

St Nicholas Gifts

Thank you to Mick Doogan who has spoken with the Bethany Food Bank to see how we might best offer extra Christmas support to the families and individuals who rely on the Food Bank for help.



Their suggestion is that those who are able to make a donation of one item of Christmas food (something that will not pass its best before date) and 50p (which they will use to buy fresh food for distribution just before Christmas)

If you would like to support this initiative then please note that this collection will take place before Mass on 7th and 8th December - boxes and a collection basket will be set in front of the crib ready to receive our gifts.

ST NICHOLAS FAIR

Sat 30 Nov - Sun 1 Dec after all Masses



Proceeds from this year's fair will be divided equally between Acorn Children's Hospice; John Taylor Hospice; and Fatima House for trafficked women.

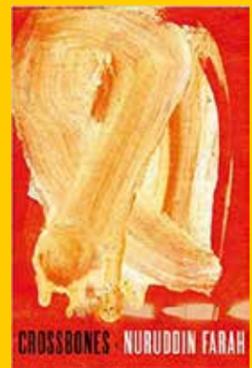
Help needed with setting up stalls on 30 Nov, from 11-1.30. Donations for stalls welcome from Nov 3: Books; Toys; Bottles; China; CDs/DVDs; gifts for Tombola stall. And cakes on the day!

Parish Book Club:

Our next book is *Crossbones* by Nuruddin Farah

In the African nation of Somalia, airport security personnel are armed with whips. Children face summary execution for the crime of going to the wrong house. On the country's dusty and forsaken streets, the men whom the outside world has condemned as pirates can appear to be a community's best—though still unlikely—chance for wealth and social justice. The Somali government in Farah's tale seems to exist only to lob provocative taunts at the country's heavily armed neighbour Ethiopia, and to be a journalist means being a target for assassination.

Read the book and come and talk about it. Next meeting is 8pm, Monday 18th Nov in the parish house. All welcome!



Dad's Group.

- Monday 4th Nov. Vincent Byrne reflecting on the work of the Society of St Vincent de Paul.



Pray with Pope Francis

The Pope's prayer intention for November is that a spirit of dialogue, encounter, and reconciliation emerge in the Near East, where diverse religious communities share their lives.

More information at www.popesprayer.va



Anointing of the Sick Next parish celebration 11am Friday 1st November.

Blessing of Graves See poster in porch, and below. NB Date for Handsworth and Rectory Road service is now 3pm

Diocese

Lunchtime Supervisor Vacancy at St Joseph's Primary School, Sutton Coldfield. Details at vacancies@sjp2.net.

Bishop Walsh: 6th Form Open Evening Weds 20 Nov, 18.30-20.30. Yr 11 pupils and families are welcome to visit Bishop Walsh in preparation for Sept 2020 intake.

Other

Connect conference (Life) 2-3 Nov. Held at Maryvale Institute (on-site accommodation) For young people interested in the pro-life movement and principles, and not certain where they stand on these issues, or confident in acting on their beliefs. A programme by young people for young people. www.connectconference.co.uk, bookings need to be made by Mon 28 Oct.

Community & Volunteer Support Worker: vacancy at Sutton Coldfield United Reformed Church (part-time, funded for 2 yrs) in Café Oasis team Full details, and access to downloadable Job/person specification and

Liturgy of the Word with Children

We will begin to offer Children's Liturgy of the Word at the 6pm Saturday Mass and the 9am Sunday Mass, probably from the middle of November, and once a month at each of those masses.

This Liturgy is for children in Reception and Yr 1 and 2.

We have two couples who will be leading the sessions but would appreciate offers of help from another one or two adults to help also, with 'crowd control'. Also, if we are able to attract additional leaders we will offer the Liturgies more often.

If you can help, please see Fr Allen.

an application form are available at: <https://www.bvsc.org/third-sector-jobs/community-and-volunteer-support-worker>

St Joseph's, Coleshill, offers residential care to older people and those with dementia in a Catholic setting, (Mass said daily by resident priests). Respite bedrooms are available for those who could benefit from a short stay. 01675 434500

Erdington Operatic Society *Yeomen of the Guard*. Sutton Town Hall 5-9 Nov. Tickets 01211 360 6627 or www.erdington-operatic.co.uk

Parish Outings

Join others from the parish going to concerts at the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire (great music and cheap tickets!)

- Brahms Sonatas and Piano Quintet*. 7.30pm Thurs 21 Nov.
- Upon A Midnight Clear* 2.30pm Weds 11 Dec. Vocal Quintet singing winter and Christmas songs.

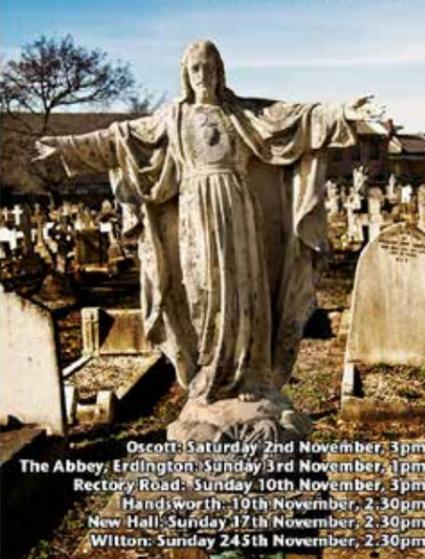
Simply book up on www.bcu.ac.uk or 0121 331 5909

Praying for the Dead

Envelopes for November Masses for the Dead are available in the porch.

Blessing of Graves

Deanery of Birmingham (North)



Oscott: Saturday 2nd November, 3pm
The Abbey, Erdington: Sunday 3rd November, 1pm
Rectory Road: Sunday 10th November, 3pm
Handsworth: 10th November, 2.30pm
New Hall: Sunday 17th November, 2.30pm
Wilton: Sunday 24th November, 2.30pm



St Nicholas Catholic Church, Boldmere

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

Telephone: 0121 354 1763 Email: stnicholasrc@btinternet.com

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

Parish

Today there is a Johnson Association collection for sick and retired clergy.

Thank you for support recent 2nd Collections: The collection for Missio raised £223.45; the Columbans raised £796.83; for CAFOD £589.73 and for Fr Hudson's Care £302.84. Copies of the Mission 2020 Calendar are available in the porch for all supporters.

Travelling Solo lunch All who 'travel solo in life' for whatever reason are invited to join with others for a jolly Sunday lunch at a local pub. Next lunch: Nov 3rd.

Teas & Coffees after Sunday morning Masses. More volunteers to help once or twice a month would be very welcome on board.

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

Scripture group Mon 11 Nov, 7.30pm. We have begun to read *The Acts of the Apostles!* Meet in Benedict Rm. All welcome: read Chapters 3, 4, and 5 to prepare.

Preparation for Baptism of Infants The next preparation programme starts on

Preparing for THE GOD WHO SPEAKS

- to celebrate, live and share God's word

You don't need a Bible to read Scripture - this newsletter provides plenty of scriptural food for the week! But having a Bible helps - especially if you wonder about what happens next or the context of a reading.

Books of Scripture come in all sorts of form and translations. People will have their preferences but you'd need a good reason to move on from the Jerusalem Bible (not the New Jerusalem) which is the version we hear on Sundays. Or you might like to go for the English Standard Version which is likely to be the new translation introduced to Mass in a few years time. There is a very good study edition - though you might like to go for the (not very large print) edition unless you have 20/20 reading vision!

There are alternatives to whole Bibles of course - and Pope Francis has encouraged us to travel with a Gospel in our pockets TGWS is going to focus on Matthew's Gospel - and we have pocket sized editions of that Gospel on the CTS stand in the porch.

Many people use their smartphone or tablet to access the Scriptures. You can get a free download at ESV.org or the Lectionary readings on the Universalis App (c £10) at Universalis.com

MASSES AND OTHER LITURGIES Week 30 in Ordinary Time

S	26	30th Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Psalter Wk 1</i>	1700 1800	Exposition and Sacrament of Confession Teresa Gill RIP (Gill)
Su	27		0900 1100 1800	For the Parish Michael McDermott 1st Anniv. Exposition and Evening Prayer
M	28	Sts Simon and Jude	1000* 1500	Doris Ida Bone RIP Rosary and Benediction
T	29		1000*	Gregory McAneny RIP (Creery)
W	30		1000*	Peter Foster RD (Brennan)
Th	31			
F	1	ALL SAINTS	1000* 1100 1900*	Ints of Richard Paszkowski Exposition and Anointing of the sick Pat Compton RIP (Leese) followed by Exposition and prayer for victims of abuse
S	2	All Souls	1000*	Kevin McNally RIP (McNally)
		31st Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Psalter Wk 2</i>	1700 1800	Exposition and Sacrament of Confession Betty Sawbridge RD (Hughes)
Su	3		0900 1100	Aidan Redmond RIP Anniv (Redmond) For the Parish

Scripture readings for Mass next Sunday

Wis 11:22-12:2 / Ps 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13, 14 / 2 Thes 1:11-2:2 / Lk 19:1-10

Morning/Evening Prayer 20 mins before weekday Masses, as indicated above *

Exposition: & Vespers 2nd and 4th Suns of month, 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: *Living Eucharist* is being relaunched in ADvent 2019. In the meantime try universalis.com or <https://pray-as-you-go.org/>

Please pray for sick parishioners including Bridget Broom, Lyn Hunt; Michael O'Brien; Joan James; Thomas Stevenson; Lea Burke, Peggy Gallagher, Frank & Hazel Kemp. **Please pray** for Olwyn Foster whose funeral mass is on 5 Nov, and Nancy King who died recently and whose funeral is at 10am on 20 Nov, and for Margaret Scotton, Eileen Westbury, Edna Murray, William Pearce, Margaret Dines and all whose anniversaries of death are at this time: **Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, may they rest in peace.**

Saturday 16th Nov from 11 am-12 noon in the Benedict Room. Please see Fr Allen beforehand for an application form.

New to the parish? Registration forms are available in the porch.

Mass Intentions are now being booked for Jan to Apr 2020. Indication of dates already booked is available at www.stnicholasboldmere.co.uk/

Whole Community Catechesis: 28th Sunday Year C

Step One: Listen to the Word The gospel explores issues of self understanding. What do you hear that encourages you? What challenges you?

Step Two: Look into Your Life

- Question for Children:** Why does the Pharisee have such a high opinion of himself?

- Question for Youth:** How do you feel about what the tax collector says and does?

- Question for Adults:** Where do you see yourself and family members and friends in this story? What do you take from it?

Introductory Rites

Entrance Song

Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
Forgive our foolish ways!
Reclothe us in our rightful mind,
In purer lives Thy service find,
In deeper reverence, praise.

In simple trust like theirs who heard
Beside the Syrian sea
The gracious calling of the Lord,
Let us, like them, without a word
Rise up and follow Thee.

O Sabbath rest by Galilee!
O calm of hills above,
Where Jesus knelt to share with Thee
The silence of eternity
Interpreted by love!

Drop Thy still dews of quietness,
Till all our strivings cease;
Take from our souls the strain and stress,
And let our ordered lives confess
The beauty of Thy peace.

Breathe through the heats of our desire
Thy coolness and Thy balm;
Let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
Speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,
O still, small voice of calm.

Gloria

*Glory to God, (x3) in the highest, and on earth peace,
peace 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.

The Liturgy of the Word

Ecclesiasticus 35:12-14, 16-19

The Lord is a judge who is no respecter of personages. He shows no respect of personages to the detriment of a poor man, he listens to the plea of the injured party. He does not ignore the orphan's supplication, nor the widow's as she pours out her story.

The man who with his whole heart serves God will be accepted, his petitions will carry to the clouds. The humble man's prayer pierces the clouds, until

it arrives he is inconsolable, and the Lord will not be slow, nor will he be dilatory on their behalf.

Psalm 33(34):2-3,17-19,23 (Sung by all)

I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad.

The Lord turns his face against the wicked
to destroy their remembrance from the earth.
The just call and the Lord hears
and rescues them in all their distress.

The Lord is close to the broken-hearted;
those whose spirit is crushed he will save.
The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants.
Those who hide in him shall not be condemned.

2 Timothy 4:6-8,16-18

My life is already being poured away as a libation, and the time has come for me to be gone. I have fought the good fight to the end; I have run the race to the finish; I have kept the faith; all there is to come now is the crown of righteousness reserved for me, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that Day; and not only to me but to all those who have longed for his Appearing.

The first time I had to present my defence, there was not a single witness to support me. Every one of them deserted me – may they not be held accountable for it. But the Lord stood by me and gave me power, so that through me the whole message might be proclaimed for all the pagans to hear; and so I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from all evil attempts on me, and bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and 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!*

Luke 18:9-14

Jesus spoke the following parable to some people who prided themselves on being virtuous and despised everyone else: "Two men went up to the Temple to pray, one a Pharisee, the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood there and said this prayer to himself, "I thank you, God, that I am not grasping, unjust, adulterous like the rest of mankind, and particularly that I am not like this tax collector here. I fast twice a week; I pay tithes on all I get." The tax collector stood some distance away, not daring even to raise his eyes to heaven; but he beat his breast and said, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner." This man, I tell you, went home again at rights with God; the other did not. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the man who humbles himself will be exalted.'

The Prayer of the Faithful

We pray to the Lord. Through our lives and by our prayers, Your kingdom come.

The Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,

At the following words, up to and including 'and became man', all bow.
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

Offertory Song

Father, I place into your hands
The things I cannot do,
Father, I place into your hands
The things that I've been through.
Father, I place into your hands
The way that I should go,
For I know I always can trust you.

Father, I place into your hands
My friends and family.
Father, I place into your hands
The things that trouble me.
Father, I place into your hands
The person I would be,
For I know I always can trust you.

Father, I want to be with you
And do the things you do.
Father, I want to speak the words
That you are speaking too.
Father, I want to love the ones
That you will draw to you,
For I know that I am one with you.

The Eucharistic Prayer

Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.

Heaven and earth are full, are full of your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes, who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Memorial Acclamation

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

Communion Rite

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us. (x2)
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
grant us peace.

Communion Song

This is my body, broken for you,
bringing you wholeness, making you free.
take it and eat it, and when you do,
do it in love for me.

This is my blood poured out for you,
bringing forgiveness, making you free.
Take it and drink it, and when you do,
do it in love for me.

Back to my Father soon I shall go.
Do not forget me; then you will see
I am still with you, and you will know
you're very close to me.

Filled with my Spirit, how you will grow!
You are my branches, I am the tree.
If you are faithful, others will know
you are alive in me.

Love one another - I have loved you,
and I have shown you how to be free;
serve one another, and when you do,
do it in love for me.

Concluding Rites

Final Song

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer:
When I call answer me.
O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer:
Come and listen to me.

Hearing the Living Word II

We do not hear Scripture as a one-off message. We hear a Living Word – a word which experience suggests will always have something new to say to us, if we hear with humility and attentiveness.

Jesus does not want to teach us about the history of Israel in the 10th C BCE, or even Israel at his time. He wants mostly to teach us about us, here and now, to ready us for the better life, and ultimately for the life of heaven. And that teaching, offered through and with the Inspired word of God, will be fresh every time. Even if it speaks about our abiding faults – or virtues!

It speaks fresh every time...

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