

Whole Community Catechesis

3rd Week in Lent

- 1. Listen to the word:** What do you hear in today's readings that encourages or challenges you?
- 2. Look into Your Life**
 - **Q4Children:** How does Jesus help the woman at the well?
 - **Q4Youth** Why does Jesus help the woman at the well?
 - **Q4Adults:** How do you feel about the townspeople respond to developments?

Parish

Retiring Collection There is a collection today for the maintenance of St Chad's Cathedral.

Travelling Solo lunch All who 'travel solo in life' (eg widowed, divorced, separated or 'just' single) are invited to join with others for lunch at a local pub after Sun 11am Mass. *Next lunch: 5th April!*

Book Club. The book for our next meeting is *10th of December.* by George Saunders. Read the book and come to discuss. The Presbytery, 8pm, 20th April.

Scripture Group. The group continues its gentle reading of the *Acts of the Apostles.* New people always welcome. Next meeting is 8pm, on Fri 20 March, in the Benedict Room — read Chapters 14 and 15 and just come along...

Teas & Coffees after Sun am Masses.

Mass Stipends Please note that Intentions have already been applied to all Masses up to the end of May. Details of intentions, and details of 'available' Masses after June 1st are on the parish website.

Parish Art Group - led by Tony Sawbridge and Geraldine Foster this Tuesday after the service. All welcome!! No previous experience necessary!!!

Good Friday Our Liturgy Group met

All EU, EEA and Swiss citizens living in the UK are required by the government to apply through its Settlement Scheme to continue living, working and accessing services here. The deadline for applications is 30 June 2021. Details and links to the application process can be found at: gov.uk/eusettledstatus

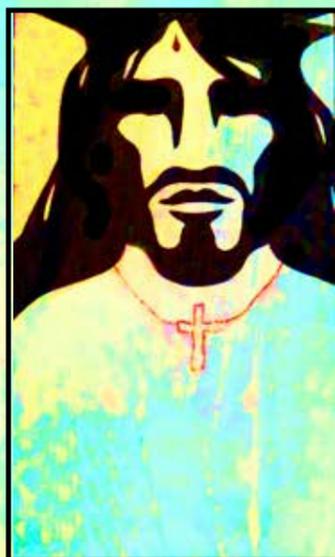
The Catholic Church in England and Wales stands in solidarity with all European citizens who have made their homes here. They are a valued part of our parishes, schools and communities. Please bring this to the attention of friends, family members and fellow parishioners who may need to apply. Information on assistance for those who may have difficulty applying is available at: gov.uk/help-eu-settlement-scheme

Owning our Faith and Calling

An opportunity to deepen faith and build up community. Monthly small group meetings to reflect on Scripture, on the person and mission of Jesus Christ, and how they connect with our own experience and desires.

Our **Faith and Calling** groups met again two weeks ago to reflect on the Mystery of the Incarnation, of God coming to us as Jesus and living among us.

One of the exercises was to seek to become more aware of the circumstances and needs of those around us. The coronavirus crisis provides a further opportunity to listening to those around us and seeing and responding to their needs.



Care for our brothers and sisters who have contracted the virus, or who are in self-isolation to see if they are free of the virus.

If you know of anyone who is in this situation please let Fr Allen know (giving name and telephone number, please) - this can be done in confidence, unless the person concerned is willing for their name to be published on the parish sick list.

People in this situation are obviously in isolation and so it is not possible to visit them to minister communion, or the sacrament of the sick. However we can, all of us, offer support by keeping in contact by phone. If you would like to be on a list to help with shopping and other practical needs for the self-isolated, please contact Fr Allen

The usual arrangements pertain for those who are in hospital.

this week to prepare for the Triduum and Easter. We are planning a meditation service for Good Friday evening and would welcome suggestions of readings and songs suitable for the occasion. Please pass suggestions to Fr Allen.

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

Thank you to Christine Howlett who has over many years been Secretary to our local Churches Together group. She has decided the time has come to step down - again thank you to Christine for her faithfulness and commitment - not least in this role..

Diocese

PI pray for Canon Oakley being ordained bishop this Thurs at Northampton Cathedral.

Pray with Pope Francis

The Pope's prayer intention for March is that the Church in China may persevere in its faithfulness to the Gospel and grow in unity.



To find the Pope's other current prayer intentions please visit <http://www.apostleshipofprayer.org/>

Chrism Mass Wednesday 8th April at 11am at St Chad's Cathedral.

Other

Addiction to Freedom (Practical wisdom from a recovering addict) Sutton C'field Baptist Church, 27 Mar, 7-10pm

Lifeline for Marriages Is your marriage stressed, unloving, cold? Do you want to improve your communication? Have you separated, divorced, or are you thinking of doing so? Do you want to try again? The Retrouvaille programme may be what you need! Info from 0788 729 6983 or www.retrouvaille.org.uk

Employment opportunities in local school (JPII MAC) full details at <http://johnpaulii.co.uk/vacancies/>



St Nicholas Catholic Church, Boldmere

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Parish Blog: www.stnicholasboldmere.wordpress.com

Parish Priest: Fr Allen Morris **E-mail:** fr.allen.morris@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

Care of each other in the Coronavirus crisis

The health emergency continues to develop. Until things improve, a number of things have been introduced at Mass - particularly to avoid cross infection with the virus and protect the most vulnerable.

- The Holy Water stoups and font remain empty
- The standard sign of peace is suspended.
- So is the ministering of the Precious Blood
- The host, the Body of Christ, will be ministered directly on to the hand only. Please hold your hand flat to receive to minimise the risk of skin on skin contact. (Those who do not wish to receive in the hand should please abstain from communion and make a spiritual communion - prayers for this are provided in the leaflet in the porch and on the Latin Mass Society website: <https://bit.ly/2xslw9K>
- We will use only disposable cups and plates for parish refreshments

The steps will help limit contagion, and be of benefit to the wider community and to our own most vulnerable parishioners. The virus does seem to be relatively mild in its impact on younger people, but the older we are the more the risk. Any inconvenience or curtailing of personal preference at this time is something for us all to shoulder as an act of charity and love..

- Those who fall into the high-vulnerability category are not obliged to come to Mass and it is recommended that they remain at home. If those in this situation are NOT formally self-isolating, ie are symptom free, then they may recontact Fr Allen to request communion at home.
- If you have a cold / high temperature please take advice from the NHS, and follow the government guidance to self isolate until the symptoms have cleared.

We all need to take individual responsibility for personal hygiene and cleanliness when we come to Mass. Please wash your hands before and after coming to church - and if you have access to alcohol-based hand gel please make appropriate use of this too.

Any questions, suggestions, please speak with Fr Allen.

Catch it. Bin it. Kill it.

PLEASE HELP US AVOID SPREADING THE CORONAVIRUS

After Mass please **DO NOT** return this sheet. Please take it home and when you are ready dispose of it there.

MASSES AND OTHER LITURGIES 3rd Week of Lent

Sa	14	Third Sunday in Lent	1715 1800	Sacrament of Confession Christopher Bayless RIP (Perks)
Su	15	<i>Psalter Week3</i>	0900 1100 1700	Olwyn Foster RIP (Droz) Ints of family of Marie McNally Reflecting on Reconciliation (at 6pm, Exposition and Evening Prayer)
M	16		1000 1500	Elizabeth Sawbridge RIP (Anniv) Sawbridge <i>Rosary for Vocations</i>
T	17	St Patrick	1000	<i>Liturgy of Word and Holy Communion</i>
W	18		1000*	Bridget Broom RIP (O'Riordan)
Th	19	St JOSEPH		Nancy King RIP (Brennan)
F	20		1000 1900*	Mass w. St Nicholas school KS1 (Ints: Anne Gallagher RIP (Evans)) all welcome Special Intention (Ord) w. <i>Exposition and prayer for victims of abuse</i>
Sa	21	Fourth Sunday in Lent	1715 1800	Sacrament of Confession Thomas Quinlisk RIP (Gill)
Su	22	<i>Psalter Week4</i>	0900 1100 1700	Patricia Hughes RIP (Hughes) Tony Lawlor RIP Reflecting on Reconciliation (at 6pm, Exposition and Evening Prayer)

Scripture readings for Mass next Sunday

1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a / Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 / Eph 5:8-14 / Jn 9:1-41

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

Exposition: & Vespers See above for arrangements in Lent & **Rosary** Mon at 3pm

Reconciliation Sat. 1715-1740 and by arrangement. **Anointing of the Sick:** 1st Friday at 11am and by arrangement.

Baptism, Matrimony, by arrangement.

Nourishing prayer at home: *Living Eucharist:* <https://livingeucharist.wordpress.com/> Also universalis.com or <https://pray-as-you-go.org/>

Please pray for sick parishioners including Jenifer Cummings, Betty Barker, Gerry Coyle; Lyn Hunt; Joan James; Thomas Stevenson; Lea Burke, Peggy Gallagher, Hazel Kemp. **Please pray** for Dymphna Murphy, Ellie Manville, Betty Sawbridge, Bronia Schmid, Kath Devanney, Philip Cassera, Sheila Hindle and all whose anniversaries of death are at this time: **Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, may they rest in peace.**

North Birmingham Deanery Penitential Services for Lent 2020

- 24th March Christ the King, K'gstanding, 7pm
- 1st April St Nicholas, Boldmere, 7pm
- 3rd April Holy Cross & St Francis, Walmley, 7pm
- 6th April Holy Trinity, S'n Coldfield, 7pm
- 7th April Erdington Abbey, 7pm



Introductory Rites

Entrance Song

Will you let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ for you.
Pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.

We are pilgrims on the journey,
We are travellers on the road.
We are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.

I will bear the Christ-light for you,
in the night time of your fear.
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping.
When you laugh I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joys and sorrows,
till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven,
we will find such harmony,
born of all we've shared together
of Christ's love and agony.

Will you let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ for you.
Pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.

The Liturgy of the Word

Exodus 17:3-7

Tormented by thirst, the people complained against Moses. 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt?' they said. 'Was it so that I should die of thirst, my children too, and my cattle?'

Moses appealed to the Lord. 'How am I to deal with this people?' he said. 'A little more and they will stone me!' the Lord said to Moses, 'Take with you some of the elders of Israel and move on to the forefront of the people; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the river, and go. I shall be standing before you there on the rock, at Horeb. You must strike the rock, and water will flow from it for the people to drink.' This is what Moses did, in the sight of the elders of Israel. The place was named Massah and Meribah because of the grumbling of the sons of Israel and because they put the Lord to the test by saying, 'Is the Lord with us, or not?'

Psalm 94(95):1-2,6-9 (sung by all)

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord.

Come in; let us bow and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made us:
for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand.

O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my work.'

Romans 5:1-2,5-8

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, by faith we are judged righteous and at peace with God, since it is by faith and through Jesus that we have entered this state of grace in which we can boast about looking forward to God's glory. And this hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

Gospel Acclamation

Glory and praise to you, O Christ! Lord, you are really the saviour of the world: give me the living water, so that I may never get thirsty. *Glory and praise to you, O Christ!*

John 4:5-42

Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey, sat straight down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, 'What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?' – Jews, in fact, do not associate with Samaritans.

Jesus replied: 'If you only knew what God is offering and who it is that is saying to you: Give me a drink, you would have been the one to ask, and he would have given you living water.'

'You have no bucket, sir,' she answered 'and the well is deep: how could you get this living water? Are you a greater man than our father Jacob who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his sons and his cattle?'

Jesus replied: 'Whoever drinks this water will get thirsty again; but anyone who drinks the water that I shall give will never be thirsty again: the water that I shall give will turn into a spring inside him, welling up to eternal life.'

'Sir,' said the woman 'give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty and never have to come here again to draw water.' 'Go and call your husband' said Jesus to her 'and come back here.' The woman answered, 'I have no husband.' He said to her, 'You are right to say, "I have no husband"; for although you have had five, the one you have now is not your husband. You spoke the truth there.' 'I see you are a prophet, sir' said the woman. 'Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, while you say that Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.'

Jesus said: 'Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know: for salvation comes from the Jews. But the hour will come – in fact it is here already – when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth: that is the kind of worshiper the Father wants. God is spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and truth.'

The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah – that is, Christ – is coming; and when he comes he will tell us everything.' 'I who am speaking to you,' said Jesus 'I am he.'

At this point his disciples returned, and were surprised to find him speaking to a woman, though none of them asked, 'What do you want from her?' or, 'Why are you talking to her?' The woman put down her water jar and hurried back to the town to tell the people. 'Come and see a man who has told me everything I ever did; I wonder if he is the Christ?' This brought people out of the town and they started walking towards him.

Meanwhile, the disciples were urging him, 'Rabbi, do have something to eat; but he said, 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.' So the disciples asked one another, 'Has someone been bringing him food?' But Jesus said: 'My food is to do the will of the one who sent me, and to complete his work. Have you not got a saying: Four months and then the harvest? Well, I tell you: Look around you, look at the fields; already they are white, ready for harvest! Already the reaper is being paid his wages, already he is bringing in the grain for eternal life, and thus sower and reaper rejoice together. For here the proverb holds good: one sows, another reaps; I sent you to reap a harvest you had not worked for. Others worked for it; and you have come into the rewards of their trouble.'

Many Samaritans of that town had believed in him on the strength of the woman's testimony when she said, 'He told me all I have ever done', so, when the Samaritans came up to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed for two days, and when he spoke to them many more came to believe; and they said to the woman, 'Now we no longer believe because of what you told us; we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.'

The 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 Prayer of the Faithful

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

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

Offertory Song

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

Sanctus (cf 505a in Laudate)

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus Dóminus Deus Sábaoth.
Pleni sunt cæli et terra glória tua.
Hosánna in excélsis.
Benedíctus qui venit in nómine Dómini.
Hosánna in excélsis.

Memorial Acclamation (cf 506 .1 in Laudate)

Mortem tuam annuntiámus, Dómine,
et tuam resurrectionem confitémur, donec vénias.

Communion Rite

Agnus Dei (cf 509 in Laudate)

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccáta mundi: miserére nobis. x2
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccáta mundi: dona nobis pacem.

Communion Song

*The light of Christ has come into the world,
the light of Christ has come into the world.*

We must all be born again to see the kingdom of God;
the water and the Spirit bring new life in God's love.

God gave up his only Son out of love for the world
so that ev'ryone who believes in him will live for ever.

The light of God has come to us so that we might
have salvation;
from the darkness of our sins we walk into glory
with Christ Jesus.

Concluding Rites

Ubi caritas et amor, ubi caritas, Deus ibi est
(Where there is charity and love, there is God.)

Confession? Reconciliation? Penance?

We can be unclear what the purpose and benefit of this Sacrament is. To help you with your preparation for your Lent Confession, come and join with other parishioners **This Sunday and the next two Sundays** as we reflect on Reconciliation as it is depicted in the three great Gospels stories of healing that we hear on 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays of Lent.

Each meeting is at 5pm. It is followed at 6pm with Exposition and Evening Prayer (all are welcome to either or both!)

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