

Preparing for the Jubilee Year

Evangelii Gaudium Sunday - today - calls us to be joyous in proclaiming our faith. Evangelii Gaudium is Latin for "Joy of the Gospel". The day's retiring collection supports the work carried out by the Mission Directorate on behalf of the Bishops' Conference.

Pope Francis calls us to a Jubilee Year in 2025 with the theme Pilgrims of Hope. He invites the whole Church to prepare for the Jubilee in the two years prior by: (1)in 2023 reflecting on the four Constitutions of the 2nd Vatican Council; (2) in 2024, deepening our prayer life, with a focus on the Lord's Prayer.

To learn more - and for helpful videos - go to our parish Blog: https://stnicholasboldmere.wordpress.com

Children starting school in September 2024?

St Nicholas Catholic Primary School invites prospective parents to a short presentation about the school and a tour of the school. This is an opportunity to see the school 'in action' and answer any questions you may have about the admissions process.

Please contact the school office on 0121 355 2649 or enquiry@stnicholassutton.org.uk to book a place on any of Mon 13/11 at 9.15am Tues 14/11 at 1.30pm; Weds 15/11 at 11am; Thurs 16/11 at 2.30pm.

Colour and Light

A gathering for all those who want to enjoy making art (of all sorts and at all levels) Meets in the Benedict Room each Wednesday from 1-3pm (access from behind the church).

All are welcome



Date for 2023's St Nicholas Fair

The Fair this year will be on November 18th and 19th, after all Sunday Masses. Volunteers for running stalls to support parish charities. Others welcome to apply for 'private' stalls - available for small fee.

Preparation for Baptism of Infants

Our next series of Baptism preparation meetings begins with a meeting in the Benedict Room, at 12noon on Saturday 2nd December. To register, please see Fr Allen.

Journey in Faith: Support for adults who have not been baptised, or wish to be received into the Catholic Church - or make their first communion or be confirmed. Interested? Please speak with Fr Allen.



Justice and Peace Assembly 28/10/23

Climate Action in Birmingham Archdiocese

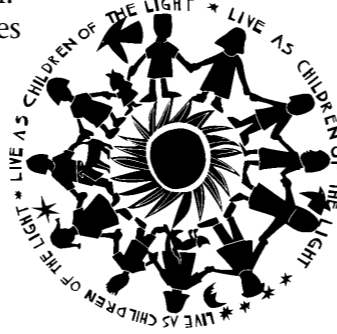
Meeting from 10-3pm in the Grimshaw Room at St Chad's Cathedral, B4 6HJ.

Would anyone be able to pick up a person from Oscott Village for the 11am Mass on Sunday and take them home afterwards? This person can no longer get to and from Mass independently. If you could help please call the SVP on 07548 937287.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

takes place this Sunday at 9am. Further dates for these Liturgies of the Word are 9am on this term are Sunday October 8th and 22nd *, November 5th; December 3rd and 17th*

On the Sundays marked * the 9am Mass is followed by a social gathering in the Benedict Room for young parents and children.



Ready to Serve? Meetings for youngsters to introduce them to the ministries.

- Meeting for servers-to-be: After 6pm Mass on Saturday 23rd September OR after 9am Mass on 24th September
- Meeting for readers-to-be: After 6pm Mass on Saturday 30th September OR after 9am Mass on 1st October

Meetings will last c.30 minutes



Coming to Confession?

The Bishops' Conference has advised that, due to the sacred nature of the confessional, active mobile phones should not be brought into the confessional. They should not just be put to silent mode but should be turned off before entering the confessional.

This is because, even if in silent mode, phones can still listen-in to conversations and artificial intelligence algorithms identify items of interest to potential advertisers. This technology does not affect every network but must be presumed to be operative because it cannot be proven otherwise.

Mass for Vocations

2pm Thursday 28th September at Erdington Abbey, including schools for the John Paul II MultiAcademy. Join the Deanery as we pray for Vocations.



St Nicholas Catholic Church, Boldmere

Address: 243 Jockey Rd., Boldmere, Sutton Coldfield, B73 5US

Website: www.stnicholasboldmere.co.uk

E-mail: stnicholas.boldmere@rcaob.org.uk Telephone: 0121 354 1763

Parish Blog: www.stnicholasboldmere.wordpress.com

Parish Priest: Fr Allen Morris Deacon: Rev John Garvey

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

SEPTEMBER 2023: PARISH MASSES THIS WEEK

Sa	23	6pm	25th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Decsd of Clark family (Platt)
Su	24	9am		Vincent , Louisa Byrne & family (O'B)
		11am		For the parish
M	25	10am		June Nicholas RIP (Cattell)
T	26	10am		
W	27	10am	St Vincent de Paul	
Th	28			
F	29	7pm	Feast of the Archangels	For those in prison
Sa	30	6pm	26th Sunday in Ordinary Time	John Gordon RD (Kenny)
Su	1	9am		For the parish
		11am		Elizabeth Middleton RD (Brookes)

Anointing of the Sick: Next celebration is 29th September 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 Terry Morris, Chrissie Newstead, Fr Michael Ho, Brenda Davies; Rita Rhodes, Stephen Burke; Lesley Devlin & Jean Lawlor. Please pray for Alan Smail, Audrey Fryer, Martin Murphy, Edward Madden, Olwyn Foster, Val McDonald, Edward Price and all whose passing is remembered at this time.

Please note that envelopes for November Masses for the Dead are available in the porch.

RESOURCES FOR PRAYER.

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

WEEKDAY SOCIAL. Tuesday in the Benedict Room after the 10am Mass. All are welcome.

PARISH CAR PARK Free parking for one hour is available for anyone at anytime in our parish carpark. Automatic free parking permits are issued to cover parking on Saturdays between 5.30pm and 7.30pm; on Sundays between 8am and 2pm; on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays between 9.30am & 11.30am and Fridays between 6.30pm & 8.30pm. At other times, if on site for parish meetings and the like - 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 Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Mary Rose. She can be contacted at: sg.stnicholas.boldmere@rcaob.org.uk or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/ safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concern.

CELEBRATE Trust produce activity packs based on the liturgical seasons of the Church to help you, your children and your teenagers play, pray, and engage with faith. https://www.celebratetrust.org/onlinefamilyactivitypacks

Thoughts as we are invited to gather for prayer

GATHERING

The People of God are summoned
... come together ...
... enter in ...
... assemble ...
... congregate ...
... converge ...
... connect
... meet ...
... join ...
... bond ...
... unite ...

Where two or more
are gathered together in my name,
there am I in the midst of them.

Barbara Schmich

GENUFLECTING

Have you noticed how many people wobble as they go down on one knee? Those who stand on their own two feet my think themselves strong, in charge of their own live. Genuflecting, we surrender our illusions and admit: we are vulnerable, unsteady, defenceless. We falter in the presence of the living God.

KNEELING

knee, kneel, knelt:

ME kneelm, fr OE cneowian akin to OE cneow knee.

The wrestler, forced to his knees....

The lover, proposing on his knees

The plaintiff,

going down on her knees...

The victim,

flinging herself to her knees...

The visionary, dropping to his knees...

The beggar, grovelling on her knees...

The loyal subject, falling to her knees...

the loser, brought to his knees...

The worshipper, taking to his knees...

...before our God, we are all of these.

Mark Searle

From Liturgical Gestures, Words, Objects.

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for Pastoral Liturgy

The Introductory Rites


Opening Song

Come, Lord Jesus, come.
Come, take my hands, take them for Your work.
Take them for Your service Lord.
Take them for Your glory, Lord, Come, Lord Jesus, come.
Come, Lord Jesus, take my hands.

Coe, Lord Jesus, come.
Come, take my eyes, may they shine with joy.
Take them for Your service, Lord.
Take them for Your glory, Lord. Come, Lord Jesus, come.
Come, Lord Jesus, take my eyes.

Come, Lord Jesus, come.
Come take my feet, may they walk Your path.
Take them for Your service, Lord.
Take them for Your glory, Lord. Come, Lord Jesus, come.
Come, Lord Jesus, take my feet.

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.

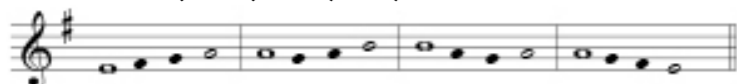
The Collect

The Liturgy of the Word

Isaiah 55:6-9

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found, call to him while he is still near. Let the wicked man abandon his way, the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him, to our God who is rich in forgiving; for my thoughts are not your thoughts, my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who speaks. Yes, the heavens are as high above earth as my ways are above your ways, my thoughts above your thoughts.

Psalms 144(145):2-3,8-9,17-18



I will bless you day after day
and praise your name for ever.
The Lord is great, highly to be praised,
his greatness cannot be measured.

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures.

The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
who call on him from their hearts.

Philippians 1:20-24,27

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results – I do not know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake.

Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Blessings on the King who comes, in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heavens! Alleluia!

Matthew 20:1-16

Jesus said to his disciples: “The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, “You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage.” So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, “Why have you been standing here idle all day?” “Because no one has hired us” they answered. He said to them, “You go into my vineyard too.” In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, “Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first.” So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. “The men who came last” they said “have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day’s work in all the heat.” He answered one of them and said, “My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?” Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.’

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 Sundays October 1st and October 21st.

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.

Sanctus



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly
Lord God of hosts. Heav-en and earth are full of your
glo-ry. Ho - san-na in the high-est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na, ho -
san-na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

The mystery of faith

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we
proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.

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The Communion Rite

Communion thanksgiving

Come, Lord Jesus, come.
Come, take my heart, fill it with Your love.
Take it for Your service, Lord.
Take it for Your glory, Lord. Come, Lord Jesus, come.
Come, Lord Jesus, take my heart.

Come, Lord Jesus, come.
Come, take my life, take it for Your own.
Take it for Your service, Lord.
Take it for Your glory, Lord. Come, Lord Jesus, come.
Come, Lord Jesus, take my life.

Prayer after Communion

Concluding Rites

Pope Francis on our need for Sunday Mass

Without Christ we are condemned to be dominated by everyday weariness, with its worries, and by fear of the future. The Sunday encounter with the Lord gives us the strength to experience the present with confidence and courage, and to go forth with hope. For this reason we Christians go to encounter the Lord on Sunday, in the Eucharistic celebration.

Eucharistic communion with Jesus, Risen and ever-Living, anticipates the Sunday without sunset, when there will be no more weariness nor pain, nor sorrow nor tears, but only the joy of living fully and forever with the Lord. Sunday Mass also speaks to us of this blessed repose, teaching us to entrust ourselves during the course of the week to the hands of the Father who is in heaven.

How can we respond to those who say that it is of no use going to Mass, even on Sunday, because the important thing is to live well, to love our neighbour? It is true that the quality of Christian life is measured by the capacity to love, as Jesus said: “By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another” (Jn 13:35); but how can we practice the Gospel without drawing the energy necessary to do so, one Sunday after another, from the inexhaustible source of the Eucharist? We do not go to Mass in order to give something to God, but to receive what we truly need from him. We are reminded of this by the Church’s prayer, which is addressed to God in this way: “although you have no need of our praise, yet our thanksgiving is itself your gift, since our praises add nothing to your greatness but profit us for salvation” (Missal, Common Preface IV).

In conclusion, why do we go to Mass on Sundays? It is not enough to respond that it is a precept of the Church; this helps to preserve its value, but alone does not suffice. We Christians need to participate in Sunday Mass because only with Jesus’ grace, with his living presence within us and among us, can we put his commandment into practice, and thus be his credible witnesses.