

### Novena to St Francis

As we get closer to Harvest Fast Day you are invited to join with others in praying a Novena to Saint Francis, patron saint of those working to heal and safeguard the world God made and in which we live.

The Novena begins Sat 26 Sept, and continues until Sun, 4 Oct, the feast day of St Francis.

Each day brief video reflection, provided by CAFOD, will be posted on our Blog, asking St Francis of Assisi to pray for us; and our world, based on his Canticle of the Sun. The novena is a song of penitence and praise, guiding us to care for the earth and for our most vulnerable sisters and brothers, especially the Amazon peoples. (The texts can be downloaded as a pray booklet from our Blog)

Communities with whom CAFOD works are reporting a sharp increase predatory attacks on land. People smugglers are also active and those being trafficked are in more danger than ever, having no access to healthcare. The pandemic shows us that 'we have not heard the cry of the poor and our seriously ill planet' warns Pope Francis, describing this as 'a time to choose what matters and what passes away'.

**A reminder that CAFOD's Harvest Fast Day is on Fri Oct 9, and the parish collection for donations to CAFOD will be on Sun Oct 11.**



### Academic Mentors needed.

The John Paul II Multi Academy wants to recruit 3 graduates (in any subject area) to work at Bishop Walsh school, and able to support a small group and 1:1 tuition for pupils in KS3 up to GCSE level for the current academic year. Candidates must have either exceptional skills in literacy and/ or numeracy as the position will span a number of key subject areas.

**For salary details and how to apply go to our parish blog for 15/9**

### Birmingham Justice & Peace Assembly 2020

*The Climate Emergency: Listening to the 'Cry Of The Earth and the Cry Of The Poor'*

This year's Assembly is on-line, with one-hour sessions over three evenings at 7.30pm: Monday 28 Sept, Weds 30 Sept, Fri 2 Oct and Evening Prayer with Archbishop Bernard on Sun 4 Oct at 7pm.

Sessions include:

- *Ecological Conversion – an 'examination of conscience' on our care for our common home*
- *Prepare the Future – building back better to address the climate emergency*
- *Local Government Responsibilities – planning for the West Midlands*

For more information: <https://bit.ly/33n38fY>

### Meditation from Anthony de Mello SJ

For 35 years Paul Cezanne lived in obscurity producing masterpieces that he gave away to unsuspecting neighbours. So great was his love for his work that he never gave a thought to achieving recognition nor did he suspect that some day he would be looked upon as the father of modern painting.

He owes his fame to a Paris dealer who chanced upon some of his paintings, put some of them together and presented the world of art with the first Cezanne exhibition. The world was astonished to discover the presence of a master.

The master was just as astonished. He arrived at the art gallery leaning on the arm of his son and could not contain his amazement when he saw his paintings on display. Turning to his son he said, 'Look, they have framed them.'

*Holiness, like greatness, is unselfconscious.*

### Get real about dying

Learn more about care for the dying by taking part in an on-line talk at 4pm on 30 Sept by Kathy Mannix. She is a palliative care expert who campaign for better public understanding of dying. Her book, *With the End in Mind* became a recent unlikely Best Seller.

*Reserve a place via our parish blog (Blog of 3rd Sept)*

*A guide to the spiritual care of the dying person - issued by the Bishops Conference can be downloaded at <https://bit.ly/2R14V4M>*

### On-line Support for Prayer

- Weekly parish Zoom prayer meetings - Sun at 4pm for Lectio Divina and Mon 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.*

- Reflections on the Readings and Prayers of the following Sunday's Mass are posted daily on the parish Blog (Weds to Sun).

*Spending time with the readings and prayers before Mass is a good way of helping Mass be more fruitful for us.*

**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 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 or those in the Gift Aid scheme who still use the envelopes.



### St Nicholas Catholic Church, Boldmere

**Address:** 243 Jockey Rd., Boldmere, Sutton Coldfield, B73 5US  
**Telephone:** 0121 354 1763 **Email:** [stnicholas.boldmere@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:stnicholas.boldmere@rcaob.org.uk)  
**Website:** [www.stnicholasboldmere.co.uk](http://www.stnicholasboldmere.co.uk)  
**Parish Blog:** [www.stnicholasboldmere.wordpress.com](http://www.stnicholasboldmere.wordpress.com)

**Parish Priest:** Fr Allen Morris **E-mail:** [stnicholas.boldmere@rcaob.org.uk](mailto: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*

### Hi-tech check-in at St Nick's

If you have the NHS tracking App on your phone please use it to check in for Mass. Use the App's QR code reader and avoid being asked to give your name and telephone number in the way we have become used to over the past few weeks.



If you do not have the App then simply continue either to bring your name and address on a piece of paper to hand it, or give your details to the steward on duty.

**Oops** The annual retiring collection for the Holy Places should have been taken last week. It will now be combined with the collection next weekend for Peter's Pence. If you wish your donation to be go to one or the other or be divided other than 50/50, please put your donation in an enveloped with your wishes clearly labelled.

This week, *at the request of the Archbishop*, there is a retiring collection for Father Hudson's Society. Gift Aid envelopes are available on the table in the entrance to the Church for you to use, or to take home and return next week. Copies of the Society's annual report are also available.

### St Edmund Campion Catholic Secondary School



is a reflective, thriving, supportive and caring school that aims to inspire young people. They are disappointed that the current Health Crisis makes it impractical to invite prospective pupils and parents to visit for Open Evening this year, so they have made a virtual Open Evening video so that you can experience what life at Campion is really like!

[www.stedcamp.bham.sch.uk](http://www.stedcamp.bham.sch.uk)

**A New Sunday Mass:** This Mass is being trialled over 4 weeks on Saturdays at 4pm to see how it might help relieve the pressure of numbers on our regular Sunday Masses at this time when social distancing has to be observed.

### Present Arrangements for Mass

**Face coverings:** Government regulations require members of the congregation, aged 5 and over, to wear face-coverings which cover their nose and mouth throughout the time we are in church. If you have a medical certificate relieving you of this obligation please confirm in advance with Fr Allen. This will allow appropriate seating to be arranged for you and to safeguard others.

**Social distancing:** Please keep the 1m social distance from all not in your family or bubble. All benches are suitable for 3 individuals (or more). As numbers attending Mass increase, we need all the spaces to be available. *If there is already someone in the bench you choose, please sit in the middle space, and leave the aisle seat for the next to arrive. Do not make people climb over you or pass you to get into the bench.*

**Offertory:** There is no offertory collection at present, but there is a basket for your offerings on the table just inside the church.

**Thank you for your cooperation**

### 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	26	4pm	26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME <i>Psalter Week 2</i>	Decsd of Cleary & Sterling family (W) Health of all students at university For the parish
		6pm		
Su	27	9am		
		11am		
M	28	10am		Mary McGill RD (Byrne)
T	29	10am	Ss Michael, Gabriel and Raphael	Michael Cleary Anniv (Sterling)
W	30		St Jerome	
Th	1		St Therese of Lisieux	
F	2	7pm	Guardian Angels	Anne Gallagher RIP (Evans)
Sa	3	4pm	27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME <i>Psalter Week 3</i>	Olwyn Foster (1st Anniv) (Foster) For the parish
		6pm		
Su	4	9am		
		11am		Trevor Mall RD (Szmabir)

**Sacrament of Reconciliation** The current restrictions make it impractical to celebrate the Sacrament in the Confessional room. However, if you wish to celebrate Reconciliation, please contact Fr Allen who will be happy to arrange a time and place to celebrate this sacrament of mercy with you.

**Please pray for sick parishioners** including Betty Barker, Lyn Hunt; Joan James; Thomas Stevenson; Lea Burke. Please pray for Mary Gavin and Phil Hayes who died during this week, and all whose anniversaries of death are at this time, including Alan Smail, Audrey Fryer, Edward Madden, Martin Murphy, Bridget Foster.  
**Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, may they rest in peace.**

Mass of the **26th 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.*

**Ezekiel 18:25-28**

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'You object, "What the Lord does is unjust." Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.'

**Psalms 24(25):4-9**

Lord, make me know your ways.  
Lord, teach me your paths.  
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:  
for you are God my saviour.

Remember your mercy, Lord,  
and the love you have shown from of old.  
Do not remember the sins of my youth.  
In your love remember me,  
because of your goodness, O Lord.

The Lord is good and upright.  
He shows the path to those who stray,  
He guides the humble in the right path,  
He teaches his way to the poor.

**Philippians 2:1-11**

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus:

His state was divine,  
yet he did not cling to his equality with God  
but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave,  
and became as men are;  
and being as all men are, he was humbler yet,  
even to accepting death, death on a cross.  
But God raised him high  
and gave him the name  
which is above all other names  
so that all beings in the heavens,  
on earth and in the underworld,  
should bend the knee at the name of Jesus  
and that every tongue should acclaim  
Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

**Matthew 21:28-32**

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go," but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir," but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.'

**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**

*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.*

**The Offertory**

*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.**

Save us, Saviour of the world,  
for by your Cross and Resurrection  
you have set us free.

**THE COMMUNION RITE**

*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**.*

*Please wait in your pew until it is time 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.)*

**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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**Please pray** for priests newly ordained this month for service in the Archdiocese: Frs Alex Taylor, Clive Dytor, Sean Gough and Fr Benedict Skipper.

And please continue to pray for parishioners John Garvey (due to be ordained deacon on Nov 1st) and Gary O'Brien (preparing for ordination as deacon next year).

**For Troubled Households**

• **Raising Awareness of Domestic Abuse** – Raising awareness in Catholic communities of domestic abuse and the impact on families, the National Board of Catholic Women (NBCW) has released a booklet offering pastoral guidance. <http://www.nbcw.co.uk/publications.html>

**For marriages in difficulty**

• **Retrouvaille** is a well-regarded resource, providing the couple with a safe environment within which to explore their difficulties, grow in their faith and restore their relationship. Their next Weekend is on 12th -15th Nov 2020 via Zoom: call or text 0788 7296983 or 0797 3380443