

Resourcing ourselves... *cont'd from page 1*

rectory for Catechesis that has recently been published in Rome places renewed emphasis on this, exploring what is meant by mystagogy.

That word, mystagogy, may be unfamiliar but it is basically being taught by reflection on the Liturgy. The Church has an expectation that we should continue to learn from our personal encounters with Jesus in the signs, symbols and actions of the Liturgy. These things should not obscure him from us, for they are intended to be the very means by which he manifests his presence and meaning so that we may be helped to mature in our faith, and as human persons. The Church has an expectation that those responsible for the ministering of the Liturgy, especially, should have an understanding of this language so that through their work they may minister the Liturgy in ways that best enable it to speak and to do its work on us, so we may continue Christ's work in our daily lives.

This doesn't 'just happen'. It requires a certain commitment and making the most of opportunities that present themselves to deepen the knowledge we may already have, get help to fill in any gaps, and learn how to make the best use of that knowledge and of our skills.

Although I want especially to strengthen and develop our ministry team, these sort of things are good for us all to have greater familiarity with. It is especially helpful for parents who want to help their children to a deeper understanding and participation in the Liturgy, but who may not themselves have moved on from what they had the opportunity to learn in primary school. And it can everyone's personal engagement with the Liturgy so as to better find nourishment and help there.

Here are some things you might like to consider

- Come and join in a meeting at church to reflect on how we might best reintroduce song at Mass, and develop music more generally in the parish. If you sing or play an instrument, or want to sing or play, or are just interested. Meeting in Benedict Room after 9am Mass on Sunday 4th July.

Opportunities are available to refresh knowledge and learning - or even help you get your toes wet if you have not been directly involved in such things before.

- The Society of St Gregory (SSG) - the national society for music and liturgy - is offering two opportunities for people to refresh their knowledge and learn something more - or even gently get their toes wet if they have never been involved in thinking about liturgy things before.
- The SSG Summer School from 4-6 August (Weds to Friday evenings) to look at Scripture, Liturgy and Music and has a range of interesting speakers. A chance to learn alongside other parish ministers from our Archdiocese and around the country. The SSG also offers *Taking Liturgy Seriously*, an on-line course - six modules of 3 or 4 1-hour sessions, held over a year. Set at an introductory level it explores

the fundamental of Liturgy. Each module will provide a basic theological and historical overview of one area of the Liturgy - for example Celebration of Word and Sacrament, The Paschal Mystery, Healing and Forgiveness, Imitation, Commitment, Prayer. Within each theme there will be a look at how we apply general principles of liturgy, how music and space influence the way we celebrate and above all how to help people to pray together. The intention is to give people more confidence to foster and lead liturgy in their own parish and community - but also to participate more fruitfully.

Help with the costs of taking part in this formation is available from the parish - details from Fr Allen.

All this was in hand before the Archbishop's Pastoral Letter was made available, but his letter is a further pointer to the timeliness of what is being promoted. If you are interested, then do come to the meeting on 4/7 or speak to Fr Allen as soon as possible.

Children starting school? Questions about how to support them in their faith?

A booking system is available for parents for brief meetings with Fr Allen either because their children are starting school and they'd like to just say hello, or because they have some particular questions. All are welcome - but meeting up is especially helpful for parents whose children are not in a Catholic school who may otherwise feel less supported. *For the moment appointments are being made using paper diary available from Fr A before or after Sunday Mass.*

Baptism: The next baptism preparation course begins with a Zoom meeting at 12noon on 12 July. Parents interested in taking part are asked to see Fr Allen after Mass today to get further details.

Enrolment for Preparation for Communion and Confirmation.

Application forms to be part of the parish preparation for these Sacraments of Initiation are available for families this week. i.e. for children now in year 2 who will prepare for First Communion and in year 5 who will prepare for Confirmation).

There is a Zoom meeting for all participating parents at 7.30pm on 6 July.

Please pray for Gary O'Brien being instituted as Acolyte, 7pm Mass on Friday, 16th July; and for the young parishioners preparing for confirmation in November - and whose chosen patron saints are now on the prayer board

Diocesan vacancy for Data Compliance Manager. Details at <https://bit.ly/3gJu3dM>

Aston Villa are offering *Toddler Tots football sessions* for children aged 2-3. in Boldmere, if there is enough local interest. Interested? Let them know by filling in form at <https://bit.ly/2Sr60ap> before 5 July.



St Nicholas Catholic Church, Boldmere

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Website: www.stnicholasboldmere.co.uk **Telephone:** 0121 354 1763
Parish Blog: www.stnicholasboldmere.wordpress.com

Parish Priest: Fr Allen Morris **E-mail:** stnicholas.boldmere@rcaob.org.uk
Parish Safeguarding: Mary Rose (0121 354 4730)
Our Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No. 234216

God of the living, in whose image we have been formed with imperishable life as our destiny, dispel from your people the fear of death and awaken within us the faith that saves. Bid us rise from the death of sin to take our place in the new creation.

Returning to (sort of) normal...

- Simple monthly services of Exposition and anointing of the sick will resume on Friday 25th June at 11am. We cannot resume the post-prayer lunch just yet, but will try to do so as soon as it is permitted under Covid guidance. Future dates 23/7; 27/8; 24/9; 29/10.
- Two ministers will distribute Holy Communion at all Sunday Masses from 3rd/4th July. Fr Allen will be assisted either by Deacon John or by a lay minister of Holy Communion. *Communion will continue to be distributed under 1 kind for the foreseeable future. Covid-safe procedures will of course be followed by all ministers.*

Thank you for your donations last Sunday which raised £226.89 for the Day for Life collection. There is a retiring collection today for Peter's Pence. This directly supports the ministry and work of Pope Francis.

Open Parish meeting: 7th July at 7.30pm

Because of lockdown restrictions this meeting will be by Zoom, and will end at 8.30pm

The meeting offers an opportunity to discuss the life of our parish going forward. Particular topics scheduled for the meeting are the Newman Centre; Redecoration of the church; Parish Liturgy and Catechesis and how we begin to respond to the Archbishop's Pastoral Letter.

If you have questions etc. regarding other things. please submit them in writing to Fr Allen in advance of the meeting.

If safeguarding measures are relaxed earlier to allow a face to face meeting we will make the most of that opportunity.

Keeping Safe at Mass

Face coverings: Regulations require members of the congregation, aged 5 and over, to wear face-coverings over their nose and mouth when in church. **Social distancing:** Please keep a social distance of 1m from anyone not of your household.

Please do not stay in benches for conversation after Mass has ended. Instead leave the church promptly and keep 'safe distance'.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Preparing for the future

Looking forward we can never be too sure what the future will hold. However, hopefully soon we can return to having song at all our Masses, as the Church expects. And the time after the worst of the pandemic also gives us an opportunity to look again at how we celebrate the Church's Liturgy - both the regular celebration of Mass and the other Sacraments and liturgies.

Recently a good deal of work has been done in the Archdiocese on helping people to see the essential connection between what and how we pray and celebrate and the faith we seek to live and to share. The *Di-* *continued on page 4*

PARISH MASSES DURING THE COMING WEEK

Day	Time	Notes
Sa 26	4pm	For the parish
	6pm	13th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Su 27	9am	Tommy Quinlisk RIP (Gill)
	11am	D'd of Fitzpatrick & O'Gorman families Bridie Grealish RIP
M 28	10am	St Irenaeus Danny O'Connor RIP (O'Connor)
T 29	10am	Ss PETER and PAUL Anne Brian McDonnell RIP (Burke)
	7pm	
W 30	10am	Thanksgiving: Sacred Heart (Byrne)
Th 1		
F 2	7pm	Ints Fr David Lloyd (Sterling)
Sa 3	4pm	For the parish
	6pm	14th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Su 4	9am	Thanksgiving (Leo Barron)
	11am	Sylvia Kahn RIP (Drozd)

Please pray for sick parishioners including Brenda Davies, Elizabeth Barker, Lyn Hunt; Joan James; Thomas Stevenson. Please pray for Brigid PryorShiela Duckworth, Austin McTaff and all whose anniversaries occur at this time. **Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, may they rest in peace.**

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

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.*

Wisdom 1:13-15, 2:23-24

Death was not God's doing,
he takes no pleasure in the extinction of the living.
To be – for this he created all;
the world's created things have health in them,
in them no fatal poison can be found,
and Hades holds no power on earth;
for virtue is undying.
Yet God did make man imperishable,
he made him in the image of his own nature;
it was the devil's envy that brought death into the world,
as those who are his partners will discover.

Psalm 29(30):2,4-6,11-13

I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me
and have not let my enemies rejoice over me.
O Lord, you have raised my soul from the dead,
restored me to life from those who sink into the grave.

Sing psalms to the Lord, you who love him,
give thanks to his holy name.
His anger lasts a moment; his favour all through life.
At night there are tears, but joy comes with dawn.

The Lord listened and had pity.
The Lord came to my help.
For me you have changed my mourning into dancing:
O Lord my God, I will thank you for ever.

2 Corinthians 8:7,9,13-15

You always have the most of everything – of faith, of eloquence, of understanding, of keenness for any cause, and the biggest share of our affection – so we expect you to put the most into this work of mercy too. Remember how generous the Lord Jesus was: he was rich, but he became poor for your sake, to make you rich out of his poverty. This does not mean that to give relief to others you ought to make things difficult for yourselves: it is a question of balancing what happens to be your surplus now against their present need, and one day they may have something to spare that will supply your own need. That is how we strike a balance: as scripture says: The man who gathered much had none too much, the man who gathered little did not go short.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life; you have the message of eternal life. *Alleluia!*

Mark 5:21-43

When Jesus had crossed in the boat to the other side, a large crowd gathered round him and he stayed by the lakeside. Then one of the synagogue officials came up, Jairus by name, and seeing him, fell at his feet and pleaded with him earnestly, saying, 'My little daughter is desperately sick. Do come and lay your hands on her to make her better and save her life.' Jesus went with him and a large crowd followed him; they were pressing all round him.

Now there was a woman who had suffered from a haemorrhage for twelve years; after long and painful treatment under various doctors, she spent all she had without being any the better for it, in fact, she was getting worse. She had heard about Jesus, and she came up behind him through the crowd and touched his cloak. 'If I can touch even his clothes,' she had told herself 'I shall be well again.' And the source of the bleeding dried up instantly, and she felt in herself that she was cured of her complaint. Immediately aware that power had gone out from him, Jesus turned round in the crowd and said, 'Who touched my clothes?' His disciples said to him, 'You see how the crowd is pressing round you and yet you say, "Who touched me?"' But he continued to look all round to see who had done it. Then the woman came forward, frightened and trembling because she knew what had happened to her, and she fell at his feet and told him the whole truth. 'My daughter,' he said 'your faith has restored you to health; go in peace and be free from your complaint.'

While he was still speaking some people arrived from the house of the synagogue official to say, 'Your daughter is dead: why put the Master to any further trouble?' But Jesus had overheard this remark of theirs and he said to the official, 'Do not be afraid; only have faith.' And he allowed no one to go with him except Peter and James and John the brother of James. So they came to the official's house and Jesus noticed all the commotion, with people weeping and wailing

unrestrainedly. He went in and said to them, 'Why all this commotion and crying? The child is not dead, but asleep.' But they laughed at him. So he turned them all out and, taking with him the child's father and mother and his own companions, he went into the place where the child lay. And taking the child by the hand he said to her, 'Talitha, kum!' which means, 'Little girl, I tell you to get up.' The little girl got up at once and began to walk about, for she was twelve years old. At this they were overcome with astonishment, and he ordered them strictly not to let anyone know about it, and told them to give her something to eat.

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

*At the words that follow,
up to and including 'the Virgin Mary', all bow.*

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

The Offertory: *There is no collection during Mass. Instead, please put your offerings in the basket at the entrance to the church as you arrive, or as you leave.*

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Eucharistic Prayer is a memorial proclamation of praise and thanksgiving for God's work of salvation, a proclamation in which the Body and Blood of Christ are made present by the power of the Holy Spirit and the people are joined to Christ in offering his 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

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The mystery of faith.

We proclaim your Death, O Lord,
and profess your Resurrection
until you come again.

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

Please observe the regulations on social distancing when processing to receive Holy Communion.

Prayer after Communion

The Concluding Rites *send us out live in our daily lives the Mystery of Christ's Death and Resurrection and the unity in Christ we have celebrated. 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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Diocesan Vision: Unfolding God's Plan

Please take one of the leaflets that should be available today and reflect once more on the Archbishop's Pastoral Letter.

Please take copies to share with those who are not presently coming to Mass - because of COVID or for other reasons..

And please pray for this work, and especially your and our proper part in it.

Spirit of God, descend on me this day.

**Grant me the Spirit of joy, to lift me,
the Spirit of hope to inspire me,
the Spirit of love to surround me and
the Spirit of truth to enlighten my path.**

Holy Spirit,

**I pray for a new outpouring of your grace,
so that I may grow in worship of your name
in love of you in my prayer
and in my actions towards others.**

**Come Holy Spirit into my life to guide me.
Strengthen and defend me,
so that I may be drawn ever closer to you.**

**Help me this day and always
to be a channel of grace
in all I say and do
and invite others into relationship with you.**

Amen