

Parish Finances

Our parish finances are not as strong as they might be. Here are some ways in which we *might* be able to help get things onto a better footing in 2021.

- Often we get into a habit of giving 'x' amount, and that amount remains the same, year in year out - even as the cost of living rises. If it has been a while since you last adjusted your regular donation, perhaps you are in a position to have a think about that.
- When people are able to make their offering by Standing Order rather than directly in the Offertory basket, it helps the parish by giving us a more stable income across the year.
- Those who pay Income Tax can gift aid their offering (either using Standing Orders or Gift Aid envelopes) The parish can claim back 25p for every £1.00 you donate. **If you can join the Gift Aid scheme then this will be a real help to the parish.**
- The Parish 50/50 club is a valuable source of income for the parish (and for those lucky enough to win in the monthly draws!) If you have not joined why not think about it. **50% of the income comes to the parish and 50% goes out in prize money.**

Forms are available as you leave church for Standing Orders /Gift Aid and 50/50 club. They can also be downloaded from <http://bit.ly/2Yp1g4r> Completed forms can be posted to the parish office, or returned via the offertory basket at the entrance to the church.

Whether or not you are able to offer any extra help to the parish at this time, thank you for considering it.

Fr Patrick Joyce's Funeral Mass

will be livestreamed at on Fri, 12 Feb at 10am.

www.facebook.com/groups/frjoycefuneal

Mass is offered for Fr Joyce here, at 7pm that evening.

Sentencing of Joseph Quigley

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I am writing to you at this very difficult time following the conviction and recent sentencing of Joseph Quigley at Warwick Crown Court.

On Friday 29th January he was sentenced to 11-and-a-half years in prison.

The crimes for which he has been sentenced are deplorable and totally unacceptable. There is no excuse for any kind of abuse and the Archdiocese apologises for the suffering he has caused.

Our thoughts and prayers remain with all those who have suffered and we again acknowledge their courage in coming forward to provide evidence during the trial.

I am acutely aware of the hurt and the understandable anger and concern this case has raised across the Archdiocese.

I cannot change the past but where there have been failings, as an Archdiocese, we must identify them and learn from them so that they do not happen ever again.

Therefore, in the light of this, I have already commissioned Barnardo's to undertake an independent review of the Archdiocese's actions at every stage of this case.

Joseph Quigley faces the Church's disciplinary processes that will address the seriousness of his offences and I will seek his laicisation by the Holy See.

All who have suffered or may be suffering abuse are encouraged to report the matter to the police by calling 101 and, if appropriate, to the Archdiocese of Birmingham Safeguarding Team on 0121 230 6240 or by email: safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk.

With my prayers for you all and every kind wish.

Yours sincerely in Christ



Opportunities to pray at home with the parish and the Church.

Morning Prayer

A reminder of the opportunity to join the members of the parish each day (Mon to Sat) for Morning prayer at 0830. This simple form of prayer is based on Scripture - psalms and other poetic songs - and is very easy to join in. All are welcome. **Zoom link available on the parish website home page. Just click on the link between 8.25 and 8.30am and wait to be 'admitted'.**

Rosary

On Monday evenings at 7pm people come together to pray, in turn, one of the sets of the Mysteries. **The Zoom link is on the parish website home page. Click on the link sometime between 6.55 and 7pm and wait to be 'admitted'.**



Prefer quiet prayer alone?

Why not make space for a daily reflection on Scripture? This is the Year of Mark - you might begin slowly to read your way through Mark's Gospel - the shortest of the four. Or make use of the readings set each week for Sunday Mass, and provided in the newsletter. Each week of the present lockdown, a written reflection will be published here. Often these will be a version of the Sunday homily preached either by Fr Allen or Deacon John, but sometimes they will come from another source.



Mass on-line?

Links to live-streamed Masses are on our website.



St Nicholas Catholic Church, Boldmere

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

Telephone: 0121 354 1763 **Email:** stnicholas.boldmere@rcaob.org.uk

Website: www.stnicholasboldmere.co.uk

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

Together in Christ? Making use of Lent to help build up our sense of parish and our mission as Church

The Pandemic is just the latest of all sorts of atomising influences and tendencies that have been corrosive of healthy family and community life in our country. Over recent years it has been recognised that so many people are alone, without easy access to family and friends, and without substantial connections with others even in their neighbourhood that we now have a Government Minister for Loneliness!

The Church is not immune from these tendencies. Many people have said that, after the worst of the Pandemic is over, we can expect fewer people to 'return to Church' because those who come for 'habit' will have broken the habit! This could drive us into decline. But it could also be a time when others recognise that there is a need for the vitality proper to the Church, and the mission of the Church to be made still more evident by those of us who are Church and who want Church to thrive, and serve.

During Lent I wonder whether each of us could find time and energy to have a chat with others about some questions related to the Sunday Gospel, exploring something of the social implications of the Gospel.

You could have the conversation with anyone - other family members, colleagues at work; friends - either in person, or by phone, or on Zoom. Mostly - given some of the questions - it will be easier to have the conversation with other Christians, but not difficult to explore them with non-Christians - and maybe the conversation will prove even more interesting! And having such a conversation seems impractical - itself, maybe, a sign of the sort of challenges we face, as individuals, and as Church - you are welcome to join in an open Zoom gathering with Fr Allen, each Sunday at 5pm. Details will be on the website and confirmed in the newsletter each week.

A lunch time zoom Prayer and Discussion for Fridays in Lent.

Did you know that in 2018, one third of victims identified by the UK Modern Slavery Helpline were women?

Women in the Shadows is a new course for Lent, created by the Clewer Initiative to help shine a light on the suffering of marginalised women.

The course focuses on the different ways women and girls are exploited in the UK today.

Parish Zoom meeting each Friday of Lent beginning 26 Feb, at 12 noon. Full details at <http://bit.ly/39NydOi>

Keeping Safe at for Mass

Face coverings: Regulations require members of the congregation, aged 5 and over, to wear face-coverings over their nose and mouth throughout the time we are in church. *If you have an exemption certificate please confirm in advance with Fr Allen, so appropriate seating can be arranged for you (and to safeguard others.)*

Social distancing: Please keep a social distance of 1m from anyone not of your household. *If someone is already in the bench you choose, please sit in the middle space, and leave any remaining space on the aisle for the next to arrive. Do not make people climb over you to get into the bench.*

Thank you for your cooperation.

MASS DURING THE HEALTH CRISIS

On days when there is no public Mass (because no volunteers for stewarding/cleaning) Fr Allen celebrates Mass 'privately' in the church usually at 0830.

Day	Time	Notes
Sa 6	6pm	Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Luke Gill RIP (Gill family) For the parish De Lappe Family RIP (Barron)
Su 7	9am 11am	
M 8	10am	Mrs O'Connor RD (Masker)
T 9	10am	Ints Mrs Matthews
W 10	10am	Barbara Thewlis RIP (Leese)
Th 11		
F 12	7pm	Fr Patrick Joyce RD
Sa 13	6pm	Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Mary Brasil RIP (Leese) For the parish ----
Su 14	9am 11am	

Confessions COVID restrictions prevent confessions being heard in the church, or indoors. However, if you wish to celebrate Reconciliation please contact Fr Allen who will be happy to arrange a time and place (outdoors) to celebrate this sacrament of mercy with you.

Please pray for sick parishioners including Betty Barker, Lyn Hunt; Joan James; Thomas Stevenson. Please pray for Lea Burke, Michael Venables and Fr Giles Goward who died recently and for Raymond Jones, Luca Atzori, Linda Bradley and all whose anniversaries occur at this time. **Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, may they rest in peace.**

The Introductory Rites

The Introductory Rites help the faithful to come together as one, establish communion and prepare themselves properly to listen to the Word of God and to celebrate the Eucharist worthily.

The Penitential Act

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

Hearing the word proclaimed in worship, the faithful again enter into the unending dialogue between God and the people of the covenant shared in Christ, a dialogue sealed as we share the Eucharistic food and drink. The proclamation of the word is essential to the Mass

A brief time of quiet after the readings allows those present to take the word of God to heart and begin to prepare a prayerful response to what we have heard.

Job 7:1-4,6-7

Job began to speak: Is not man's life on earth nothing more than pressed service, his time no better than hired drudgery? Like the slave, sighing for the shade, or the workman with no thought but his wages, months of delusion I have assigned to me, nothing for my own but nights of grief.

Lying in bed I wonder, 'When will it be day?' Risen I think, 'How slowly evening comes!' Restlessly I fret till twilight falls.

Swifter than a weaver's shuttle my days have passed, and vanished, leaving no hope behind.

Remember that my life is but a breath, and that my eyes will never again see joy.

Psalms 146(147):1-6

Praise the Lord for he is good;
sing to our God for he is loving;
to him our praise is due.

The Lord builds up Jerusalem
and brings back Israel's exiles,
he heals the broken-hearted,
he binds up all their wounds.
He fixes the number of the stars;
he calls each one by its name.

Our Lord is great and almighty;
his wisdom can never be measured.
The Lord raises the lowly;
he humbles the wicked to the dust.

1 Corinthians 9:16-19,22-23

I do not boast of preaching the gospel, since it is a duty which has been laid on me; I should be punished if I did not preach it! If I had chosen this work myself, I might have been paid for it, but as I have not, it is a responsibility which has been put into my hands. Do you know what my reward is? It is this: in my preaching, to be able to offer the Good News free, and not insist on the rights which the gospel gives me.

So though I am not a slave of any man I have made myself the slave of everyone so as to win as many as I could. I made myself all things to all men in order to save some at any cost; and I still do this, for the sake of the gospel, to have a share in its blessings.

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 1:29-39

On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him about her straightaway. He went to her, took her by the hand and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait on them.

That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils. The whole town came crowding round the door, and he cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast out many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, because they knew who he was.

In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Simon and his companions set out in search of him, and when they found him they said, 'Everybody is looking for you.' He answered, 'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came.' And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out devils.

Homily

Prayer of the Faithful (omitted at the Bishop's request)

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 Liturgy of the Eucharist

The Eucharist is the source and summit of the whole Christian life. It is the vital centre of all that the Church is and does, because at its heart is the real presence of the crucified, risen and glorified Lord, continuing and making available his saving work among us.

The Offertory

There is no offertory collection at this time. Instead, you are invited to place your offerings in the basket at the entrance to the church as you arrive, or as you leave.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Eucharistic Prayer, the centre and summit of the entire celebration 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

Eating and drinking together of the Lord's Body and Blood in a Paschal meal is the culmination of the Eucharist. The themes underlying these rites are mutual love and reconciliation. These are the condition and the fruit of worthy communion and the unity of the many in the One.

The Lord's Prayer

Invitation to Communion

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

As you approach the minister, please do so with arms at "full stretch" to keep a good distance between you.

Communion will be given silently, and in the hand only. (Your hands - palms upwards, one of top of the other - should be extended as flatly as possible.)

Prayer after Communion

The Concluding Rites

The brief Concluding Rite sends the people forth to put into effect in their daily lives the Mystery of Christ's Death and Resurrection and the unity in Christ which they have celebrated. Their mission is to witness to Christ in the world and to bring the Gospel to the poor.

Blessing and Dismissal

Scripture readings from the Jerusalem Bible © 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton, Longman & Todd, Ltd and Doubleday, a division of Random House, Inc, and used by permission of the publishers. Text of the Psalms: Copyright © 1963, The Grail (England). All rights reserved. Excerpts from the English translation of The Roman Missal © 2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

Ash Wednesday liturgies at St Nicholas

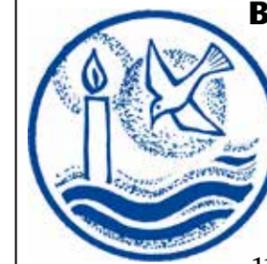
0700 – Liturgy of the Word, with Ashes

1000 – Mass, with Ashes

1200 – on-line prayer with housebound people.

1900 – Mass, with Ashes

Do mark Ash Wednesday in your diaries, so as to have the best chance of sharing in our parish keeping of this day, and beginning Lent together.



Baptism

The present lockdown has put a temporary stay on the celebration of baptisms in our parish.

However parents are invited to join with Fr Allen for a Zoom baptism Preparation session at 11am on Saturday 27 February

This will mean they be ready to confirm a date for the baptism of their child as soon as the present restrictions are lifted.

Parents who have not already booked a place on the session are invited to e-mail Fr Allen as soon as possible to secure a place.

New on Parish Blog for 2021

Weekly mini-essays exploring the Eucharist. Origins and influences on the Mass; exploring particular prayers; and looking at how we celebrate - and how we might celebrate more fruitfully...

www.stnicholasboldmere.wordpress.com

This week take a look at the range of Eucharistic Prayers available for use at Mass.