

Parish Gardening Club

Meeting monthly on second Saturdays at 10:00am in the Church car park.

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!



Parish Art Club

A chance to meet up, catch up and enjoy a little tuition from Geraldine. Tues 18 August, 1030-12noon

This will be the first of our resumed meetings in the Benedict Room. Volunteers to help with the cleaning of the room after use will be welcome!!

Participants will have to wear face masks, and they will be required to stay at one of the tables provided.

Please bring your own art equipment, and refreshments for yourself, if they are needed.

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.



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?

A meditation from Anthony de Mello

The poet Awhadi of Kerman was sitting in his porch one night, bent over a vessel.

The Sufi Sham-e-Tabrizi happened to pass by. 'What are you doing?' he asked the poet.

'Contemplating the moon in a bowl of water,' was the reply.

'Unless you have broken your neck, why don't you look directly at the moon in the sky?'

Words are an inadequate reflection of reality. A man thought he knew what the Taj Mahal was because he was shown a piece of marble and was told that the Taj was a just a collection of pieces like that. Another was convinced that, because he has seen Niagara water in a bucket, he knew what the Falls were like.

'What a pretty baby you have there'

'This is nothing! You should see the photographs.'

A date for the diary

All other things being equal, we will resume the simple monthly services of Exposition and anointing of the sick on Friday 4th September at 11am.

The current restrictions designed to keep us all safe mean those attending have to wear face-coverings, and we cannot offer refreshments after the service.

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 we revert to the 'old' link for Rosary this Monday.**

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



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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 the Solemnity of the Assumption

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.

Apocalypse 11:19,12:1-6,10

Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman, adorned with the sun, standing on the moon, and with the twelve stars on her head for a crown. She was pregnant, and in labour, crying aloud in the pangs of childbirth. Then a second sign appeared in the sky, a huge red dragon which had seven heads and ten horns, and each of the seven heads crowned with a coronet.

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

Its tail dragged a third of the stars from the sky and dropped them to the earth, and the dragon stopped in front of the woman as she was having the child, so that he could eat it as soon as it was born from its mother. The woman brought a male child into the world, the son who was to rule all the nations with an iron sceptre, and the child was taken straight up to God and to his throne, while the woman escaped into the desert, where God had made a place of safety ready.

Then I heard a voice shout from heaven, 'Victory and power and empire for ever have been won by our God, and all authority for his Christ.'

Psalm 44(45):10-12,16

The daughters of kings are among your loved ones.
On your right stands the queen in gold of Ophir.
Listen, O daughter, give ear to my words:
forget your own people and your father's house.

So will the king desire your beauty:

He is your lord, pay homage to him.
They are escorted amid gladness and joy;
they pass within the palace of the king.

1 Corinthians 15:20-26

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Death came through one man and in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through one man. Just as all men die in Adam, so all men will be brought to life in Christ; but all of them in their proper order: Christ as the first-fruits and then, after the coming of Christ, those who belong to him. After that will come the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, having done away with every sovereignty, authority and power. For he must be king until he has put all his enemies under his feet and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is death, for everything is to be put under his feet.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Mary has been taken up to heaven; all the choirs of angels are rejoicing. *Alleluia!*

Luke 1:39-56

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah’s house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, ‘Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.’

And Mary said:
‘My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord and my spirit exults in God my saviour; because he has looked upon his lowly handmaid. Yes, from this day forward all generations will call me blessed, for the Almighty has done great things for me. Holy is his name, and his mercy reaches from age to age for those who fear him. He has shown the power of his arm, he has routed the proud of heart. He has pulled down princes from their thrones and exalted the lowly. The hungry he has filled with good things, the rich sent empty away. He has come to the help of Israel his servant, mindful of his mercy – according to the promise he made to our ancestors – of his mercy to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.’
Mary stayed with Elizabeth about three months and then went back home.

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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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

Government advice is that we should take a contact name and phone number for each individual or group that attends Mass. This practice is in line with the arrangement at pubs and restaurants.

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 then able to pass to them 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.

BIRMINGHAM LIBRARIES are starting to re-open this month for an order and collect service. Opening dates vary according to local conditions; the Library of Birmingham opened on 5 August.

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	15	6pm	SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION <i>Psalter Week 4</i>	Geoff Sterling RIP (Sterling)
Su	16	9am 11am		For the parish Kathe & George Eaton RIP Anniv
M	17	10am		Anne Gallagher RIP (Evans)
T	18	10am		Sheila Dixon RD (Foster)
W	19			Brideen Clark RIP (Platt)
Th	20			
F	21	7pm	St Pius X	Mona Blanche Williams RIP Anniv
Sa	22	6pm	21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME <i>Psalter Week 1</i>	Peter Foster 1st Anniv (Foster)
Su	23	9am 11am		John Farrell and family Ints Kathe & George Eaton RIP Anniv

Sacrament of Reconciliation The current restrictions make it very difficult to celebrate the Sacrament in doors. However, if you wish to celebrate the Sacrament and wish to contact Fr Allen arrangements can be made to celebrate the Sacrament out of doors and in a private place - eg a garden.

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 Rose Corcoran, JP Sharp, Shawn Rice, Ken Barker, Patrick Cawley, Kathleen Mullaney, Joan Walters, Kathe Eaton, Margaret Archer, Dorothy Dodson, Peter Foster, Brian Short, Joan Hudson. **Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, may they rest in peace.**