and blood.

They were adopted as sons, they were given the glory and the covenants; the Law and the ritual were drawn up for them, and the promises were made to them. They are descended from the patriarchs and from their flesh and blood came Christ who is above all, God for ever blessed! Amen.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Blessings on the King who comes, in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heavens! *Alleluia!*

Matthew 14:22-33

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go

on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away he went up into the hills by himself to pray.

When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a head-wind. In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. 'It is a ghost' they said, and cried out in fear.

But at once Jesus called out to them, saying, 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.' It was Peter who answered. 'Lord,' he said 'if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.' 'Come' said Jesus.

Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. 'Lord! Save me!' he cried.

Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. 'Man of little faith,' he said 'why did you doubt?' And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of 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

For Catholics, 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.

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.

We proclaim your Death, O Lord,
and profess your Resurrection
until you come again.

THE COMMUNION RITE

The 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

*After the prayer and its response "Behold the Lamb of God...Lord I am not worthy," the priest holds up the Host to the Congregation and says **The Body of Christ** to which the people respond **Amen**.*

*In the same way, he elevates the chalice and says, **The Blood of Christ** and again the people respond **Amen**.*

For the distribution of Holy Communion to the Faithful a small table has been placed before the Sanctuary to socially distance the priest distributing Holy Communion and communicants.

Please wait in your pew until instructed by the Stewards to move forward to the priest for Holy Communion, always aware of the regulations on social distancing in the orderly queue.

When you approach the priest, please do so with arms at "full stretch" so that there is 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.)

Having received Holy Communion, please return to directly to your place.

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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Parish 50/50 Club

The draw for all months up to August inclusive has been made (under close supervision!) and cheques issued to the lucky winners. Thank you to Mary Rose for her careful stewardship of the Club and its draw!

Catholic Universe

Get the new version of the Universe paper delivered to your home every week, post free.

Go to www.thecatholicuniverse.com or call on 0161 820 5722. Special offer: 3 months for £18.00 or 12 Months:- £72.00

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 very 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 from the Stewards for those in the Gift Aid scheme who still use the envelopes.
- **PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES**, too, are available for other parishioners - who are not in the gift aid scheme. Again, please speak to a steward.

MAKING THINGS MORE SECURE FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

We are encouraged now to take the names and a contact telephone number for all those who attend Mass.

This practice is in line with the arrangement at pubs and restaurants.

It means that if NHS Track and Trace contacts the parish to report that a member of the congregation falls ill with the Corona-virus after attending Mass we are able to pass on to NHS Track and Trace details of those others who attended the relevant Mass.

- **Only a name and phone number is needed.**
- **If a family or group come together, only one contact number is needed.**
- **Anyone is free to decline to provide details and still attend Mass.**

Your information will be kept secure for 21 days, and only passed to NHS Track and Trace should they request it.

21 days after the information is provided it will be securely disposed of.

So for the foreseeable future, please come to Mass with a piece of paper with their name and phone number.

Stewards will ask you to drop your details into a container, and they will be stored safely labelled with the date and time of Mass you have attended

- If someone wishes to attend Mass and has not written down their details but is happy to provide them, a steward will (while observing social distancing) write those details down and put them in the container.
- For further information please see the notice in the porch.

Chester Road Baptist church is looking for a church manager. Please go to our parish blog for the link for further details.

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	8	6pm	19TH SUNDAY <i>Psalter Week 2</i>	Gerry Coyle RD (Wilkinson)
Su	9	9am		For the parish
		11am		Anita Wilders-Pratt RD (Burke)
M	10			
T	11			
W	12			
Th	13			
F	14			
Sa	15	6pm	SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION <i>Psalter Week 2</i>	Geoff Sterling RIP (Sterling)
Su	16	9am		For the parish
		11am		Kathe & George Eaton RIP Anniv

NB There are no weekday Masses during week of 10 August. The next parish mass will be on Saturday 15th at 6pm. That Mass, and those of the Sunday will be a celebration of the Assumption of Our Lady.

Please pray for sick parishioners including Frances Raczka, Betty Barker, Lyn Hunt; Joan James; Thomas Stevenson; Lea Burke, Peggy Gallagher. Please pray for all whose anniversaries of death are at this time, including Michael Lawlor, Ena Ashton, Rose Corcoran, JP Sharp, Shawn Rice. **Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, may they rest in peace.**