

### Meditations from Anthony de Mello

'So, this was your first flight. Were you scared?'  
'Well, to tell you truth, I didn't dare put my full weight down on the seat.'

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A disciple came riding on his camel to the tent of his Sufi Master. He dismounted and walked right into the tent, bowed low and said: 'So great is my trust in God that I have left my camel outside, untied, convinced that God protects the interest of those who love him.'

'God, tie your camel, you fool!' said the Master. 'God cannot be bothered doing for you what you are perfectly capable of doing for yourself.'

### 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

We had our first post-lockdown meeting on Tuesday.

Our next meeting will be on 1st September at 11am, *en plein air*, meeting in the car-park of the Miller and Carter's restaurant at Boldmere Gate, for a little input and then spreading out to draw trees. Please bring your own pencils, pens, paper etc.

The following meetings will be on 15th Sept and 29th Sept, in the Benedict Room at 1030am, and will continue the work on 'trees'.



### Confirmation

Registration for Confirmation for children in Year 6 - or older - has begun.

It is not yet clear when and how the Sacrament will be celebrated - though we are presently aiming for Masses in May next year. However all those who wish to be part of the programme - *whether or not children will do part of their preparation with St Nicholas School* - should complete an application form as soon as possible. The closing date for applications is October 1st.

### First Holy Communion

Plans are being made for children who were scheduled to make their First Holy Communion during May of this year to have the opportunity of making their First Communions after the October Half Term. Emails will be sent shortly confirming the arrangements for this

The expectation is that children in Year 3 or above who have not yet begun their preparation for Holy Communion will begin their preparation after shortly. All those who wish to be part of the programme - *whether or not children will do part of their preparation with St Nicholas School* - should complete an application form as soon as possible. The closing date for applications is October 1st.

### We are in urgent need of additional volunteers so that we can continue to open the church for Sunday and Weekday Mass

Thank you to all of those who have been helping us to meet the safety requirements for opening the church for Mass. Some volunteers have been helping every week and some several times in the week. Their service has meant that the church has been open again for almost two months. However, a number of our volunteers are away for holidays shortly - and in any case could do with some more help. **So can you help, please?**

We need volunteers to help with the cleaning of the church (wiping down benches, mopping the floor where people sit and vacuuming). We work with teams of 4 people after each Sunday Mass (and 2 after weekday Masses where there is much less to do). Each session takes about 20 minutes.

If you can help in September/October please delete any days below that you cannot do, and place it in the offertory basket at the entrance to the church - or email details to Fr Allen by 6pm on Sunday 23 August. Thank you.

- Sat 6pm 5/9, 12/9, 19/9, 26/9, 3/10; 10/10
- Sun 9am 6/9; 13/9; 20/9; 27/9; 4/10; 11/10
- Sun 11am 6/9; 13/9; 20/9; 27/9; 4/10; 11/10
- Mon 10am 7/9; 14/9; 21/9; 28/9; 5/10; 12/10
- Tues 10am 8/9; 15/9; 22/9; 29/9; 6/10; 13/10
- Weds 10am 9/9; 16/9; 23/9; 30/9; 7/10; 14/10
- Fri 7pm 11/9; 18/9; 25/9; 2/10; 9/10; 16/10

Name .....

Telephone .....

Email .....

(Block capitals please)



## St Nicholas Catholic Church, Boldmere

**Address:** 243 Jockey Rd., Boldmere, Sutton Coldfield, B73 5US  
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**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 21st 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.*

#### Isaiah 22:19-23

Thus says the Lord of Hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace:  
'I dismiss you from your office,  
I remove you from your post,  
and the same day I call on my servant Eliakim son of Hilkiah.  
I invest him with your robe, gird him with your sash,

### 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

entrust him with your authority;  
and he shall be a father  
to the inhabitants of Jerusalem  
and to the House of Judah.  
I place the key of the House of David  
on his shoulder;  
should he open, no one shall close,  
should he close, no one shall open.  
I drive him like a peg into a firm place;  
he will become a throne of glory  
for his father's house.'

#### Psalm 137(138):1-3,6,8

I thank you, Lord, with all my heart:  
you have heard the words of my mouth.  
In the presence of the angels I will bless you.  
I will adore before your holy temple.  
I thank you for your faithfulness and love,  
which excel all we ever knew of you.  
On the day I called, you answered;  
you increased the strength of my soul.  
The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly  
and the haughty he knows from afar.  
Your love, O Lord, is eternal,  
discard not the work of your hands.

#### Romans 11:33-36

How rich are the depths of God - how deep his wisdom and knowledge - and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

#### Gospel Acclamation

*Alleluia, alleluia!* God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. *Alleluia!*

#### Matthew 16:13-20

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do

people say the Son of Man is?’ And they said, ‘Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.’ ‘But you,’ he said ‘who do you say I am?’

Then Simon Peter spoke up, ‘You are the Christ,’ he said, ‘the Son of the living God.’ Jesus replied, ‘Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.’

Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

### 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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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>

**As parish, what might we do to help keep the season?**

**And as individuals and families, what will we do?**

### 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

To help our cooperation with the Government Track and Trace processes we ask each individual or group that attends Mass to leave with us a contact name and telephone number.

If NHS Track and Trace tells us that a member of the congregation falls ill with the Corona-virus after attending Mass we will pass to them details of those others who attended the relevant Mass.

- **Only a name and phone number is needed - for an individual or ‘bubble’.**
- **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.*

If you are able, please come to Mass with a piece of paper with your name and phone number, or give the details to the steward.

**A date for the diary:** All other things being equal, the simple monthly services of Exposition and anointing of the sick will resume 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.

Do join us - especially if you are not confident in returning to church for Mass

### 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	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
M	24	10am	St Batholomew	Margaret O’Gorman
T	25	10am		
W	26		<b>Bd Dominic Barberi</b>	
Th	27		St Monica	
F	28	7pm	St Augustine	
Sa	29	6pm	22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME <i>Psalter Week 2</i>	For the parish
Su	30	9am 11am		

**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 Peter Foster, Brian Short, Joan Hudson, Fazia Caulfield, Denis Joyner, Iris Gately, Tadas Serafinas, Agnes Collings, Ben Quirke, Robert Harrison, Maria Twardowicz. **Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, may they rest in peace.**