

Isaiah 6:1-2,3-8

In the year of King Uzziah's death I saw the Lord of Hosts seated on a high throne; his train filled the sanctuary; above him stood seraphs, each one with six wings. And they cried out to one another in this way, 'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of Hosts. His glory fills the whole earth.'

The foundations of the threshold shook with the voice of the one who cried out, and the Temple was filled with smoke.

I said: 'What a wretched state I am in! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have looked at the King, the Lord of Hosts.'

Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding in his hand a live coal which he had taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. With this he touched my mouth and said: 'See now, this has touched your lips, your sin is taken away, your iniquity is purged.'

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying: 'Whom shall I send? Who will be our messenger?'

I answered, 'Here I am, send me.'

Psalm 137(138):1-5,7-8

Before the angels I will bless you, O Lord.

I thank you, Lord, with all my heart:

you have heard the words of my mouth.

In the presence of the angels I will bless you.

I will adore before your holy temple.

I thank you for your faithfulness and love,

which excel all we ever knew of you.

On the day I called, you answered;

you increased the strength of my soul.

All earth's kings shall thank you

when they hear the words of your mouth.

They shall sing of the Lord's ways:

'How great is the glory of the Lord!'

You stretch out your hand and save me,

your hand will do all things for me.

Your love, O Lord, is eternal,

discard not the work of your hands.

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Brothers, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, the gospel that you received and in which you are firmly established; because the gospel will save you only if you keep believing exactly what I preached to you – believing anything else will not lead to anything.

Well then, in the first place, I taught you what I had been taught myself, namely that Christ died for our sins, in accordance with the scriptures; that he was buried; and that he was raised to life on the third day, in accordance with the scriptures; that he appeared

Next Week: 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Scripture readings: Jer 17:5-8 / Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 / 1 Cor 15:12, 16-20 / Lk 6:17, 20-26

first to Cephas and secondly to the Twelve. Next he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers at the same time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died; then he appeared to James, and then to all the apostles; and last of all he appeared to me too; it was as though I was born when no one expected it.

I am the least of the apostles; in fact, since I persecuted the Church of God, I hardly deserve the name apostle; but by God's grace that is what I am, and the grace that he gave me has not been fruitless. On the contrary, I, or rather the grace of God that is with me, have worked harder than any of the others; but what matters is that I preach what they preach, and this is what you all believed.

Luke 5:1-11

Jesus was standing one day by the Lake of Gennesaret, with the crowd pressing round him listening to the word of God, when he caught sight of two boats close to the bank. The fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats – it was Simon's – and asked him to put out a little from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat.

When he had finished speaking he said to Simon, 'Put out into deep water and pay out your nets for a catch.' 'Master,' Simon replied, 'we worked hard all night long and caught nothing, but if you say so, I will pay out the nets.' And when they had done this they netted such a huge number of fish that their nets began to tear, so they signalled to their companions in the other boat to come and help them; when these came, they filled the two boats to sinking point.

When Simon Peter saw this he fell at the knees of Jesus saying, 'Leave me, Lord; I am a sinful man.' For he and all his companions were completely overcome by the catch they had made; so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were Simon's partners. But Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from now on it is men you will catch.' Then, bringing their boats back to land, they left everything and followed him.

If I can give you any advice, I beg you to get closer to the Eucharist and to Jesus... we must pray to Jesus to give us the tenderness of the Eucharist.

St Teresa of Calcutta.

Exposition and Benediction at St Nicholas

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Sunday 1800—1900 | Exposition and Evening Prayer 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month |
| Monday 1500—1600 | Exposition and Rosary Praying for vocations |
| Friday 1930—2000 | Exposition and prayer for the Church |
| Saturday 1700—1740 | Exposition and Sacrament of Confession |



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The Ordinary of the Mass is found on p200 ff of *Laudate*.
The Gloria, Holy, Memorial Acclamation and Lamb of God used in Ordinary Time are nos 1013 ff in *Laudate*.



St Nicholas Catholic Church, Boldmere

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Website: www.stnicholasboldmere.co.uk
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Our Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No. 234216

Called to newness in Jesus Christ

A number of parishioners attended a national Conference held in West Bromwich on Thursday and Friday of this week. They joined with many others, including Archbishop Bernard, to explore afresh all that is promised by the love of God, and what it means to be baptised and to have the charge to minister that love to others.

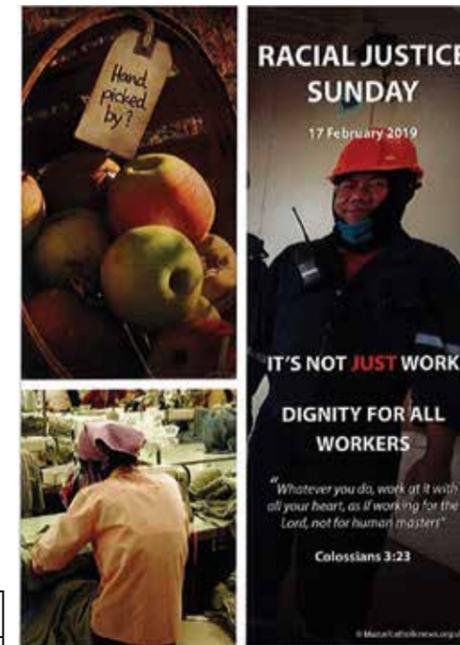
These themes of divine love and the mission of the Church are ones we are all familiar with from the scriptures, and the teaching of the Church. We are invited to engage with them each time we celebrate

Mass: as we are fed by word and Sacrament and are dismissed to bear witness to the Gospel in our lives. They are matters to shape our individual lives and the life of our parish.

They are explored in a very influential book called *Divine Renovation: From a Maintenance to a Missional Parish*. If you would like a copy to read during Lent, please see Fr Allen.

Alpha is something that many will have heard of. It is a series of meetings designed to help believers and unbelievers alike discuss life and the Christian faith in an informal, fun and friendly environment.

Many parishes have found that *Alpha* is a gift to the Church to assist us to a deeper and more personal relationship with Je-



Masses Week of 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

| S | 9 | | 1700 | Exposition and Sacrament of Confession |
|----|----|--------------------------------------|-------|---|
| | | Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time | 1800 | Luke Gill RIP (Gill) |
| | | <i>Psalter Week 1</i> | 0900 | For the parish |
| Su | 10 | | 1100 | Alejandro Perez Mejuto RD (Parkes) |
| | | | 1800 | Exposition and Evening Prayer (2nd Sunday) |
| M | 11 | Our Lady of Lourdes | 1000* | John Vines Ints (MRA) |
| | | | 1500 | Exposition and Rosary for Vocations |
| T | 12 | | 1000* | Nazir Rehman Anniv (Mark) |
| | | | 1630 | Reception of body of Gerard McGrath |
| W | 13 | | 1130 | Funeral Mass of Gerard McGrath |
| | | | | Thomas Flannagan Ints (MRA) |
| Th | 14 | Ss Cyril & Methodius | 1000* | Terry Poppelwell RIP (Mark) |
| F | 15 | | 1000 | Mass with St Nicholas School (All welcome) |
| | | | 1045 | followed by a holy hour praying for Vocations. |
| | | | 1900 | Clare Banks RD (Ladies Guild) |
| | | | | followed by 30 mins exposition |
| S | 16 | Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time | 1700 | Exposition and Sacrament of Confession |
| | | <i>Psalter Week 2</i> | 1800 | Frances Quinslisk (Gill) |
| Su | 17 | | 0900 | Bill Morgans RIP (O'Gorman) |
| | | | 1100 | James Gilnagh RIP Anniv (Ashton-Gray) |

Morning/Evening Prayer 20 mins before weekday Masses, *as indicated above* *

Exposition: & Vespers 2nd & 4th Suns of month, 6-7pm; **& Rosary** Mon at 3pm

Reconciliation Sat. 1700-1730 (Exposition until 1740) and by arrangement.

Baptism, Matrimony, Anointing of the Sick: by arrangement.

Nourishing prayer at home: livingeucharist.wordpress.com/

Please pray for sick parishioners including Joan James, Pat Serafinas; Thomas Stevenson; Peter & Olwyn Foster; Lea Burke and Peggy Gallagher. **Please pray** for Gerard McGrath who died recently, and for Jim Gilnagh, Noel Moffitt, Chris Palgrave, Timothy O'Leary, Maureen Cleary, Mary McEvoy, and David Meade and all whose anniversaries of death are at this time: **Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, may they rest in peace.**

NB To include names on the list of sick parishioners please complete the form available in the porch and pass to Fr Allen so we meet the requirements of current Data Protection legislation.

sus Christ. It *also* helps parishes to fulfil that further command that the Lord gave (and gives) to his disciples: 'Go and make disciples of all the nations!' Go and help others, non-Christians, to hear the Gospel, to meet and know and love and live Jesus Christ.

A further group of parishioners is going to be dipping their toes into *Alpha* this Lent, to see how it might suit us here at St Nicholas. You can expect to hear more about their experience after Easter.

Fr. Allen

PRAYER

For those facing exploitation

O God,
Gracious God,

From your abundance all gifts and skills are bestowed,
Making us participants in your work of creation.

By the word of your Son,
Confront our greed,
Challenge us when we treat people as means of profit,
Or discriminate unjustly against our fellow human beings.

Raise us up to new life in your service
That in all our works
Begun, continued and ended in you
We may glorify your holy name.
Through Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord.

Amen.

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It is lovely that at the 11 am Mass our music group is being joined by increasing numbers of families. The children are given a Kid's Pack which has in fairly large type the words of all the songs and the parts of the Mass which are sung. This makes it easier for the children to join in the singing and to follow the Mass. Each week the children can collect a Kid's Pack for the following week so they can look at the words of the songs in advance.

All families are very welcome to join. Over the next few weeks the family choir will start to use the two benches in front of the organ. If you are interested, just come and sit with us.

If anyone can provide accompaniment, even occasionally, that would be great, please have a word with Fr Allen or one of the choir.

Parish

SVP Raffle tickets are on sale after Mass next Sunday. Top prize of £3,000!

Preparation for Baptism of Infants. The next preparation programme starts on Sat 2 March from 11-12 noon, in the Benedict Room. Please see Fr Allen before hand for an application form.

Rosary for Vocations. The Rosary group meets in church on Mondays at 3pm to pray for vocations. All welcome.

Travelling Solo lunch All who 'travel solo in life' for whatever reason are warmly invited to meet in Benedict Room for coffee after the 11am Mass Sunday. March 3rd, and then join the group for a pub lunch.

Scripture group 7.30pm, Mon 18 March, in the Benedict Room to read Chaps 11 & 12 of Luke's Gospel. All welcome.

Interreligious Dialogue: Archdiocese Commission Study Day On Inter-Faith Matters 2019. Dr. John McDade - Britain Today: No Religion or Many Religions? Thurs 14 March 10.30 - 3.30, Grimshaw Room, St. Chad's Cathedral. Suggested contribution: £15 per head to include hot lunch & speaker's fee. Details in porch.

Bishop Walsh Catholic School Sixth Form Open Evening is on Weds 13 Feb 2019 6.30-8.30pm. All are welcome.

Faith In Politics Internship 2019 The Catholic Parliamentary and Public Affairs Internship Scheme is recruiting at least six recently graduated Catholics to learn from an intensive experience of political and social action in a spiritual context.

CAFOD just one world

The suffering in Yemen is one of the gravest humanitarian crises. After nearly four years of war, more than 14 million people are facing starvation and 85,000 children may have already died from extreme hunger since 2015.

There is some hope in Yemen, with a ceasefire promising to restore the Hodeida port and allow food and medicine into the country. CAFOD has worked through partners in Yemen since 2016, and while we welcomed the UK government's announcement last week that it will uplift funding to the UN Peace process in Yemen by £2.5 million, we know that the situation is so desperate that more needs to be done.

A prayer for Yemen

Giver of Life,
Who hears the cries from Yemen;
of mothers choosing between
medicine or food,
of parents grieving children lost to
starvation,
of those who have given up
everything in hunger.
Hear our cries for hope,
for change, for peace
In your mercy,
Break political deadlocks,
Soften hardened hearts,
Change closed minds,
Open unhearing ears.
Let people come before power
Let life be holy again
Let your justice and peace
Shape the nation of Yemen
And the lives of all people. Amen.

There is a retiring collection for Yemen today. Donations can also be made at <https://cafod.org.uk/Give>

The scheme will run from September 2019 until July 2020. Internship positions are given with Christian MPs and Peers in Parliament, the Catholic Education Service, CAFOD and the Caritas Social Action Network. All interns also gain from retreats and spiritual guidance, as well as living in a vibrant, young Catholic community in the centre of London. During the year, as part of their overall formation, interns will study for a Postgraduate Certificate in Catholic Social Teaching from St Mary's University, Twickenham. Further information can be found at www.faithinpolitics.org.uk. Applications are open, and the closing date is 28 February 2019. Applications are made by the website. Please direct any questions to stephanie.macgillivray@cbcew.org.uk.

Sundays of Lent
A prayerful weekly reading of the New Testament's First Letter of Peter
5 - 6pm on Sundays
March 10, 17, 24, 31 and April 7
St Nicholas church,
243 Jockey Road
All welcome

Young People's Summer Camp 2019

There is no better place to be this Summer than at Alton Castle for the *Best Camp Ever*. So get your places booked now for Week 1: August 4th-8th or Week 2: August 11th-15th. Experience a life-changing encounter with God in a way like never before through powerful moments of prayer, crazy activities, exciting day trips, challenging talks and so much more... Don't miss out on your place at Summer Camp 2019! For more information email beccy.roseman@kenelmouthtrust.org.uk

Other

Almshouse: Lingard House, Walmley. There are vacancies in this desirable

Why read the First Letter of Peter?

1. It is Scripture, the word of God.
2. It explores what it means to be a Christian in the world.

As Lenten reading, it prepares us for our Easter renewal of Baptismal promises.

Parish visit to Worcester Cathedral Thursday 21st February



The first in an occasional series of trips to visit places associated with the saints of the Diocesan Calendar.

We start with a trip to Worcester Cathedral, associated with St Wulfstan, a monk of the priory of Worcester and later Bishop of Worcester. Assiduous in visiting the parishes of his diocese, he was anxious that country people should have the chance of taking part in Mass and he encouraged the building of churches on rural manors. He worked to achieve the abolition of the trade in slaves from Bristol to Ireland. He was a trusted adviser of William the Conqueror and died in 1095, aged 87. The crypt of Worcester Cathedral dates from his rebuilding. He was canonised in 1203.

Meet at 1245 at the entrance to the Cathedral ready for the tour arranged for us at 1pm (£6 pp)

Those interested are welcome also to join the Cathedral Community for Evening Prayer at 5.30pm. Some may be interested also in staying for the (free) talk that evening at 6pm by Baroness Hale, President of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom, on *Moral Courage in the Law*.

Diocese

Please keep Bishop Robert Byrne in your prayers. He has this week been appointed to serve as Bishop of Hexham and Newcastle.

St Joseph's Home, Coleshill, offers Catholic residential care to older people and those living with dementia. Ring 01675 434500 for details.

Our Parish Book Clubs

(A) **The Daytime Group** 1030 on Weds 27 Feb to discuss *Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again* by Rachel Held Evans. One review: The best endorsement I can give the book is that before I was even halfway through, I told my teenagers I wanted to read it with them This is the Jesus and the Scriptures I want them to love. This is a brilliant, beautiful offering'. (B) **The Night Time Club** 8pm on Mar 11 to discuss *A Time to Keep* by George Mackay Brown - a slim volume of short stories of life on Orkney.

All are welcome - just read the book and come along to chat about it, and to enjoy good company and 'refreshments'. Meet in the parish house.

For the sick and those who care for them

A simple and brief monthly service of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, with prayer for the sick and for carers, and the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. Followed by light lunch.

11am on First Fridays (usually). Next service is March 1st

Pray with Pope Francis

The Pope's prayer intention for February is for a generous welcome of the victims of human trafficking, of enforced prostitution, and of violence.



To find the Pope's other current prayer intentions please visit <http://www.apostleshipofprayer.org/>

God's cry to Cain, found in the first pages of the Bible - Where is your brother? - challenges us to examine seriously the various ways in which society tolerates, and encourages, particularly with regard to the sex trade, the exploitation of vulnerable men, women and children.

Pope Francis

- Notice who you in fact consider to be your brother, your sister...
- Who and where, in our society, do you see or know that people are exploited?
- Where do you see or know that victims of trafficking, enforced prostitution and violence are treated with dignity as brothers and sisters within our human family

Dads' Get Together

The next meeting includes a reflection from Matteo Bellardi. Meeting on Monday 4th March at 8pm. So as usual some lively conversation is promised, and some nice food and drink too.

