

RESPONDING TO THE CHALLENGE OF THE DIOCESAN VISION

In a recent Pastoral Letter Archbishop Bernard reminded us of his call to the Diocese:

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

Our Monday meeting to explore how we at St Nicholas might do this was not so well attended as the similar meetings before Easter. So our reflections could not be conclusive. However the challenge remains.

To help us reflect further over the coming weeks, over the coming weeks there will be in the newsletter some material for our reflection. It is drawn from a description, written back in the 1990s - but still faithful to what the Church calls us to.

As you read it, ask yourself how this compares to how things are at St Nicholas. Ask yourself too whether there is something you might do to help us better fulfill the vision. And where you see others making their contribution to our common life - whether you have said 'thank you' to them recently?

Fr. Allen

SUNDAY MASS, 2000

Part One: The Church gathers

I am going to share with you my vision of a parish Sunday Eucharist. It is a summer Sunday in the Jubilee Year 2000, 30 minutes before the 10 a.m. Mass at Our Lady of the Angels parish. Already, several members of the choir are talking together and trying bits of music with the director and the cantor. Soon the first usher to arrive is tidying up the entrance way and removing any bulletins left in the assembly's area at the last Mass. The sacristan has placed the bread and wine on a covered table near the entrance. Servers, lectors and communion ministers begin to arrive and go about their necessary preparations. By now the early comers are here, some kneeling in prayer or sitting quietly. Others stop in the Blessed Sacrament chapel; others light candles in the alcove that holds an image of Our Lady of Guadalupe. As 10:00 nears, more people stop to write in the parish's Book of Intercessions.

The Entrance of the Assembly

In houses and apartments all through the neighbourhood, the true entrance procession of this Mass has been in full swing, sometimes calm, sometimes hectic. Sunday clothes are being put on. Many families are finishing breakfast, conscious of the one-hour fast. Here and there are adults who choose to fast altogether until taking Holy Communion. Some households make a conscious effort to keep the morning quiet: no radio or television,

and the Sunday papers wait until later in the day.

In a surprisingly large number of households, but still a tiny minority, the Sunday Scriptures have already been read aloud together on Friday or Saturday evening. Others met during the week in Spanish-speaking or English-speaking prayer groups where the Lectionary's Sunday readings were pondered. Teenagers spent part of the regular youth group meeting reading these Scriptures.

When we think about preparing for liturgy, we usually think of the ministers -- the choir rehearsing, the lectors engaging their readings all through the week, the homilist spending some time every day of the week until it all comes together on Saturday, those who care for the sacred space keeping it clean and beautiful. But the liturgy is the work of the whole assembly, and here we begin to see that many take this seriously. Many have prepared themselves to come together today and participate fully in this Eucharist.

So this is the entrance procession, coming from all directions, made up of all ages, several races, a variety of economic circumstances and political outlooks -- and speaking at least three first languages! But they are all in a great procession, the Church assembling in the house of the Church. "We shall go up with joy," "Que alegría cuando me dijeron vamos a la casa del Señor", or as we used to pray from Psalm 43, "Introibo ad altare Dei." On the way to that altar of God, most of these people pass by the large Baptismal Font and take water from it, perhaps remembering their own Baptism. They enter their liturgy marked with the water of baptism, marked with the cross of Christ whose Body we became in those waters. (cf *Catechism of the Catholic Church*: 1267)"

Extract from

Gather Faithfully Together: A Guide for Sunday Mass.
Cardinal Roger Mahony, Archbishop of Los Angeles

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 Wednesday 24 May.*

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.



There is a retiring collection today to support the Communications Service of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales.



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	20	6pm	7th Sunday of Easter	Kris Stazewski RIP (Stazewska)
Su	21	9am		Rebecca and Patrick Keegan (K)
		11am		For the parish
M	22	10am		Colleen Tokeley RIP (Kyi)
T	23	10am		Cathleen Mulhern RIP (Green)
W	24	10am		
Th	25			
F	26	11am	Funeral Mass of Gino Mastroianni	
		7pm	St Philip Neri	Gino Mastroianni RD (Leese)
Sa	27	6pm	PENTECOST	For the parish
Su	28	9am		Bridget Small RIP (Egan)
		11am		Piotr Stazewski RIP (Stazewski)

Anointing of the Sick: Next celebration is 30th June 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.

**The Lord is my light and my help;
whom shall I fear?**

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@father-hudsons.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



Young Families Group

The next two gatherings are 28/05 after 9am Mass and 25/06 when there is a family day out after the 9am Mass - details still being finalised!

The Introductory Rites

Opening Song

He is Lord, he is Lord!
He is risen from the dead, and he is Lord!
Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord!
He is King, he is King!
He will draw all nations to him, he is King;
and the time shall be when the world shall sing
that Jesus Christ is King!
He is Love, he is Love!
He has shown us by his life that he is Love;
all his people sing with one voice of joy
that Jesus Christ is Love!
He is Life, he is Life!
He has died to set us free and he is Life;
and he calls us all to live evermore,
for Jesus Christ is Life.

Gloria

Glo - ry to God in the highest... and on earth peace to peo-ple 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.
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 1:12-14

After Jesus was taken up into heaven the apostles went back from the Mount of Olives, as it is called, to Jeru-salem, a short distance away, no more than a sabbath walk; and when they reached the city they went to the upper room where they were staying; there were Peter and John, James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bart-holomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus and Si-mon the Zealot, and Jude son of James. All these joined in continuous prayer, together with several women, in-cluding Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

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Psalm 26(27):1,4,7-8

The Lord is my light and my help;
whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
before whom shall I shrink?
There is one thing I ask of the Lord, for this I long,
to live in the house of the Lord,
all the days of my life,
to savour the sweetness of the Lord, to behold his temple.
O Lord, hear my voice when I call;
have mercy and answer.
Of you my heart has spoken:
‘Seek his face.’

1 Peter 4:13-16

If you can have some share in the sufferings of Christ, be glad, because you will enjoy a much greater glad-ness when his glory is revealed. It is a blessing for you when they insult you for bearing the name of Christ, because it means that you have the Spirit of glory, the Spirit of God resting on you. None of you should ever deserve to suffer for being a murderer, a thief, a criminal or an informer; but if anyone of you should suffer for being a Christian, then he is not to be ashamed of it; he should thank God that he has been called one.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord; I will come back to you, and your hearts will be full of joy. Alleluia!

John 17:1-11

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said: ‘Father, the hour has come: glorify your Son so that your Son may glorify you; and, through the power over all mankind that you have given him, let him give eternal life to all those you have entrusted to him.And eternal life is this: to know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

‘I have glorified you on earth and finished the work that you gave me to do. Now, Father, it is time for you to glorify me with that glory I had with you before ever the world was. I have made your name known to the men you took from the world to give me. They were yours and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ‘Now at last they know that all you have given me comes indeed from you; for I have given them the teaching you gave to me, and they have truly accepted this, that I came from you, and have be-lieved that it was you who sent me.

‘I pray for them; I am not praying for the world but for those you have given me, because they belong to you: all I have is yours and all you have is mine, and in them I am glorified. I am not in the world any longer, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you.’

Homily

The Creed

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 today and June 4th

Take our bread, we ask you,
Take our hearts, we love you,
Take our lives, oh Father,
We are yours, we are yours.

Yours as we stand at the table you set,
Yours as we eat the bread our hearts can’t forget.
We are the signs of your life with us yet;
We are yours, we are yours.

Your holy people stand washed in your blood,
Spirit-filled, yet hungry, we await your food.
Poor though we are, we have brought ourselves to you:
We are yours, we are yours.

The Eucharistic Prayer

Sanctus Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord... God of hosts.
Hea-ven and earth are full, are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Repeat Hosanna
Bles-sed is he who comes, who comes in the name of the Lord... Ho -
Save... us, save... us, Sa-viour of the world,
for by your Cross and Re-sur - rection you have set us... free.

The Communion Rite

Communion thanksgiving

Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there is hatred let me bring your love;
where there is injury your pardon, Lord;
and where there’s doubt, true faith in you.
Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there’s despair in life, let me bring hope;
where there is darkness only light;
and where there’s sadness ever joy.
Oh Master, grant that I may never seek
so much to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love with all my soul.
Make me a channel of your peace.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
In giving to our neighbour we receive;
and in dying that we’re born to eternal life.

Prayer after Communion

Concluding Rites

Blessing and Dismissal

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.
Entry fee (includes Burger/hot dog, salad and a soft drink) £4 per adult, £2 per child, £10 family of four, children 3 and under go free - as do First Communion children taking part in the procession.

Tickets on sale after masses on Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th June and on the day.

Games available for younger children.

Confectionery, snacks and licensed bar.

The Newman Centre – doors open at Middyay, and this event hosted by young leaders from Sutton Coldfield Adventure Unit @ St Nicholas



The Salve Regina is perhaps the most familiar of the Marian antiphons. As well as being sung at Night Prayer during Ordinary Time - from the end of the Easter season until the beginning of Advent - it is traditionally prayed, throughout the year, at the end of the Rosary, .

Salve Regina, Mater misericordiae
vita dulcedo, et spes nostra, salve.
Ad te clamamus, exules filii hevae.
Ad te suspiramus, gementes et flentes,
in hac lacrimarum vale.
Eia ergo, Advocata nostra,
illos tuos misericordes oculos ad nos converte.
Et Jesum benedictum fructum ventris tui,
nobis post hoc exilium ostende.
O clemens, O pia, O dulcis Virgo Maria.

Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy,
Our life, our sweetness and our hope.
To you do we cry, poor banished children of Eve.
To you do we send up our sighs,
mourning and weeping in this val of tears
Turn then, most gracious advocate,
thine eyes of mercy toward us, and after this our exile
show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.