

### Isaiah 43:16-21

Thus says the Lord, who made a way through the sea, a path in the great waters; who put chariots and horse in the field and a powerful army which lay there never to rise again, snuffed out, put out like a wick:

'No need to recall the past, no need to think about what was done before. See, I am doing a new deed, even now it comes to light; can you not see it?

Yes, I am making a road in the wilderness, paths in the wilds. The wild beasts will honour me, jackals and ostriches, because I am putting water in the wilderness (rivers in the wild) to give my chosen people drink. The people I have formed for myself will sing my praises.'

### Responsorial Psalm

Please see the separate Lenten Leaflet.

### Philippians 3:8-14

I believe nothing can happen that will outweigh the supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For him I have accepted the loss of everything, and I look on everything as so much rubbish if only I can have Christ and be given a place in him. I am no longer trying for perfection by my own efforts, the perfection that comes from the Law, but I want only the perfection that comes through faith in Christ, and is from God and based on faith.

All I want is to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and to share his sufferings by reproducing the pattern of his death. That is the way I can hope to take my place in the resurrection of the dead. Not that I have become perfect yet: I have not yet won, but I am still running, trying to capture the prize for which Christ Jesus captured me. I can assure you my brothers, I am far from thinking that I have already won.

All I can say is that I forget the past and I strain ahead for what is still to come; I am racing for the finish, for the prize to which God calls us upwards to receive in Christ Jesus.

### Gospel Acclamation

Glory and praise to you, O Christ. Now, now – it is the Lord who speaks – come back to me with all your heart, for I am all tenderness and compassion. Glory and praise to you, O Christ.

### John 8:1-11

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. At daybreak he appeared in the Temple again; and as all the people came to him, he sat down and began to teach them.

### Next Week: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Scripture readings: Lk 19:28-40 / Is 50:4-7 / Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 / Phil 2:6-11 / Lk 22:14-23:56

### Exposition and Benediction at St Nicholas

**Sunday** 1700—1900 *Weekly during Lent*

**Monday** 1500—1600 **Exposition and Rosary** *Praying for vocations*

**Friday** 1930—2000 **Exposition** *and prayer for the Church*

**Saturday** 1700—1740 **Exposition and Sacrament of Confession**



The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman along who had been caught committing adultery; and making her stand there in full view of everybody, they said to Jesus, 'Master, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery, and Moses has ordered us in the Law to condemn women like this to death by stoning. What have you to say?' They asked him this as a test, looking for something to use against him. But Jesus bent down and started writing on the ground with his finger. As they persisted with their question, he looked up and said, 'If there is one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.' Then he bent down and wrote on the ground again. When they heard this they went away one by one, beginning with the eldest, until Jesus was left alone with the woman, who remained standing there. He looked up and said, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' 'No one, sir' she replied. 'Neither do I condemn you,' said Jesus 'go away, and do not sin any more.'

### Preparing for Confession

Perhaps it has been a while since you last celebrated this sacrament of God's mercy. If that is the case you may find it helpful to receive a suggestion on how to prepare to celebrate this sacrament of forgiveness, healing, and encouragement.

The Church encourages us to prepare for this sacrament by reading and praying with a scripture passage. There are many classic passages you might use – but it can be a helpful thing to make use of a reading from last Sunday's Mass. The scriptures are our food for the week - using them in prayer in a variety of circumstances is one of the ways in which we can deepen our awareness of the riches they contain.

If you prepare using a scripture passage mention this to the priest, and perhaps read him a line or two that has struck you from your chosen scripture passage. This has the advantage of ensuring the focus of the celebration is not only on our sin but especially on God's mercy.

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The Ordinary of the Mass is found on p200 ff of Laudate.

The Lent settings of the Holy, Memorial Acclamation. Lamb of God; and the Creed are provided in a separate leaflet.



### 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*

### Learning to love the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

The key to love of the Sacrament is to know the love that the Lord of the Sacrament has for us, for **you**: his personal love for you in the unique circumstances of your life. A love that is not dimmed by our sin and failings: indeed a love that seems to grow stronger the more we have need of it!

The Sacrament restores us to life. It is healing and encouraging. It offers the lift and the hope that we need (and, boy, do we need it now!)

Pope Francis writing this week to young people said: 'Christ is alive and he wants you to be alive! He is in you, he is with you and he never abandons you. However far you may wander, he is always there, the Risen One. He calls you and he waits for you to return to him and start over again. When you feel you are growing old out of sorrow, resentment or fear, doubt or failure, he will always be there to restore your strength and your hope.'

We are never too old to grow young again! Don't miss out the chance!!

### Masses Week of the Fifth Sunday of Lent

S	6	Fifth Sunday of Lent	1700 1800	Exposition and Sacrament of Confession Anne and Brian McDonnell RIP (Burke)
Su	7	<i>Psalter Week 1 and Lenten Proper</i>	0900 1100 1700	Michael O'Hara RD (Redmond) For the parish <i>Prayerful reading of 1 Peter, followed by brief Exposition and Evening Prayer</i>
M	8		1000* <b>1030</b> 1500	Tom Hempenstall RD (Fegan) <b>Reflection on the Last Words (Benedict Rm)</b> <b>Exposition and Rosary for Vocations</b>
T	9		1000*	<b>Funeral Mass of Betty Sawbridge</b> Richard Moooney RIP (Anniv) (Mooney)
W	10		1000* <b>2-6pm</b> 1930	Joe Kneafcey RD (Sterling) <b>Exposition &amp; individual confessions</b> <b>Penance Service</b>
Th	11			
F	12	<i>Day of Prayer for Survivors of Abuse</i>	1000 1900*	Mass w St Nicholas Schl Gary Murphy Anniv (Parkes) <b>followed by 30 mins exposition</b>
S	13	<b>Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord</b> <i>Psalter Week 2 and Lenten Proper</i>	1700 1800	<b>Exposition and Sacrament of Confession</b> Audrey Gregory RIP Anniv
Su	14		0900 1100 1700	Caroline McGonigle RIP Philip Cassera RIP (Cassera) <i>Prayerful reading of 1 Peter, followed by brief Exposition and Evening Prayer</i>

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

**Exposition: & Vespers** weekly during Lent, 5-6pm; **& Rosary** Mon at 3pm

**Reconciliation** Sat. 1700-1730 (Exposition until 1740) and by arrangement.

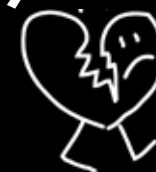
**Baptism, Matrimony, Anointing of the Sick:** by arrangement.

**Nourishing prayer at home:** [livingeucharist.wordpress.com/](http://livingeucharist.wordpress.com/)

**Please pray for sick parishioners** including Joan James, Pat Serafinas; Thomas Stevenson; Peter & Olwyn Foster; Lea Burke and Peggy Gallagher. **Please pray** for Betty Sawbridge who died recently, and whose funeral Mass is at 10am on Tuesday 9th April, and for June Furley, Attilio Bisso, Breda Corbett, Anne Murphy, Audrey Gregory, May Kerrins, Bernard Murphy and all whose anniversaries of death are at this time: **Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, may they rest in peace.**

**NB** To include names on the list of sick parishioners please complete the form available in the porch and pass to Fr Allen so we meet the requirements of current Data Protection legislation.

**Lord Jesus,  
Son of God,  
have mercy  
on me,  
a sinner.**



### Be Prepared!

#### PENITENTIAL SERVICES

- Mon 8/4 Holy Trinity, Sutton Coldfield 7pm
- Tues 9/4 Holy Cross, Walmley, 7pm
- Weds 10/4 St Nicholas. **2-6pm** Exposition & individual confessions; **7.30pm** Penance Service
- Tues 16 April, Erdington Abbey, 7pm



### Prayer in Holy Week

<b>Palm Sunday</b> 14 April	Mass: 6pm Saturday, and 9am & 11am Sunday
Mon 15	• Mass at 10am
Tues 16	
Weds 17	• Mass at 10am • <i>Chrism Mass at St Chad's Cathedral, 11.30am</i>
<b>Maundy Thursday</b> 18 April	• 7.30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper. • (Optional!) <i>Watching at altar of repose, ending with Night Prayer at 10.45pm</i>
<b>Good Friday</b> 19 April	• 9.30am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer • 11am Stations of the Cross (beginning in playground of St Nicholas School) • 3pm Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Passion • 7pm Quiet prayer at the Cross, and Night Prayer
<b>Holy Saturday</b> 20 April	• 10am Morning Prayer and Office of Readings • 8pm Easter Vigil
<b>Easter Sunday</b> 21 April	• Mass at 9am & 11am • 4.30pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Evening Prayer

## Family Stations of the Cross Good Friday, 11am

There will be a rehearsal at 2pm on Monday 15 April for ALL who wish to be involved in acting out the parts of the Passion in this service.

All children and adults are welcome to come and take a part.



## For the sick and those who care for them

A simple and brief monthly service of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, with prayer for the sick and for carers, and the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. Followed by light lunch.

**11am on First Fridays (usually). Next service is April 12th**

## Shop 'til you drop (in the parish Repository!)

Easter cards and Holy Communion gifts all in stock now! Don't wait until they're all gone!!



## A Weekend of Discovery A Lifetime of Love

Enrich your Marriage  
with a Non-Residential  
Marriage Encounter Weekend

Saint Mary's On The Hill  
Wednesbury  
29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> June 2019

- This is an enrichment weekend for ordinary, good, marriages.
- Marriage Encounter weekends have proven, time and again, to be of immense value to couples and their relationship, however long they have been married.
- All discussions are private to the participating couples. There is no group work.
- Take advantage of a weekend close to you and

Give yourselves and your relationship a treat!

For further information check out our website:

[www.wwme.org.uk](http://www.wwme.org.uk)

Or contact Phil & Rita Jackson

TEL: 0121 244 7762

EMAIL: wackojacko456@hotmail.com

## Parish Lent cards

It's far from being  
too late...

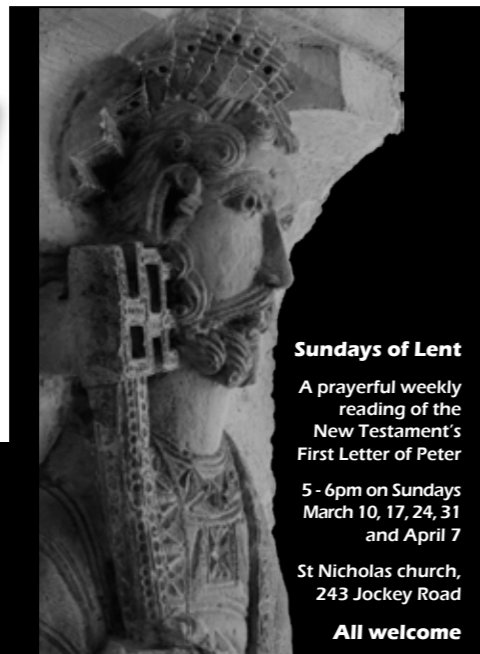
Take a handful and spread them around. Leave them on buses and in cafes, in offices - anywhere and everywhere. Share the good news.



Why read the First Letter of Peter?

1. It is Scripture, the word of God.
2. It explores what it means to be a Christian in the world.

As Lenten reading, it prepares us for our Easter renewal of Baptismal promises.



## Sundays of Lent

A prayerful weekly reading of the New Testament's First Letter of Peter

5 - 6pm on Sundays  
March 10, 17, 24, 31  
and April 7

St Nicholas church,  
243 Jockey Road

All welcome

## Prayer for Survivors of Abuse

This year the Bishops have asked the Church in England and Wales to keep Friday 12 April as a Day of Prayer for Survivors of Abuse.

The Survivors will be the focus of our prayer at Mass and during Exposition on Friday. Do try and come. If you cannot, please find time to pray for them and their families during the day.

We have plenty of reasons to pray:

- For the strength and perseverance of those who bear this pain.
- For those who have been caught up in the circles of mistrust, silence and complicity which emanate from this abuse.
- For repentance and renewal for all who have failed in their duty to protect and respond to the victims of these crimes.
- For a renewal in the life of our Church that has become a lodging place for this evil.

*Heavenly Father, who loves and cares for all of your children, especially the smallest and most vulnerable, we entrust to you the lives of the many children and vulnerable adults, who have been sexually abused, and whose trust and innocence have been destroyed. Help us to hear their cries of pain and to take responsibility for so many broken lives.*

*We pray that within their communities and families they may find understanding and support so that with the help of your grace their wounds may be healed, and they may again know peace.*

*Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who shared our weakness in all things but sin, and lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit forever and ever. Amen.*

**and Coffees in Benedict Room** after each Sunday Mass. All are welcome.

**Preparation for Baptism of Infants.** The next preparation programme starts on Saturday 18th May from 11am-12 noon in the Benedict Room. Pl see Fr Allen before hand for an application form.

**Travelling Solo lunch** All who 'travel solo in life' for whatever reason are warmly invited to meet in Benedict Room

for coffee after the 11am Mass on Sunday April 7th, and then join the group for a pub lunch.

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

**St Nicholas World Development Group** Members have recently returned from a visit to FML Kabarole school in Uganda. Hear about the progress of the school at our *Thank You event* on 5 May 12-2pm in the Carpenter's Arms. Follow us on FaceBook - facebook.com/StNicholasWDG and Twitter - @StNicholasWDG'

## Diocese

**The Archbishop's Pastoral Letter** is available from our parish blog from 11am this Sunday; also at [www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk](http://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk)

**Stories from the Holy Land:** CAFOD meeting for deanery volunteers and supporters Tues 7 May, 7.00pm. Meeting and simple bring-and-share supper.

## Dads' Get Together

The next meeting is on Monday 8th April at 8pm. It will include a reflection from Paul Wildman on being a dad. Lively conversation, with nice food and drink too.

**Parish Book Club:** 8pm on Monday May 6 to discuss *The Rotter's Club* by Jonathan Coe. Three teenage friends grow up in 1970s Brum watching their lives change as their world gets involved with IRA bombs, progressive and punk rock, girls and political strikes. All are welcome - and if you know someone who is isolated do please consider inviting them to come with you...

## Confirmation 2019

All candidates are asked to write a brief note to Fr Allen this week, to confirm the details of your Lent/Summer service-project.

Please confirm what you have chosen to do in service of the parish community or other local community, the time commitment each week, and why you chose your particular project.



Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Sutton Coldfield. Hear from our *Step into the Gap* volunteer, Caroline Collins, about her visit to the Holy Land, and CAFOD projects, partners and communities supported there. We'll also have a look at our exciting new ambition No One Beyond Reach and Our Common Home Climate Campaign. All very welcome! To book your place, please email [rgriffith@cafod.org.uk](mailto:rgriffith@cafod.org.uk) or ring 01922 722944.

**Passion** A day organised by the Kenelm Youth Trust for 14-30 year-olds to support faith through inspirational speakers, fellowship, games and activities. Explore the Passion of Christ. For more information or to book tickets (£5), please email [megan.cox@kenelmyouthtrust.org.uk](mailto:megan.cox@kenelmyouthtrust.org.uk).

**Mass of Thanksgiving with Bishop Byrne** at St Chad's Cathedral on Tuesday 18 June 2019 at 12 noon - to celebrate his appointment to Hexham and Newcastle

**Young People's Summer Camp 2019**  
Book now for Week 1: Aug 4-8 or Week

## Interested in learning more about our Catholic faith?

### Maybe considering becoming Catholic?

Come and meet with Fr Allen on Tuesday 30th April, at 7.30pm, watch a video about Catholic faith in Jesus, and chat about what sort of help or support you might find helpful in exploring where you stand on things, and where you might want to go with them..



2: Aug 11-15. Experience a life-changing encounter with God in a way like never before through powerful moments of prayer, crazy activities, exciting day trips, challenging talks and so much more... Don't miss out on your place at Summer Camp 2019! For more information email [beccy.roseman@kenelmyouthtrust.org.uk](mailto:beccy.roseman@kenelmyouthtrust.org.uk)

**St Joseph's Home, Coleshill**, offers Catholic residential care to older people and those living with dementia. Ring 01675 434500 for details.

**OL of Lourdes Catholic Primary School** seek Deputy Head for 1st Sept. <http://www.ourladyoflourdesprimary.com/vacancies-at-olol/>

**Fundraising at Maryvale.** Singing Friar. Fri 10 May. 6.30pm. Tickets £7, available from 0121 360 8118

## Pray with Pope Francis

The Pope's prayer intention for April is for doctors and their humanitarian collaborators in war-torn areas, who risk their lives to save the lives of others.

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

The great calamity of today's wars! Where the price is paid by the weak, the poor, children, and those who have no resources to carry on. Let us consider that the Lord is pained in His heart, and let us draw near to the Lord and speak to Him, saying: 'Lord, observe these things; I understand you.' Let us console the Lord: 'I understand you, and I am with you. I accompany you in prayer and intercede for all of these calamities which are the fruit of the devil who wants to destroy the work of God.'

Pope Francis

- Pray for Christian brothers and sisters who meet with persecution, and who live in fear of violence.
- Pray for courage and generosity on the part of doctors, and other aid workers - and for generosity on those who give financial support to their work.
- Pray for peace and for healing of all hurts.

