

MEETING WITH THE RISEN LORD

As Church we have two fundamental responsibilities - to be authentic Church and to witness to the Gospel to the world. These responsibilities are closely connected - we can hardly do one without doing the other. And to do them we need to do them together and with the Lord.

Archbishop Bernard highlighted these responsibilities in the Diocesan vision:

- our responsibility (as individuals and together) to come to church, to pray and to encounter Christ - helping to form missionary disciples and missionary parishes.
- and to invigorate and deepen our worship and sacramental celebrations so that we share in and reflect the divine life of the Trinity

We are called to this not 'to look good' or 'to put on a show' but because to be like this is to be alive in Christ, and is what it is to be Christian and Catholic.

Before Holy Week a group of parishioners were meeting in response to the Pope's invitation to the Church to prepare to celebrate the work of Vatican II and to continue working to fulfil its vision of how we are to be Church.

I have invited that group to come back together to reflect in particular on how that vision related to the Archbishop's vision and the life of our own parish. To be more specific the focus of the coming meetings will be our celebration of Sunday Mass and how it impacts on our lives and how we are Church together.

I hope others will come to join us. In particular, those who are younger. Their voices need to be heard as we consider what is needed for the health of our parish, the Church and the ministry of the Gospel. The next meeting is on Monday May 15th at 7.30pm. All are welcome to come and share their thoughts and reflections.

It would be helpful to prepare for the meeting, by reminding ourselves of how it is that the Church invites us to celebrate Mass.

A couple of things are worth reading before the meeting. The first is an extract from a Pastoral Letter from a former Archbishop of Los Angeles which gives a narrative description of how Sunday Mass might be experienced. The second is the much more recent letter from Pope Francis on the need for the continued attention to the quality of our participation in the celebration of Mass.

Both of these can be downloaded from our parish blog

Why holy days of obligation?

The holy days help us focus on particular key aspects of our faith - so we can remember, draw benefit and celebrate afresh the goodness of God. They help God-consciousness 'break-into' our weekday routines

These days the idea of 'religious obligation' can make us feel a little uneasy. And maybe the 'o' word is not the most helpful word to use. But what it points to are some of the basics for healthy Catholic life. People complain about the 'nanny state' but the urging to avoid sugary drinks and to follow the 5-a-day rule is for our good. And we see the consequences that follow when they are not observed.

- Each Sunday
- Nativity of the Lord (25 December)
- Epiphany of the Lord (6 January)
- Ascension of the Lord (Thursday after 6th Sunday of Easter)
- St Peter & St Paul (29 June)
- Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (15 August)
- All Saints (1 November)

How can you make the most of the feast of the Ascension this week? What will you bring to the prayer? How will you celebrate?

May is Mary's Month

Do you have petitions to send to the Grotto at Lourdes?

Mary Drozd is going with the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes on 27th May and has agreed to take parishioner's petitions to place at the Grotto. *Please put your petitions in a sealed envelope and put in the folder pinned to the board by the Lady chapel by Weds 24 May.*

The Rosary Why not mark May by joining the group that meets on Zoom each Monday evening at 7pm to pray one of the set of Mysteries of the Rosary. It takes just 15 minutes, and is a lovely opportunity to remember Mary's role in salvation history. To join the Zoom meeting, use the link on the front page of the parish website.

Colour and Light

A gathering space for all those who want to enjoy making art (of all sorts and at all levels)

Colour and Light meets in the Benedict Room each Wednesday afternoon from 1-3pm (access from behind the church). All are welcome. For more information please speak with Geraldine Foster or Fr Allen.



St Nicholas Catholic Church, Boldmere

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Parish Blog: www.stnicholasboldmere.wordpress.com

Parish Priest: Fr Allen Morris **Deacon:** Rev John Garvey

Parish Safeguarding: Mary Rose (0121 354 4730)

Our Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No. 234216

MAY 2023: PARISH MASSES THIS WEEK

Sa	13	6pm		Teresa Gill RIP (Gill)
Su	14	9am	6th Sunday of Easter	Aidan Redmond RIP (R)
		11am		For the parish
M	15	10am		Mairead Knowles RIP
T	16	10am		
W	17	10am		Alice Lavinia Makepeace RIP (M)
Th	18	10am	ASCENSION	
		7pm		
F	19	7pm		Sr Marie Inglis Ints (Cotton)
Sa	20	6pm	7th Sunday of Easter	Kris Stzawski RIP (Stawzeski)
Su	21	9am		Rebecca and Patrick Keegan (K)
		11am		For the parish

Anointing of the Sick: Last Friday of month at 11am

Sacrament of Confession: Friday 18.30-18.55; 19.30 (after Mass), until 20.00; and Sat 5.30-5.45 — and by appointment

Please pray for those who are sick including Andy Kean, Brenda Davies; David Cotton, Rita Rhodes, Stephen Burke; Lesley Devlin; Lyn Hunt; Joan James; Jean Lawlor; Joanne McShane & Teresa Monteiro.

Please pray for Gino Mastroianni whose funeral is here on Friday 26 May at 11am; and for Eileen Bartropp, John Doyle, Margaret Knowles, Annemarie Murphy, Paul Barry, Daniel Murray, Gerry Coyle, Percy Bartropp and all whose anniversaries are at this time.

RESOURCES FOR PRAYER.

1. Parish prayer on Zoom (links on parish website homepage)

Morning Prayer: Zoom meeting Monday to Saturday at 8.30am; **Lectio** Sunday at 4pm; **Rosary** Mon at 7pm.

2. Readings of the day and much more at Universalis.com

Parish Car Park

Free parking is available for anyone at anytime in our parish carpark. In addition, automatic free parking permits are issued:

- On **Saturdays** for those arriving after 5.30pm and leaving before 7.30pm; and on **Sundays** for those arriving after 8am and leaving before 2pm

- On **Mondays to Wednesdays** for those arriving after 9.30am and leaving before 11.30am and on **Fridays** those arriving after 6.30pm and leaving before 8.30pm

At other times, if on site for parish meetings and the like - and needing to park for more than 1 hour, please scan the QR poster in the church or Benedict Room to extend your 'free' parking time.

**Cry out with joy to God all the earth,
O sing to the glory of his name.**

Being a Welcoming Church

Fr Hudson's Care invites you to take part in the third of four workshops looking at different aspects of the Church's outreach work.

- **Encounter** a theme of Catholic Social Teaching - Disability
- **Envision** how you can live your faith and mission more deeply through charitable action.
- **Equip** - In the workshop we aim to equip you with new ideas and opportunities to serve those in need.

The workshop will involve personal testimonies, liturgy, practical examples and presentations. The workshops will be followed by further events to help parishes to work together to develop their own local initiatives with Diocesan and FHC support, experience and expertise.

You can join in the online evening meeting, on Monday 22nd May, from 7.30 to 8.30 p.m. The session is on 'Disability'; there is no charge, simply email fundraising@fatherhudsons.org.uk to register and a link will be sent to you.

Everybody, according to his or her particular opportunities and responsibilities, should be able to make a personal contribution to putting an end to so many social injustices.
Pope Francis

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Parents with children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 might like to make note of the dates and times of Children's Liturgy of the Word during this term time.

- Sunday 28 May at 9am
- Sunday 11th June at 11am
- Sunday 25th June at 9am
- Sunday 9th July at 9am



The Introductory Rites

Opening Song

Lord, Jesus Christ, you have come to us,
you are one with us, Mary’s son.
Cleansing our souls from all their sin,
pouring your love and goodness in,
Jesus our love for you we sing, living Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ, now and ev’ry day
teach us how to pray, Son of God.
You have commanded us to do
this in remembrance, Lord, of you.
Into our lives your pow’r breaks through, living Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ, you have come to us,
born as one of us, Mary’s Son.
Led out to die on Calvary,
risen from death to set us free,
living Lord Jesus, help us see you are Lord.

Lord, Jesus Christ, I would come to you,
live my life for you, Son of God.
All your commands I know are true,
your many gifts will make me new,
into my life your pow’r breaks through, living Lord.

Gloria



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.

Glory to God...

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.

Glory to God...

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.

Glory to God... Amen. Amen. Amen.

The Collect

The Liturgy of the Word

Acts 8:5-8,14-17

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to

them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Psalms 65(66):1-7,16,20



Cry out with joy to God all the earth,
O sing to the glory of his name.
O render him glorious praise.
Say to God: ‘How tremendous your deeds!

‘Before you all the earth shall bow;
shall sing to you, sing to your name!’
Come and see the works of God,
tremendous his deeds among men.

He turned the sea into dry land,
they passed through the river dry-shod.
Let our joy then be in him;
he rules for ever by his might.

Come and hear, all who fear God.
I will tell what he did for my soul:
Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer
nor withhold his love from me.

1 Peter 3:15-18

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong. Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus said: ‘If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him.’ Alleluia!

John 14:15-21

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘If you love me you will keep my commandments. I shall ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you for ever, that Spirit of truth whom the world can never receive since it neither sees nor knows him; but you know him, because he is with you, he is in you.

I will not leave you orphans; I will come back to you. In a short time the world will no longer see me; but you will see me, because I live and you will live. On that day you will understand that I am in my Father and you in me and I in you. nybody who receives my commandments and keeps them will be one who loves me; and anybody who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I shall love him and show myself to him.’

Homily

The Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
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.

Prayer of the Faithful

All: Through our lives and by our prayers,
your kingdom come.

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

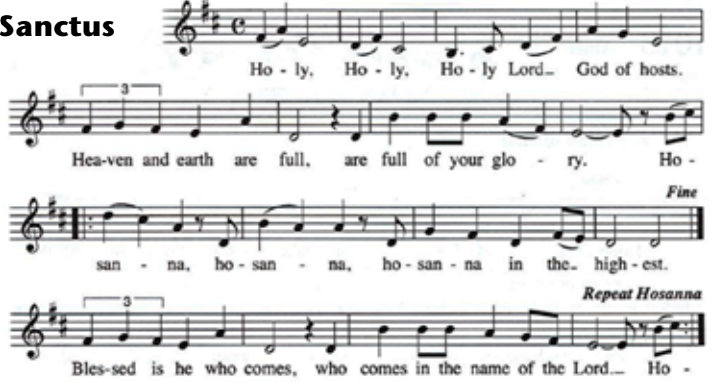
The Offertory NB Our next collections for the Bethany Food Bank are May 21st and June 4th

All that I am, all that I do,
all that I’ll ever have, I offer now to you.
Take and sanctify these gifts
for your honour, Lord.
Knowing that I love and serve you
is enough reward.

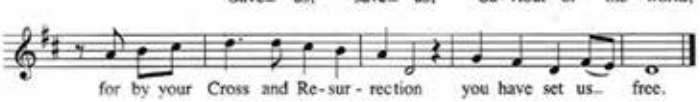
All that I am, all that I do,
all that I’ll ever have I offer now to you.

All that I dream, all that I pray,
all that I’ll ever make, I give to you today.
Take and sanctify these gifts
for your honour, Lord.
Knowing that I love and serve you
is enough reward.
All that I am, all that I do,
all that I’ll ever have I offer now to you.

The Eucharistic Prayer



The mystery of faith



The Communion Rite

Communion thanksgiving

Jesus, name above all names,
Beautiful Saviour, glorious Lord.
Emmanuel, God is with us.
Blessed Redeemer, Living word.

Prayer after Communion

Concluding Rites

Blessing and Dismissal

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Corpus Christi and Parish Lunch

Come and join in a parish
lunch after the 11am Mass
and Corpus Christi procession
with children from this year’s
Communion Programme on
Sunday 11th June. More details
next weekend.



The Regina Caeli is one of four Marian antiphons, traditionally said or sung after Compline (Night Prayer). It is used throughout Eastertide. (That is, from Easter Day until Pentecost Sunday, 50 days later). the seventh Sunday after Easter.

Regina caeli, laetare, alleluia.
Quia quem meruisti portare, alleluia.
Resurrexit, sicut dixit, alleluia.
Ora pro nobis Deum, alleluia.

An English translation follows, together with associated prayers.

Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia.
For He whom you did merit to bear, alleluia.
Has risen, as he said, alleluia.
Pray for us to God, alleluia.

- V. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.
- R. For the Lord has truly risen, alleluia.

Let us pray.

O God, who gave joy to the world through the resurrection of Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, grant we beseech Thee, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, his Mother, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life.

Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.