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Pope Francis calls the whole Church over the next couple of years. *Archbishop Bernard's Letter and further information can be found at <https://www.stnicholasboldmere.co.uk/synod.html>*

The listening process begins in the local Churches of the world - in the dioceses and their parishes. Then progressively, across the Church, there will be a more concentrated sharing of people's experiences and understandings and sense of vocation. Then in October 2023 Bishops and others from around the world meet in Rome for further listening and reflection.

The temptation for many of us will simply be to talk! But we are all of us called to listen - to each other, and especially to those that we might often not pay much attention to.

There are many in the Church who can feel no one really listens to them. My own experience suggests this can be true as much of bishops as it can be of other people. Many people feel that the wider Church does not welcome them, or value the contribution they make. This is regularly heard for example from some - even many - people of colour, from women, or people who are divorced or gay or the old or the young.

We do not have to agree with others, but Pope Francis invites us to spend time, and make the effort, to listen to them respectfully and with the expectation that we can learn from each other.

This week there is a meeting between Archbishop and Bernard and priests of local deaneries to consider how things might best begin in Birmingham Archdiocese.

All are welcome to meet with Fr Allen and hear what was said at (brief!) open parish meetings live in the

Benedict Room (Sat 30 Oct @ 10am) or on-line (Sun 31 Oct @ 5.30pm).

In the meantime we might all find it helpful to reflect on the following questions?

What has been your experience of 'journeying together' in your parish/church community?  
When does this journeying bring joy?  
When does it bring pain or sadness?

Fr. Allen

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name.

With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts;

Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder. Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life, and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.

All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. Amen.

*A prayer for our journey together*

## What's gone wrong? What might be done about it?

A new Sunday evening Group to reflect on faults and failings in Church and Society- where open discussion is welcomed - is something like a book club.

People are asked to read something in preparation for the meeting/discussion - but this is to focus us, not to constrain us! And there will be something to eat and drink while we talk together.

The theme for the next meeting (21 Nov at 7pm) is **Racism** (using David Harewood's book *Maybe I don't belong here*) and in January **Transgenderism** (17 Jan, 7pm) the book is *Becoming Eve: My journey from Ultra-Orthodox Rabbi to Transgender Woman* by Abby Chava Stein. Both are available through the local library and bookshops, or Amazon!

All are welcome to come and take part - especially the disgruntled and searching. And if that is not you, then maybe you have a disgruntled or searching friend you might encourage to come with you. They might be good for us all.



### St Nicholas Fair 4/5 December

Newman Community Centre  
Deacon Gary is coordinating arrangements. He can be contacted at the parish office.



We need to choose the two charities that profits will be shared between - one local, one overseas. Email your suggestions to [stnicholas.boldmere@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:stnicholas.boldmere@rcaob.org.uk)

**Coffee Morning** Sat 30 Oct, 10am to noon. Francis House. 1c Cofield Road, Boldmere, B73 5SD. All profits go to the Walsingham Association.

### Parish Finances

Gift aiding your offertory donations to the parish greatly help us we balance our parish finances.

To Gift Aid your donations you need to make your offerings either by Standing Order or by Gift Aid envelopes, which ever is most convenient for you. Forms for Gift-Aid Standing Orders and envelopes are available from Fr Allen.



## St Nicholas Catholic Church, Boldmere

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

**Website:** [www.stnicholasboldmere.co.uk](http://www.stnicholasboldmere.co.uk)

**E-mail:** [stnicholas.boldmere@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:stnicholas.boldmere@rcaob.org.uk) **Telephone:** 0121 354 1763

**Parish Blog:** [www.stnicholasboldmere.wordpress.com](http://www.stnicholasboldmere.wordpress.com)

**Parish Priest:** Fr Allen Morris **Deacons:** Revv John Garvey and Gary O'Brien

**Parish Safeguarding:** Mary Rose (0121 354 4730)

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

## Living the Communion of the Church

### A. First Sacraments

Over the coming few weeks children of our parish, and others who attend St Nicholas school, are receiving Holy Communion and Confirmation. Do please keep them in your prayers.

Please pray also for their parents, the sponsors of those who are being confirmed, and others who support the children and their families. Taking part in a celebration of first Sacraments is the easy part! Much more challenging is working to ensure that the Sacrament is worthily received and fruitful in the life of a child as they continue to grow to Christian maturity.

One of the best ways they and we can do this is by praying in response to the Sacrament received. Those who this week make their first communion are invited to pray the following prayer after they have received.

It can serve us all equally well.

*Give thanks to Jesus who has shared his life with you in the gift of his Body and Blood.*

*Then reflect on the following prayer*

Christ has no body now on earth but yours,  
no hands but yours,  
no feet but yours.  
Yours are the eyes through which is to shine Christ's compassion in the world.  
Yours are the feet with which he is to go about doing good.  
Yours are the hands with which he is to bless all people now.

*How will you yourself try to live more lovingly as a result of this Holy Communion?*

*In your prayer, ask Jesus to help you...*

### B. The Synodal Journey

In last week's Pastoral letter, Archbishop Bernard invited us all to find time and opportunity to listen to each other and to reflect on our various experiences of being Christian, called to be Church together. This process will contribute to the Synodal Journey to which *continued on page 4*

## Keeping us ALL safe

The current expectation of the Bishops' Conference (and likely to be the minimum requirements in place until next Spring) is that those attending Mass

- will use the track & trace system, recording contact details for those who do not use the QR code
- wear face-masks
- and sanitise their hands on entering the church.

These three things are **required** of those attending Mass at St Nicholas.

As the level of infection continues to rise - and it is particularly high in our local area - it is especially important that when gathering in numbers and in enclosed places we take such steps to protect those who are most vulnerable.

Do please continue to use the Lateral Flow tests to check your own infection status - not all who are infected and contagious show symptoms.

## PARISH MASSES DURING THE COMING WEEK

Day	Time	Notes
Sa 23	6pm	Dylan Byfield-Lovell RIP (Gill)
Su 24	9am	30th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME For the parish
	11am	
M 25	10am	
T 26	10am	Betty Sawbridge RIP (Sawbridge)
W 27	9am	NB change of time for this week
Th 28		Ss Simon and Jude
Fr 29	11am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament/Anointing of the Sick
	7pm	
Sa 30	6pm	Bill Morrin RD (Devlin)
Su 31	9am	ALL SAINTS Aidan Redmond RIP (Redmond)
	11am	

**Morning Prayer:** Zoom meeting Monday to Fridays at 8.30am

**Rosary:** Zoom meeting, Monday at 7pm

**Lectio:** Zoom meeting, Sunday at 4pm

**Sacrament of Confession:** Friday evenings after 7pm Mass until 8pm; and from 1/10 from 5-5.30pm on Sats

**Anointing of the Sick:** Last Friday of month at 11am

**Please pray for parishioners who are sick** including Jean Lawlor, Stephen Burke, Brenda Davies, Elizabeth Barker, Lyn Hunt; Joan James; Thomas Stevenson. Please pray for Una Hunt whose funeral Mass is 1st November at 11am, Michael McDermott, Margaret Scotton, Eileen Westbury, Bridget Broom, Edna Murray, William Pearce and all whose anniversaries occur at this time. **Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, may they rest in peace.**

**The Introductory Rites** *bring us together as one, and prepare ourselves to listen to the Word of God and to celebrate the Eucharist worthily.*

#### Opening Song

Christ be beside me, Christ be before me,  
Christ be behind me, King of my heart.  
Christ be within me, Christ be below me,  
Christ be above me, never to part.

Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand,  
Christ all around me, shield in the strife.  
Christ in my sleeping, Christ in my sitting,  
Christ in my rising, light of my life.

Christ be in all hearts thinking about me,  
Christ be in all tongues telling of me.  
Christ be the vision in eyes that see me,  
in ears that hear me, Christ ever be.

#### 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:** *The word of God invites us into the unending dialogue between God and his people, a dialogue sealed as we share the Eucharistic food and drink. A brief silence after the readings helps us take the word of God to heart and begin a prayerful response to what we have heard.*

#### Jeremiah 31:7-9

The Lord says this: Shout with joy for Jacob! Hail the chief of nations! Proclaim! Praise! Shout: 'The Lord has saved his people, the remnant of Israel!'

See, I will bring them back from the land of the North and gather them from the far ends of earth; all of them: the blind and the lame, women with child, women in labour: a great company returning here.

They had left in tears, I will comfort them as I lead them back; I will guide them to streams of water, by a smooth path where they will not stumble. For I am a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my first-born son.

#### Psalm 125(126)

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,

it seemed like a dream.  
Then was our mouth filled with laughter,  
on our lips there were songs.

The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels the Lord worked for them!  
What marvels the Lord worked for us!  
Indeed we were glad.

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage  
as streams in dry land.  
Those who are sowing in tears  
will sing when they reap.

They go out, they go out, full of tears,  
carrying seed for the sowing:  
they come back, they come back, full of song,  
carrying their sheaves.

#### Hebrews 5:1-6

Every high priest has been taken out of mankind and is appointed to act for men in their relations with God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins; and so he can sympathise with those who are ignorant or uncertain because he too lives in the limitations of weakness. That is why he has to make sin offerings for himself as well as for the people. No one takes this honour on himself, but each one is called by God, as Aaron was. Nor did Christ give himself the glory of becoming high priest, but he had it from the one who said to him: You are my son, today I have become your father, and in another text: You are a priest of the order of Melchizedek, and for ever.

#### Gospel Acclamation

*Alleluia, alleluia!* I am the light of the world, says the Lord; anyone who follows me will have the light of life. *Alleluia!*

#### Mark 10:46-52

As Jesus left Jericho with his disciples and a large crowd, Bartimaeus (that is, the son of Timaeus), a blind beggar, was sitting at the side of the road. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout and to say, 'Son of David, Jesus, have pity on me.' And many of them scolded him and told him to keep quiet, but he only shouted all the louder, 'Son of David, have pity on me.' Jesus stopped and said, 'Call him here.' So they called the blind man. 'Courage,' they said 'get up; he is calling you.' So throwing off his cloak, he jumped up and went to Jesus. Then Jesus spoke, 'What do you want me to do for you?' 'Rabbuni,' the blind man said to him 'Master, let me see again.' Jesus said to him, 'Go; your faith has saved you.' And immediately his sight returned and he followed him along the road.

#### 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.

#### The Prayer of the Faithful

**The Liturgy of the Eucharist** *ire-presents the Sacrifice of Christ to the Father, and his gift of life renewed to the Church, for the service of his mission.*

#### The Offertory

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** *is a memorial of praise and thanksgiving for God's work of salvation, in in which the Body and Blood of Christ are made present by the power of the Holy Spirit and we join with Christ in offering Sacrifice to the Father*

**Food Bank** *Our next collection is 6/7 November.*  
Donations can also be made via local supermarkets.

#### The Preface Dialogue

*Priest:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And with your spirit.**

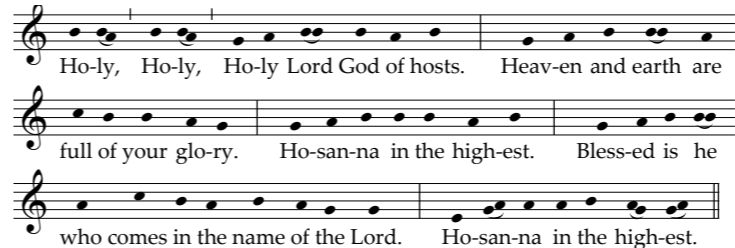
Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

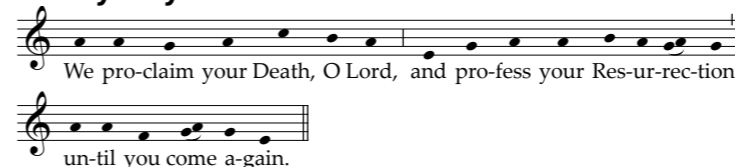
**It is right and just.**

#### Sanctus



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 in the high-est.

#### The mystery of faith.



We pro-claim your Death, O Lord, and pro-fess your Res-ur-rec-tion  
un-til you come a-gain.

**The Communion Rite:** *The Lord offers reconciliation in and with the invitation to share in the food and drink that is his Body and Blood. Love and mercy are the condition and the fruit of communion in the Lord.*

#### The Lord's Prayer

#### Invitation to Communion

#### Song of Thanksgiving

This is my body, broken for you,  
bringing you wholeness, making you free.  
take it and eat it, and when you do,  
do it in love for me.

This is my blood poured out for you,  
bringing forgiveness, making you free.  
Take it and drink it, and when you do,  
do it in love for me.

Filled with my Spirit, how you will grow!  
You are my branches, I am the tree.  
If you are faithful, others will know  
you are alive in me.

Love one another - I have loved you,  
and I have shown you how to be free;  
serve one another, and when you do,  
do it in love for me.

**The Concluding Rites** *send us out to live the love of God. 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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#### Mass for all who have died during the Pandemic

Many of us will have been saddened during the time of the pandemic not only by the death of family or friends but because we were unable to take part in their funeral services.

On All Souls Day, Tuesday 2nd November, come to Mass to remember those who have died, and to offer Mass for them. Sheets are available at the entrance to the church, for you to write the names of those you would like to be remembered at this Mass - **just people who have died during the time of the COVID-crisis.** Please hand your sheet to Fr Allen - and their names will be read out at the Mass

#### Music @ 7pm All Souls Mass

Singers and instrumentalists are invited to volunteer to enrich our celebration. If you want to join the group for 2/11 please come to a 30 minute rehearsal immediately after the 9am Mass THIS SUNDAY, October 24th.