

Ecclesiasticus 27:5-8

In a shaken sieve the rubbish is left behind, so too the defects of a man appear in his talk.

The kiln tests the work of the potter, the test of a man is in his conversation.

The orchard where a tree grows is judged on the quality of its fruit, similarly a man's words betray what he feels.

Do not praise a man before he has spoken, since this is the test of men.

Psalms 91(92):2-3,13-16

It is good to give you thanks, O Lord.

It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to make music to your name, O Most High, to proclaim your love in the morning and your truth in the watches of the night.

The just will flourish like the palm tree and grow like a Lebanon cedar.

Planted in the house of the Lord they will flourish in the courts of our God, still bearing fruit when they are old, still full of sap, still green, to proclaim that the Lord is just. In him, my rock, there is no wrong.

1 Corinthians 15:54-58

When this perishable nature has put on imperishability, and when this mortal nature has put on immortality, then the words of scripture will come true: Death is swallowed up in victory. Death, where is your victory? Death, where is your sting? Now the sting of death is sin, and sin gets its power from the Law. So let us thank God for giving us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Never give in then, my dear brothers, never admit defeat; keep on working at the Lord's work always, knowing that, in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in vain.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Open our heart, O Lord, to accept the words of your Son. Alleluia!

Luke 6:39-45

Jesus told a parable to his disciples: 'Can one blind man guide another? Surely both will fall into a pit? The disciple is not superior to his teacher; the fully trained disciple will always be like his teacher. Why do you observe the splinter in your brother's eye and never notice the plank in your own? How can you say to your brother, "Brother, let me take out the splinter that is in your eye," when you cannot see the plank in your own? Hypocrite! Take the plank out of your

Next Week: 1st Sunday of Lent

Scripture readings: Dt 26:4-10 / Ps 91:1-2, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15 / Rom 10:8-13 / Lk 4:1-13

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



own eye first, and then you will see clearly enough to take out the splinter that is in your brother's eye.

'There is no sound tree that produces rotten fruit, nor again a rotten tree that produces sound fruit. For every tree can be told by its own fruit: people do not pick figs from thorns, nor gather grapes from brambles. A good man draws what is good from the store of goodness in his heart; a bad man draws what is bad from the store of badness. For a man's words flow out of what fills his heart.'

Lectio Divina

The very title might put some people off! But that would be a real pity.

The Latin words mean *Divine Reading* and the phrase is sometimes translated as *Sacred Reading*. Those titles might be more accessible but these too may seem a little forbidding!

I like to think of *Lectio* as the spiritual equivalent of a long leisurely hot bath. Sound more appealing?

These days we less often have baths and more often take showers. They are quick and convenient.

We can read scripture in that sort of a way too - reading it for information, for interest.

But *Lectio* invites us to something more, and to something much richer and much more valuable.

Lectio invites us to a comfortable and relaxing soak in God's word. Spending quiet time pondering the words of Scripture, slowly draws us into the presence of the Word himself, Jesus Christ.

Give it a go. Take a passage of this week's scripture. Maybe a whole reading, maybe just a sentence or a phrase. Quietly, gently reflect on it: let the words run through your mind and heart. It may be you end focussing on just one word. No matter. Take your time, relax, chill out and listen for the Lord speaking to you in what you keep hold of...

Fr. Allen

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The Ordinary of the Mass is found on p200 ff of Laudate.

Gloria, Holy, Memorial Acclamation and Lamb of God used in Ordinary Time are nos 1013 ff in Laudate.



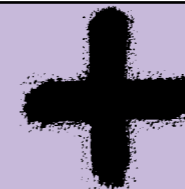
St Nicholas Catholic Church, Boldmere

Address: 243 Jockey Rd., Boldmere, Sutton Coldfield, B73 5US
Telephone: 0121 354 1763 Email: stnicholasrc@btinternet.com
Website: www.stnicholasboldmere.co.uk
Parish Blog: www.stnicholasboldmere.wordpress.com

Parish Priest: Fr Allen Morris E-mail: frallenmorris@gmail.com
Parish Safeguarding: Ann Foulds (0121 355 7892) and Mary Rose (0121 354 4730)
Our Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No. 234216

Be Prepared!

Some dates and times for Lent



ASH WEDNESDAY

6TH MARCH

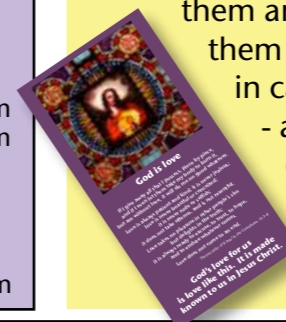
- 7am Liturgy of Word & Ashes
- 10am Mass & Ashes
- 2pm Liturgy of Word and Ashes (with KS1 children from St Nicholas school - but all are welcome.)
- 7pm Mass and Ashes

PENITENTIAL SERVICES

- Mon 8/4 Holy Trinity, S C'field 7pm
- Tues 9/4 Holy Cross, Walmley, 7pm
- Weds 10/4 St Nicholas 2-6pm Exposition & individual confessions; 7.30pm Penance Service
- Tues 16 April, Erdington Abbey, 7pm

Lent resources

- **Calendar for Lent** - especially for children
- **Walk with me** - especially for grown-ups. Take one as a gift for a friend!
- **Parish Lent cards** - take a handful and spread them around. Leave them on buses and in cafes, in offices - anywhere and everywhere. Share the good news.



POPE FRANCIS' MESSAGE FOR LENT

Each year, through Mother Church, God 'gives us this joyful season when we prepare to celebrate the paschal mystery with mind and heart renewed... as we recall the great events that gave us new life in Christ' (Preface of Lent I). We can thus journey from Easter to Easter towards the fulfilment of the salvation we have already received as a result of Christ's paschal mystery - 'for in hope we were saved' (Romans 8:24). This mystery of salvation, already at work in us during our earthly lives, is a dynamic process that also embraces history and all of creation. As Saint Paul says, 'the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God' (Romans 8:19). In this perspective, I would like to offer a few reflections to accompany our journey of conversion this coming Lent.

For the full message go to <https://bit.ly/2SpbYm0>



Masses Week of 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

S	2	Eight Sunday in Ordinary Time	1700 1800	Exposition and Sacrament of Confession Thomas O'Gorman RIP (O'Gorman)
Su	3	<i>Psalter Week 4</i>	0900 1100	In thanksgiving for recover (Drozdz) Chris Bayliss RD (L, T, N, J, W, J)
M	4		1000* 1500	Peace in the Middle East Exposition and Rosary for Vocations
T	5		1000* 1700	Tom Hempenstall RIP (Brennan) Burning of Palms in readiness for Ash Weds
W	6	Ash Wednesday	1000*	Bernie Morton RD (Lawlor) <i>For other Ash Wednesday times see above.</i>
Th	7			
F	8	St John of God	1900*	Tom Hempenstall RIP (O'Gorman) followed by 30 mins exposition
S	9	First Sunday of Lent <i>Psalter Week 1</i>	1700 1800	Exposition and Sacrament of Confession Bernie Morton RD (Connor)
Su	10		0900 1100 1800	Gerard McGrath RD (Pocock) Maria and Jan Szambir RIP (Szambir) <i>Prayerful reading of 1 Peter, followed by brief Exposition and Evening Prayer 2nd Sunday</i>

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 Margaret Healy, John Banks, Margaret Farrell, Christopher Coxall, Maria Szmabir, Ronald Matthias 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.

Hope and Challenge for Lent



BBC Radio 4 and the Bible Society have joined forces to produce some resources to help consider what the

Bible has to say about loneliness.



These are being provided for each week of Lent, taking one of Jesus' 'Words from the Cross' as their starting point.

The 'Word' for the week will form the focus for the Sunday Service on Radio 4 (Sundays 8.10am beginning 10th March and available afterwards on iplayer and on <https://bbc.in/2TfpMUK>)

Additional resources will be available on the Bible Society website at <https://bit.ly/2T96pg0>.

There will also be a chance to reflect on the theme and reflections over a cup of tea or coffee after the Monday 10am Mass each Monday of Lent. All are welcome - and if you know someone who is isolated do please consider inviting them to come with you...

Parish

Retiring Collection There is a retiring collection THIS WEEK for the upkeep of our Cathedral, St Chad's.

Dads' Get Together

The next meeting is this Monday - 4th March at 8pm. includes a reflector from Matteo Belardi Lively conversation, with nice food and drink too.



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 this Sunday. March 3rd, and then join the group for a pub lunch.

Teas and Coffees in Benedict Room after each Sunday Mass. All are welcome.

Rotas for Readers and Ministers of Holy Communion New Rotas have been emailed and are available on website and in porch. **A reminder of the afternoon**

St Patrick's Night – Race Night
St Nicholas Parish, Boldmere

Saturday 16th March
Carpenters Arms
Boldmere Road
Starts 7:30pm

£7 for adult
£5 student
Family ticket £20
- 2 adults and up to 3 children
The price includes fish and chips
Bring your own drink!

All profits go to
Bishop Walsh
Lourdes
Pilgrimage

The Justice and Peace Commission
Archdiocese of Birmingham

Lenten Retreat

The Passion of Christ, and the Passion of the Earth
Saturday 16th March 2019

Registrations 9:30am Start at 10:00 finished by 4pm
St Paul's Convent, Selly Park, Birmingham B29 7LL

All welcome

Led by Fr. Martin Newell CP
£5 concessions free, to be collected on the day.

Bring your own packed lunch
Tea and coffee will be provided

A time of reflection, silence and prayer for those involved or interested in the work for justice, peace and social justice.

Please register your intention to attend by Email to:
Janet Vaughan
Administrator, Birmingham Justice and Peace Commission
Email: bham.jandp@gmail.com
Or book on-line <http://bit.ly/2EJFaRX>

RC Archdiocese of Birmingham Registered Charity 234216

for Readers: 4-6pm on 10th March, with opportunity to take part in the prayer with 1 Peter and exposition at 6pm

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

Preparation for Baptism of Infants. The next preparation programme starts on Sat 6 April from 12 noon - 1pm, in the Benedict Room. Pl 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.

Volunteers needed to help strengthen our teams of money counters and for the banking of the moneys counted. If you would be able to help even once a month, please see Fr Allen. (Counting and banking are carried out at different times depending on teams, so if you have the time we can surely make use of your offer!)

Diocese

St Edmund Campion Catholic School and Sixth Form Centre wish to appoint a headteacher with effect from 1 September 2019 due to the retirement of the current headteacher. For further details Please contact Mary Finnegan, PA to Headteacher, On 0121 464 7040.

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School, Yardley Wood, seeks a deputy head. Details on the parish blog.

Discernment Weekend for men aged 30-35 The Beda College in Rome is running a discernment weekend for men between the ages of 30 and 55 from Friday 30 August to Sunday 1 September 2019. It takes place at St Beuno's Spirituality Centre in North Wales. *The weekend is hoping to reach men who are not already officially in touch with their diocese and is a first step for those who may be exploring the possibility of priestly vocation in later life.* Details at <https://bit.ly/2WYF4Mm>

Tabor House, Birmingham's only permanent night shelter, is looking for volunteers to help, especially overnight and mentors. Interested in finding out more? Come to Open evening: Weds 20 March 6pm - 8pm at St Anne's Training Room, 96 Bradford Street, Birmingham, B12 0PY. Contact Sharon McCall: 07387 418319 for further information.

Interreligious Dialogue: Archdiocese Commission Study Day On Inter-Faith Matters. Dr. John McDade - Britain Today: No Religion or Many Religions?

Parish Book 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 and chat about it, and enjoy good company and 'refreshments'. Meet in parish house.**

Confirmation

The next confirmation programme – **FOR CHILDREN NOW IN YEAR 5** – begins after half term. There is an introductory meeting for parents immediately after the parish 7pm Ash Wednesday Mass. The enrolment forms will be available then or the Sunday before from the parish church. Candidates for the Sacrament will be formally enrolled at each of the parish's Sunday Masses on 9/10 March. The Archdiocese will notify the parish of the date for the Confirmation Mass after the summer.

Those confirmed last year and those who are to be confirmed this year are all invited to take an active part in the preparation and celebration of the principal liturgies of the Triduum - The Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, the Solemn Liturgy on Good Friday and the great Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday night. These liturgies form the heart of the Church's celebration of the Paschal Mystery. There will be a meeting after the Sunday Masses on 23 and 24 March to introduce these liturgies to the youngsters and their families and help them to volunteer to help and take part.

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.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes Sat 25 to Fri 31 May This is the largest gathering of the Diocesan family outside of the diocese. The pastoral theme for all pilgrims to Lourdes for 2019 is 'Blessed are the poor, for the kingdom of God is yours. Full details on our website and at www.tangney-tours.com

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

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.



Young People's Summer Camp 2019

Book 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

A Lifeline for Marriages Is your marriage stressed, unloving, cold? Do you want to improve your communication? Have you separated, divorced, or are you thinking of doing so? Do you want to try again? The Retrouvaille programme may be just what you need! Info from 0788 729 6983 or www.retrouvaille.org.uk

Walsingham 7-11 Sept. Coach from Christ the King. £230 standard, £290 ensuite. Chris Walsh 355 6567.

Every Life Matters

You are invited to a talk by **LIFE** Sat 23 March at 11.00 in the Grimshaw Room, St. Chad's Cathedral, B'ham

LIFE's mission is to create a just society which has the utmost respect for all human life from fertilisation.

We provide nationwide practical and emotional support to women, children and men affected by abortion. Life's online service supported 6,668 women last year alone! That's 18 each day.

Light refreshments available from 10.30

Donation requested for entry - all proceed going to **LIFE**. (Suggested £5)

Organised by Catholic Women's League
Info from the secretary: 0121 475 1227 / 07767 457625

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



Admissions to local Catholic Schools

The Board of Directors (BoD) of the St John Paul II Multi Academy has confirmed the Admission arrangements for September 2020 for the original member schools, including St Nicholas, St Joseph's and Bishop Walsh. These were subject to consultation recently.

The BoD has retained the Catholic Practice criteria restated below*. For Admissions to Bishop Walsh it has decided to give first priority, after looked-after children, to those children from the four feeder parishes, **who are from practicing Catholic families** and who **have not** attended the designated feeder schools.

For full details of admission criteria for any school please consult their website.

* *Certificate of Catholic Practice* means a certificate issued by the family's parish priest (or the priest in charge of the church where the family attends Mass) in the form laid down by the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales.

It will be issued if the priest is satisfied that at least one Catholic parent or carer (along with the child if he or she is over seven years old) have (except when it was impossible to do so) attended Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation for at least five years (or, in the case of a child since the age of seven, if shorter).

The Certificate of Catholic Practice can only be obtained from a Catholic Priest and must be attached to a SIF form when making an application. It will also be issued when the practice has been continuous since being received into the Church if that occurred less than five years ago. It is expected that most Certificates will be issued on the basis of attendance. A Certificate may also be issued by a priest when attendance is interrupted by exceptional circumstances which excuse from the obligation to attend on that occasion or occasions. Further details of these circumstances can be found in the guidance issued to priests on the Diocesan Education Service website at <http://www.bdes.org.uk/admissions.html>

Pray with Pope Francis

The Pope's prayer intention for March is that Christian communities, especially those who are persecuted, feel that they are close to Christ and have their rights respected.



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

Today, in various parts of the world, sometimes in silence – often a complicit silence – great numbers of Christians are marginalized, ... subjected to violence and even death, not infrequently without due intervention on the part of those who could defend their sacrosanct rights.

Pope Francis

- Pray for Christian brothers and sisters who meet with persecution, and who live in fear of violence.
- Learn more about the situation faced by Christians in Iraq and Egypt, in Palestine, in Nigeria and other places of prejudice and discrimination.
- Who experiences prejudice and discrimination in our country? How might we show solidarity with them?

churches together
IN BRITAIN AND IRELAND

Lent Lecture
Andrew Mitchell MP

15th March 7.30 pm Sutton Coldfield Baptist Church

"A Vision for Sutton Coldfield"

An opportunity for Q & A
from the Christian community