

Enrolment for parish PREPARATION for First Communion and Confirmation.

Application forms are available for families this week. i.e. for families with children now in year 2 who will prepare for First Communion and in year 5 who will prepare for Confirmation).

Details of children's preparation for summer and of support for parents preparing to support their children's preparation have been sent to all parents who have enrolled. If you have enrolled and have not received those details please email Fr Allen, as your email address may have been misread/mis-transcribed.

Catholic Care Home Situated in the beautiful surroundings of rural Warwickshire, St Joseph's Care Home offers a range of personalised services including residential care, specialised dementia care and short-term respite care in a friendly welcoming environment. With staff team who are passionate about making residents safe and happy in an environment that is just how home feels.

If you or someone you know might benefit from the care offered and would be interested in more information or to book a virtual tour then please quote SJ1 and contact Care Home Manager Shelley Perryman on 01675 434559, email shelleyperryman@fatherhudsons.org.uk or visit www.stjosephscarehome.co.uk

Congratulations to Gary O'Brien who was instituted as Acolyte at our parish Mass on Friday evening.

Gary will be ordained deacon by Archbishop Bernard at St Chad's Cathedral on Saturday 4th September. The final details are still to be confirmed, as are the arrangements (for example social distancing rules) which will determine the number of people who will be able to attend and take part in the liturgy. However it will be livestreamed for those who cannot attend.

Fancy joining a parish outing to Aston Hall?

On Thursday August 5th, why not step out and enjoy some time away from home visiting Aston Hall, one of Brum's iconic buildings (and home for the moment of part of the city's Art Collection, during the restoration of the city centre Art Gallery)

Come for part or all of the outing - and just meet there. *However if you wish to make a tour of the Hall you are advised to book your ticket in advance*

www.birminghammuseums.org.uk/aston
There is a café - but plenty of places to sit and eat your own picnic if you prefer.

All are welcome - any age!



11am The café opens - come and have a drink and, perhaps a bite to eat.

12 noon Join a tour of the house (but book in advance)

1.30pm Fancy a bit of art tuition? Meet in the courtyard in front of the house. Geraldine Foster is preparing some simple and fun things for people to have a go at - absolute beginners and those who fancy themselves as the next Van Gogh! Bring a pencil and a notebook.

Booking for CELEBRATIONS of First Confessions and First Communions

Application forms for the children who will be celebrating this sacraments in October and November are available now. Places are limited at each of the celebrations, so please return forms as soon as possible to help yourself get your first choices of dates.

Preparing for Liturgy after Summer

- A number of parents have shown interest in helping to offer *Children's Liturgy of the Word* at Sunday Mass for children in Reception through to Year 2. If you would like to be part of a team that makes this possible - please let Fr Allen know so you can be invited to a introductory meeting for leaders (NB Leaders includes those who lead the session, helping the children with their reflection and questions and prayer, or singing - but also those who help with the procession in and out of church. All these play an important and necessary part in providing this service to our youngsters.)
- If you would like to share in singing and making music to lead the congregation in song on Sundays and the other main celebrations of the year, please let Fr Allen or Vincent our organist have your details so you can be invited to a meeting to chat things through and plan for the future.
- And please contact Fr Allen also if you would like to part of the group that will be reflecting on the Los Angeles document that provides a vision of what Sunday Mass might look like for us in the coming years - if we are all ready to play our part in working for renewal.



St Nicholas Catholic Church, Boldmere

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

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

Moving forward as national COVID regulations are relaxed

As of tomorrow, 19th July, the Government has announced that there are no COVID restrictions, beyond the requirement to self-isolate when we are ill with symptoms of the or when there is a suspicion that we might be carrying the virus and be about to become ill.

So far as the parish is concerned we will continue to maintain the requirement that those attending Mass must wear masks, maintain 1m distance from anyone not of their household or 'bubble' and we will continue to clean the church after each Mass.

Why?

The number of new infections remains high and we have a number of people in our parish community who are more vulnerable to infection and understandably anxious about whether their parish church will continue to be the safe environment that we have ensured it has been over the past months. And, so for now, no change.

Change will come, but carefully

It may well be that we will soon reintroduce song to our worship, even if we sing behind our masks for the time being.

And it may be that we will be safe to relax social distancing rules in at least some parts of the church. But that lies in the future, and we will take expert advice before making any changes, and be mindful of the possible need to make special provision for some parishioners.

To help us with that, if you have been advised by your doctor that you have a medical condition that leaves you in particular risk, please give a written note (or email) to Fr Allen confirming your name and the Mass you usually attend (no need to give medical details!) so that the need can be noted and taken fully into account.

Mass times

Please note:

- the 7pm Mass this week will be on Thursday, not Friday
- the Saturday 4pm Mass will be discontinued after 31st July
- Weekday services, week beginning 25 July will be services of Word and Holy Communion.

Compassionate God, from far and near you gather your Church into one.

Safeguard the unity of your flock through the teaching of Christ the Shepherd, that all your scattered children may find in him the guidance and nourishment they seek.

Developing the vision

Archbishop Bernard has called the Church in Birmingham to grow and develop in mission and life. He has singled out the following areas for attention.

Evangelisation **Formation**
Social Outreach **Liturgy & Worship**

A new page has been opened on our parish website indicating various documents that can help us to deepen our awareness of what this renewal might help us to. Do take a look.

If there is a particular area you are interested in, please let Fr Allen know so you can be part of our parish reading and reflections groups - a key first stage in our parish's working for our future life as community and Church.

PARISH MASSES DURING THE COMING WEEK

Day	Time	Special Occasion	Notes
Sa 17	4pm	16th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	For the parish
	6pm		Guerino Mastroianni RIP (M)
Su 18	9am	16th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Rita Rhodes - Well being (Redmond)
	11am		Noel Mulhern RIP (Green)
M 19	10am		
T 20	10am		Mark Foster RIP (Foster)
W 21	10am		
Th 22	7pm	St Mary Magdalene	
F 23	11am	St Bridget	Exposition and Anointing of the Sick
Sa 24	4pm	17th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	For the parish
	6pm		Fred Rhodes, Geoff Sterling, Ron Wilkinson RIP
Su 25	9am	17th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Josie Kenworthy RD (Drozd)
	11am		William Mulvaney RIP (Mulvaney)

Please pray for sick parishioners including Brenda Davies, Elizabeth Barker, Lyn Hunt; Joan James; Thomas Stevenson. Please pray for Mary Harrison, Michael McInerney, Josie Garvey, Margaret Stroud, Ruth Loughran-Smith, Fred Rhodes, Geoff Sterling, Ron Wilkinson, Christine Foster, Kenneth Grice, 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.*

Jeremiah 23:1-6

‘Doom for the shepherds who allow the flock of my pasture to be destroyed and scattered – it is the Lord who speaks! This, therefore, is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says about the shepherds in charge of my people: You have let my flock be scattered and go wandering and have not taken care of them.

Right, I will take care of you for your misdeeds – it is the Lord who speaks! But the remnant of my flock I myself will gather from all the countries where I have dispersed them, and will bring them back to their pastures: they shall be fruitful and increase in numbers. I will raise up shepherds to look after them and pasture them; no fear, no terror for them any more; not one shall be lost – it is the Lord who speaks!

‘See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I will raise a virtuous Branch for David, who will reign as true king and be wise, practising honesty and integrity in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel dwell in confidence. And this is the name he will be called: The-Lord-our-integrity.’

Psalms 22(23)

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit.

He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.

If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.

You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort.

You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.

My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing.

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.

In the Lord’s own house shall I dwell for ever and ever.

Ephesians 2:13-18

In Christ Jesus, you that used to be so far apart from us have been brought very close, by the blood of Christ. For he is the peace between us, and has made the two into one and broken down the barrier which used to keep them apart, actually destroying in his own person the hostility caused by the rules and decrees of the Law. This was to create one single New Man in himself out of the two of them and by restoring peace through the cross, to unite them both in a single Body and reconcile them with God: in his own person he killed the hostility. Later he came to bring the good news of peace, peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near at hand. Through him, both of us have in the one Spirit our way to come to the Father.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice, says the Lord, I know them and they follow me. *Alleluia!*

Mark 6:30-34

The apostles rejoined Jesus and told him all they had done and taught. Then he said to them, ‘You must come away to some lonely place all by yourselves and rest for a while’; for there were so many coming and going that the apostles had no time even to eat. So they went off in a boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But people saw them going, and many could guess where; and from every town they all hurried to the place on foot and reached it before them. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd, and he set himself to teach them at some length.

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.*

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Thoughts on the renewal of the interior of the parish church.

As we can all see it is time to clean and redecorate the interior of our parish church.

However as we prepare for that it is also opportune for us to consider all sorts of other things.

For example:

- Is this the time to renew our heating system, and what are the opportunities to put in a ‘greener’ system?
- At present we are constrained in how we can use the church for Mass because the nave is filled with benches. This makes it difficult to provide proper space for other forms of liturgy and prayer. It is also not easy to respectfully accommodate those who come to church in wheel chairs or using other mobility aids.
- It has been suggested by higher-ups in the Archdiocese that we ought to look at alternative placement of the organ and musicians so that they can be better placed for their ministry and we can be better served for them.
- Although the statue of our Lady was moved to its present place to provide better and safer access during the pandemic, some people have said they think it is now in a better place (although the temporary arrangement can obviously be improved on!) In addition the other statues in the church are not necessarily in the best place for their proper use.

There are surely other things to consider and improvements that might be made.

If you have comments or thoughts that you would like to be taken into account as this project develops, please write them down and put them into the comments box on the side of the left hand side aisle of the church.

God, the giver of every perfect gift,
by the grace of baptism
you adopt us as your own
and call us to your service.

Strengthen us by your Holy Spirit
to live the gospel we have embraced.
Deliver us from self-seeking
and cause us to work for the common good.
Keep us loyal to Christ in all we set out to accomplish,
that the praise and the glory may be yours alone.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ,
your Son, who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God for ever and ever. Amen.

Mary, mother of the Church: *pray for us.*

St Nicholas, patron of our parish: *pray for us.*