

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.

Taking part in a celebration of first Sacraments is the easy part! Much more challenging is committing to ensure that the Sacrament is 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 Sacraments received. Those who this week make their first communion are invited to pray the following prayer after they have received. It can be a helpful prayer for us all.

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...

Understanding the Synodal Journey

This week Archbishop Bernard met with priests of local deaneries to consider the implication of the call to a 'synodal journey'. This is best understood as an invitation to a new way of being Church, with higher priority being given to listening - to the Holy Spirit and to each other - as we seek to fulfill our call to be Christ for the world.

Introductions to the Journey are being offered on-line by the diocese (<https://bit.ly/3ClcMAb>). Saturday's (brief!) 'live' parish meeting is being repeated on-line (<https://bit.ly/3vOpjK5>) tonight at 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?

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.*

Join a parish outing

November 11th - Armistice Day.

You are invited to join with a group of parishioners to visit the *Poppy Fields* event at Lichfield Cathedral. Some are booking their tickets for 5.30pm and you are of course welcome to join them, or to book tickets for another time convenient to you. A group is also meeting in Lichfield's market square (by the statue!) on the same day at 2.30pm. Again all are welcome. Those who are interested in doing a little drawing or sketching will have the chance to practice their skills - and the shops and cafés and bars are on hand for everyone too.

More details at <https://bit.ly/313NM2D>

Bookings are made at www.lichfield-cathedral.org/

Beware of spam emails! The Archdiocese is aware of spam emails from fraudulent Gmail accounts seeming to come from parish priests. (These emails often include 'parishpastor' and the name of parish priests.) Please be vigilant. If you are in any doubt about an email please contact your parish priest / parish office and check.

Proactive action has been taken by the Diocesan IT team to block such emails but they can still be generated elsewhere and infiltrate email accounts.

Catenians: *Survivors guide to 'burn out' and grasping new opportunities in life.* Mon, 8 Nov, Moor Hall Hotel, 7.30 for 8pm. suttoncoldfieldcatenianscircle232.com

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 Catholic Church, Boldmere

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

Parish Blog: 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

November Prayers for the Dead

On All Souls Day, Tuesday 2nd November, come to the 7pm Mass to remember those who have died during the Pandemic 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 - **who have died during the COVID-crisis**. Please hand your sheet to Fr Allen - and their names will be read out at the Mass.

November services for Blessing Graves

Dates and times for these services have been posted on the parish blog and website, and in the porch.



A prayer leaflet for those who will be making a private visit are also available on-line, and from Fr Allen.

Envelopes for November Masses for the dead are available at entrance to the church.

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.

Iurgently appeal for a new dialogue about how we are shaping the future of our planet. We need a conversation which includes everyone, since the environmental challenge we are undergoing, and its human roots, concern and affects us all.

Pope Francis *Laudato Si'* §14

COP26 is the United Nations climate change conference being held in Glasgow between 31st October and 12th November. It will be attended by leaders from over 200 countries to discuss climate change and how to tackle the global ecological crisis. The conference follows on from a series of summits including the Paris climate talks in 2015, where countries pledged to work together to keep the global temperature rise below 1.5 °C. If we exceed this threshold, millions of the most vulnerable people in



PARISH MASSES DURING THE COMING WEEK

Day	Time	Special Occasion	Notes
Sa 30	6pm	ALL SAINTS	Bill Morrin RD (Devlin)
Su 31	9am 11am		Aidan Redmond RIP (Redmond) For the parish
M 1	11am		Funeral Mass for Una Hunt
T 2	10am 7pm	ALL SOULS	Grace McDermott ints (McDermott) For all who died during the Pandemic
W 3	10am		D'd of family/friends of P&A Redmond
Th 4	7pm	St Charles Borromeo	MASS OF CONFIRMATION
Fr 5			Decsd of Foster and Hodgetts families
Sa 6	6pm	32nd SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME	For the parish
Su 7	9am 11am		Elizabeth McGrath RIP (McGrath) Joseph and Anna Pham RIP (Nguyen)

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 Laurence Rouse who died recently and for Edna Murray, William Pearce, Margaret Dines, Robert Pilley, Peter Dunn 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

*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.

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.*

Apocalypse 7:2-4,9-14

I, John, saw another angel rising where the sun rises, carrying the seal of the living God; he called in a powerful voice to the four angels whose duty was to devastate land and sea, 'Wait before you do any damage on land or at sea or to the trees, until we have put the seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God.' Then I heard how many were sealed: a hundred and forty-four thousand, out of all the tribes of Israel.

After that I saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. They shouted aloud, 'Victory to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!' And all the angels who were standing in a circle round the throne, surrounding the elders and the four an-

imals, prostrated themselves before the throne, and touched the ground with their foreheads, worshipping God with these words, 'Amen. Praise and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and strength to our God for ever and ever. Amen.'

One of the elders then spoke, and asked me, 'Do you know who these people are, dressed in white robes, and where they have come from?' I answered him, 'You can tell me, my lord.' Then he said, 'These are the people who have been through the great persecution, and they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb.'

Psalm 23(24):1-6

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,
the world and all its peoples.
It is he who set it on the seas;
on the waters he made it firm.

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?
Who shall stand in his holy place?
The man with clean hands and pure heart,
who desires not worthless things.

He shall receive blessings from the Lord
and reward from the God who saves him.
Such are the men who seek him,
seek the face of the God of Jacob.

1 John 3:1-3

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us. My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is. Surely everyone who entertains this hope must purify himself, must try to be as pure as Christ.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia! Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened and I will give you rest, says the Lord. *Alleluia!*

Matthew 5:1-12a

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

'How happy are the poor in spirit;
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Happy the gentle: they shall have the earth for their heritage.

Happy those who mourn: they shall be comforted.

Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right:
they shall be satisfied.

Happy the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them.

Happy the pure in heart: they shall see God.

Happy the peacemakers: they shall be called sons of God.

Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right:
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my

account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'

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

Food Bank *Our NEXT collection is NEXT Sunday.*
Donations can also be made via local supermarkets.

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*

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

He is Lord, he is Lord!
He is risen from the dead, and he is Lord!
Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord!

He is King, he is King!
He will draw all nations to him, he is King;
and the time shall be when the world shall sing
that Jesus Christ is King!

He is Love, he is Love!
He has shown us by his life that he is Love;
all his people sing with one voice of joy
that Jesus Christ is Love!

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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**A PRAYER
FOR THE COP26
CLIMATE TALKS**

Loving God,
We praise your
name with all you
have created.

You are present in the whole universe,
and in the smallest of creatures.

We acknowledge the responsibilities you
place upon us as stewards of your creation.

May the Holy Spirit inspire all political
leaders at COP26 as they seek to embrace
the changes needed to foster a more sus-
tainable society. Instil in them the cour-
age and gentleness to implement fairer
solutions for the poorest and most vul-
nerable, and commit their nations to the
care of Our Common Home.

We ask this through Our Lord Jesus
Christ your Son. Amen