

Virtual Pilgrimage to Lourdes

Although the Archdiocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes cannot take place in the usual way this year, its organisers have arranged a replacement online programme of events.

All will be accessible via <https://bit.ly/3b8UsyJ> or birminghamdiocese.org.uk

The virtual pilgrimage will start on Sunday 30 May (Trinity Sunday) at 3pm with a live-streamed Opening Mass from St Chad's Cathedral.



Parenting faith

One of the most precious gifts is the gift of faith. And it is a lovely thing when parents wish to raise their child to know and love Jesus - and found their lives on the rock of his love and goodness.

Parents who wish to take on that responsibility, can find themselves in all sorts of circumstances.

Most every family is different. But in all circumstances our parish is ready to help support parents who are ready to step forward, and prepare to take on the responsibilities of bringing up their children in the practice of our Catholic faith.

The Church speaks of how each family is invited to learn to live as a domestic church. The family at home is seen as THE place where parents and children share faith, learn to pray, develop and deepen their relationship with God, and neighbour.

Parents are called to be leaders of the domestic church - exercising their role there, sharing in the ministry of Jesus as priest, prophet and king. This vocation is a privileged one. It can also be challenging! So at St Nicholas parish we give time and space for parents to consider different aspects of the life of faith which they are invited to make their own and that they will want to share with their children in the years following baptism.

Typically this will include times to reflect together on the power of prayer; who Jesus is; the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist; and parenthood

If you are a parent considering baptism for your child, and this is something that you want to explore further, then please speak with Fr Allen after any Sunday Mass.



Newman Community Centre

The NCC? Maybe you know it by its old name of the *Carpenter's Arms*.

The *Newman Community Centre* is now open for a variety of groups in line with current COVID regulations. It will open for other groups as and when the regulations are relaxed.

If you are planning events and would like to hold them at the NCC please ring the Hall Manager, Kay O'Keeffe, on 0121 321 2285 or email newmancc.boldmere@rcaob.org.uk



There is a retiring Collection today for the Catholic Communications Service

Employment opportunity.

A parishioner needs part time carers to help her with simple tasks like cooking, reading letters, and providing companionship. It would be for a few hours a week and there would be some overnight stays too. If interested please contact Cath on 07733430988 or cathpalgrave@yahoo.co.uk for further information.

Back in business?

An opportunity for Christians and others to come together for a time of quiet prayer and reflection

All are welcome to this on-line event

6-6.45pm
Sunday
16th May



Link to the time of prayer from www.stnicholasboldmere.co.uk

An event of Churches Together in Boldmere, Wyldre Green & Banners Gate

The Zoom link for 'Back in business' will be available on the home page of the parish website on Sunday 16th.



St Nicholas Catholic Church, Boldmere

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

Father most holy,
Look upon the people
whom you have sanctified by the dying
and the rising of your Son.
Keep us one in love
and consecrate us in your truth,
that the new life you have given us
may bring us to the fullness of joy.

Parish Ministers of Holy Communion

As - hopefully - we leave the worst of the Pandemic behind us - it is time to start planning to once more be able to take Holy Communion to the housebound on a regular basis. Also it will be helpful to have a rota of ministers to assist with the distribution of Holy Communion in church, as and when necessary.

There is a meeting for all commissioned ministers to prepare for this on Saturday next, in the Benedict Room at 3pm prompt. Please access the room from behind the Church

A reminder that social distancing must continue to be observed in church.

Please do not remain in benches for conversation after Mass has ended. Instead leave the church promptly and keep 'safe distance'. Thank you.

Wondering about faith?

The experience of COVID has been a challenging one for all sorts of people and in all sorts of ways. People who thought they were strong in faith may have found their certainties shaken. People who did not think about God and faith at all have found themselves newly grateful that they were able to turn to the Lord in their distress, but may be unsure what to do next.

And some might just feel they are wandering, wondering...
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PARISH MASSES DURING THE COMING WEEK

Day	Time	Notes
Sa 15	4pm	7th Sunday of Easter
	6pm	
Su 16	9am	Teresa Gill RIP (Gill)
	11am	Aidan Redmond RIP (Redmond)
M 17	10am	For the parish
T 18	10am	Elaine Heard RD (Redmond)
W 19	10am	Dominic Brennan (Green)
Th 20		For Heath (Jones)
F 21	7pm	Patsy MacEaney RD
Sa 22	4pm	Pentecost
	6pm	
Su 23	9am	Roman Pol RD (Bollard)
	11am	For the parish

Please pray for sick parishioners including Betty Barker, Lyn Hunt; Joan James; Thomas Stevenson. Please pray for Christopher Doyle, Margaret Knowles, Paul Barry, Daniel Murray, Gerry Coyle Percy Bartrop, Eileen Hill and all whose anniversaries occur at this time. **Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, may they rest in peace.**

The Introductory Rites

The Introductory Rites help us come together as one, establish communion and prepare ourselves 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

Hearing the word proclaimed in worship, we 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 us to take the word of God to heart and begin to prepare a prayerful response to what we have heard.

Acts 1:15-17,20-26

One day Peter stood up to speak to the brothers – there were about a hundred and twenty persons in the congregation: ‘Brothers, the passage of scripture had to be fulfilled in which the Holy Spirit, speaking through David, foretells the fate of Judas, who offered himself as a guide to the men who arrested Jesus – after having been one of our number and actually sharing this ministry of ours. Now in the Book of Psalms it says: ‘Let someone else take his office.’

We must therefore choose someone who has been with us the whole time that the Lord Jesus was travelling round with us, someone who was with us right from the time when John was baptising until the day when he was taken up from us – and he can act with us as a witness to his resurrection.’

Having nominated two candidates, Joseph known as Barsabbas, whose surname was Justus, and Matthias, they prayed, ‘Lord, you can read everyone’s heart; show us therefore which of these two you have chosen to take over this ministry and apostolate, which Judas abandoned to go to his proper place.’ They then drew lots for them, and as the lot fell to Matthias, he was listed as one of the twelve apostles.

Psalm 102(103):1-2,11-12,19-20

My soul, give thanks to the Lord
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings.

For as the heavens are high above the earth
so strong is his love for those who fear him.
As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins.

The Lord has set his sway in heaven
and his kingdom is ruling over all.
Give thanks to the Lord, all his angels,
mighty in power, fulfilling his word.

1 John 4:11-16

My dear people, since God has loved us so much, we too should love one another. No one has ever seen God; but as long as we love one another God will live in us and his love will be complete in us. We can know that we are living in him and he is living in us because he lets us share his Spirit.

We ourselves saw and we testify that the Father sent his Son as saviour of the world. If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in him, and he in God. We ourselves have known and put our faith in God’s love towards ourselves. God is love and anyone who lives in love lives in God, and God lives in him.

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 17:11-19

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said: ‘Holy Father, keep those you have given me true to your name, so that they may be one like us. While I was with them, I kept those you had given me true to your name. I have watched over them and not one is lost except the one who chose to be lost, and this was to fulfil the scriptures. But now I am coming to you and while still in the world I say these things to share my joy with them to the full.

I passed your word on to them, and the world hated them, because they belong to the world no more than I belong to the world. I am not asking you to remove them from the world, but to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world any more than I belong to the world. Consecrate them in the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world, and for their sake I consecrate myself so that they too may be consecrated in truth.’

The 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.

We proclaim your Death, O Lord,
and profess your Resurrection
until you come again.

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 mutual love and reconciliation. These are the condition and the fruit of worthy communion and the unity of the many in the One.

The Lord’s Prayer

Invitation to Communion

Please observe the regulations on social distancing when processing to receive Holy Communion.

As you approach the minister, please do so with arms at “full stretch” to keep a good distance between you.

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 us forth to put into effect in our daily lives the Mystery of Christ’s Death and Resurrection and the unity in Christ which we have celebrated. Our mission is to witness to Christ in the world and to bring the Gospel to the poor.

Blessing and Dismissal

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Exploring the Eucharist

Weekly mini-essays exploring the Eucharist. Origins and influences on the Mass; exploring particular prayers; and looking at how we celebrate - and how we might celebrate more fruitfully....

www.stnicholasboldmere.wordpress.com

This week we continue to look at the 2-3rd C document *The Apostolic Tradition*, and some of its prayers. One of which you may find very familiar.

Wondering about faith? *cont’d from page 1*

It is hoped that very soon COVID restrictions will be relaxed sufficiently to allow for us to begin to meeting face to face again - and when we do it is a chance to revive the parish Journey in Faith group.

Journey in Faith is a place for people to explore the who and what Jesus is; and the Church; and themselves. All are welcome. **If you are interested do let Fr Allen know.** That way when a time is being arranged for some first get together he can check what day /time will best suit you and others.

Just wondering?

Is your child preparing for First Communion or Confirmation? Want to know how best to support them?

Just wondering?

Sharing life with a person of faith - Christian or not - and have questions about your faith? Or theirs?

Never been baptised or confirmed or made First Communion? Now wondering how to go about it?

Brought up in another church but find that the Catholic Church offers something more?

Just drifted away and now find you seem to be drifting back?