

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 sustainable society. Instil in them the courage and gentleness to implement fairer solutions for the poorest and most vulnerable, and commit their nations to the care of Our Common Home.

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



4/5 December Newman Community Centre Arrangements are now in place to make the

Fair a COVID safe zone. As elsewhere people are asked to wear masks when visiting the stalls, but these can be removed in the refreshments room. Deacon Gary is coordinating arrangements. To offer help please contact parish office: stnicholas.boldmere@rcaob.org.uk

The funds raised this year will be divided between the World Development Group and St Chad's Sanctuary.

Some dates for the diary

- Tues 21st December Parish Reconciliation Service at 7pm
- 24th December: Mass at 3pm and 6pm
Mass at 9pm *NB ticketed*
- 25th December: Mass 9am and 11am
- 26th December: Mass 9am and 11am

Parents who would like their children to assist with presentations of the Christmas Story at the 3 and 6pm Masses on Christmas Eve are asked to sign up on the noticeboard nearest the statue of Our Lady. Volunteers (aged 1- 16, or even older!) are sought for readings, and for acting out the story at these Masses.

It is far from clear what the situation will be with COVID come Christmas. However some members of the parish have expressed concern that if the church is overcrowded they will not feel safe to attend. So, as things stand, the 9pm Mass on Christmas Eve (only) will be ticketed and numbers kept to the safest level.

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.



Understanding the Synodal Journey

Recently 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 online by the diocese (<https://bit.ly/3ClcMAB>).

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.*

CAFOD WORLD GIFTS

The true Spirit of Christmas Giving. CAFOD's scheme allows us to buy gifts that benefit the poorest and most needy in this world. The booklet is available at the entrance to the church.



St Nicholas Catholic Church, Boldmere

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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

Remembrance Sunday

Who do we remember?

Those of our family and friends who fought and suffered - often to defend human rights.? Of course.

And sometimes we remember those we fought against. Those fighting in war are often pressed to such service by others, and even those on fighting against justice are often enough the victims of the warmongering of others.

And then there are the civilians - sometimes entirely innocent, and sometimes active supporters, even of unjust wars. But in war the devastation wrought during war is often indiscriminate - because of blood lust in the fighting forces; sometimes because of the weapons used. So it is surely right to remember these too.

And as we are reminded by the current situation in Afghanistan, the consequences of war and its devastating effects impact on people long after 'war has ended.

November 11, Remembrance Day, is also the feast of St Martin of Tours. That day marks the beginning of what used to be called St Martin's Lent, a time of preparation for Christmas which began even before Advent and which was marked by a time of repentance.

War does not begin only in other people. The intolerance and aggression that fuels warmongering begins in the hearts of us all. And troubled hearts can find encouragement and be manipulated by all sorts of malign and corrupting forces.

Maybe we can recover St Martin's Lent for ourselves this year, and use it to pray for peace in our hearts as we prepare for the birth of the Prince of Peace.

Vacancy for part time Supervisor for Newman Community Centre

c 20 hours per month, including covering one weekend a month. If you are interested in learning more then, as soon as possible, please contact either Fr Allen or KayO'Keeffe, the hall manager.

Care for our Common Home



REPAIR
REDUCE
REUSE
RECYCLE

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 13	6pm	33rd SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME
Su 14	9am 11am	
M 15	10am	Anne and Thomas Curtin RIP (Reeves)
T 16	10am	Decsd family and friends of Julie Kyi
W 17	10am	Una Hunt RD (Cullen)
Th 18		
Fr 19	7pm	Dec'd family and friends of Teresa Leese
Sa 20	6pm	Christ the King
Su 21	9am 11am	
		Ints of Gary and Clare O'Brien (Szambir) Jessie Mary Redmond RIP (Redmond) For the parish

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 5-5.30pm on Saturday. (Also by appointment)

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

Please pray for parishioners who are sick including Christina Drozd, Jean Lawlor, Stephen Burke, Brenda Davies, Elizabeth Barker, Lyn Hunt; Joan James; Thomas Stevenson. Please pray for Helena Branningan who has died recently, and for John Delaney, Leslie Cecil, Evelyn Coffey, Hugh Douglas, Brian Hill, Mary Orrock, Mark Foster 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

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now I'm found,
was blind, but now I see.
'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come.

'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me;
his word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.

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.*

Daniel 12:1-3

'At that time Michael will stand up, the great prince who mounts guard over your people. There is going to be a time of great distress, unparalleled since nations first came into existence. When that time comes, your own people will be spared, all those whose names are found written in the Book. Of those who lie sleeping in the dust of the earth many will awake, some to everlasting life, some to shame and everlasting disgrace. The learned will shine as brightly as the vault of heaven, and those who have instructed many in virtue, as bright as stars for all eternity.'

Psalm 15(16):5,8-11

O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup;
it is you yourself who are my prize.
I keep the Lord ever in my sight:
since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm.

And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;
even my body shall rest in safety.

For you will not leave my soul among the dead,
nor let your beloved know decay.

You will show me the path of life,
the fullness of joy in your presence,
at your right hand happiness for ever.

Hebrews 10:11-14,18

All the priests stand at their duties every day, offering over and over again the same sacrifices which are quite incapable of taking sins away. He, on the other hand, has offered one single sacrifice for sins, and then taken his place forever, at the right hand of God, where he is now waiting until his enemies are made into a footstool for him. By virtue of that one single offering, he has achieved the eternal perfection of all whom he is sanctifying. When all sins have been forgiven, there can be no more sin offerings.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Stay awake and stand ready, because you do not know the hour when the Son of Man is coming. *Alleluia!*

Mark 13:24-32

Jesus said to his disciples: 'In those days, after the time of distress, the sun will be darkened, the moon will lose its brightness, the stars will come falling from heaven and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory; then too he will send the angels to gather his chosen from the four winds, from the ends of the world to the ends of heaven.

'Take the fig tree as a parable: as soon as its twigs grow supple and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. So with you when you see these things happening: know that he is near, at the very gates. I tell you solemnly, before this generation has passed away all these things will have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

'But as for that day or hour, nobody knows it, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son; no one but the Father.'

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

Food Bank *Our NEXT collection is Sunday December 5th.* Donations can also be made via local supermarkets.

The Offertory

Be still for the presence of the Lord
the Holy One is here.
Come, bow before him now,
with reverence and fear.
In Him no sin is found,
we stand on holy ground.
Be still for the presence of the Lord,
the Holy one is here.

Be still for the glory of the Lord
is shining all around;
He burns with holy fire,
with splendour He is crowned.
How awesome is the sight,
our radiant King of Light!
Be still, for the glory of the Lord
is shining all around.

Be still for the power of the Lord
is moving in this place.
He comes to cleanse and heal,
to minister His grace.
No work too hard for Him,
in faith receive from Him;
Be still for the power of the Lord
is moving in this place.

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

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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November devotions

Blessing of Graves 2021

- *Handsworth Cemetery: 14th Nov, 2pm*
- *Oscott Cemetery: 13th November, 3pm*
- *Rectory Road Cemetery: 14th Nov, 2.30pm*
- *Witton Cemetery: 28th November, 2.30pm*

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

Prayer leaflets for those making private visits to graves are available from Fr Allen

Names of deceased family and friends can be placed in the basket in front of the font. (Please do not leave money in this basket.)