

Parish of St. Gerard, Castle Vale

part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham—Registered Charity No. 234216

Parish Priest: **Father Soji Olikkal**

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Presbytery: 2 Renfrew Square, Castle Vale,

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SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

5th January 2020

Year A

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“O God, who on this day revealed your Only Begotten Son to the nations by the guidance of a star, grant in your mercy, that we, who know you already by faith, may be brought to behold the beauty of your sublime glory.”

Today we warmly welcome Fr Biju to celebrate Mass with Fr Soji concelebrating. Fr Matthew, our new Parish Priest will take charge on 13th January so next Sunday will be Fr Soji's last Mass here at St Gerard's.

Parishioners are putting on some food this evening from 5.00pm so we can spend some time with Fr before his departure. If you are able please join us in the parish centre.

Mass Times

Sunday 5th January

Confessions 9.15-9.45am

Mass 10.00am Celebrated by Fr Biju

With Children's Liturgy

Parish Gathering in Church Centre 5.00pm until 7.00pm

Monday 6th January

No Mass

Tuesday 7th January

Mass 9.00am

Wednesday 8th January

Mass 10.00am

Thursday 9th January

Mass 10.00am

Friday 10th January

Church Cleaning 9.30am

Mass 7.00pm

Saturday 11th January

No Mass

Sunday 12th January

Confessions 9.15-9.45am

Mass 10.00 am

With Children's Liturgy

RCIA course 11.00am

Lord, make those who are not well, get better and grant those who have died eternal rest in your heavenly home. Amen

Recently died: : Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

The sick: Frances Irwin, George Irwin, Sue O'Driscoll, Jean Chambers, Linda Conroy, Debbie Johnson, Perry Desmond, Philip Fox, Kevin Hollis, Kathy Beatie, Father Gabby Maguire & all the sick priests of the diocese. May the Lord grant them the healing they require.

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

Communion to the Sick and Housebound:

If you know of anyone who is unable to go to Mass, and would like Communion, please contact Father Soji who will endeavour to arrange.

Mass Intentions: If you would like to have a Mass celebrated for a particular intention: on behalf of a family member, a friend or a deceased loved one, to remember a birthday or anniversary, envelopes available at the back of church.

Flower Intentions: If you would like to have flowers placed on the Altar for a particular intention envelopes available at the back of church.

Offertory Collection for 22nd December 2019

Gift Aid £119.00

Non Gift Aid £203.96

Total Offertory £322.96

Offertory Collection for 29th December 2019

Gift Aid £ 44.00

Non Gift Aid £162.00

Total Offertory £206.00

Votive Lights £ 53.05

Total Banked £582.01



St Gerard's Catholic Primary School

'We Live, Love and Learn Together with Jesus'



Twitter: @StGerardsBham

School website:

www.stgerard.bham.sch.uk

School re-opens Tuesday 7th January at 8.55am. Monday 6th January is a staff training day. Please keep our staff in your prayers.

- ◆ **Parish Safeguarding Officer** is Hayley MacIlwraith who can be contacted on **07840 866201**
- ◆ **Parish Administrator** is Sue Perkins who can be contacted on **07971 076835** or **stgerardscv.rc@gmail.com**
- ◆ **Young Persons Officer** is Eleanor Perkins who can be contacted on **07852 404992** or **emp010697@googlemail.com**
- ◆ **When Father Soji** is away, in any emergency, please contact **Fr. Leonard Cox** on **07790 827184**
- ◆ **Newsletter;** If you would like news or events advertised in Sunday's newsletter, please contact the Parish Administrator no later than Thursday.
- ◆ **Baptisms;** A parent of the child to be baptised must be a baptised Catholic and attend Sunday Mass regularly. If you require your child to be baptised then please introduce yourself to Father at Mass on Sunday and he will discuss requirements and arrangements.
- ◆ **Sacrament of the sick;** Please approach Fr to receive sacrament of the sick before being admitted to hospital for treatment. If you are unable to attend mass, Fr will be happy to visit you in your home.

Parish Notice Board



St Gerard's Parish Christmas Raffle: Thank you to all that supported our Christmas raffle and particular Thank you to those that organised it. There are still a few unclaimed prizes if you could check your tickets?

◆ **HAPPY NEW YEAR 2020 from Fr Soji:** May I take this opportunity to thank everybody in the parish: Parishioners, Friends, Visitors who have helped in many ways to build up this Parish to such a loving and caring community. May the Lord bless you and your loved ones and richly reward you all and grant you a Healthy, Peaceful, Prosperous and Blessed New Year. May His Mother Mary be with our parish always.

- ◆ **Church Garden:** A job for the New Year. If anyone is able to lend a hand in removing some of the bushes that have been cut down then please let Sue know.
- ◆ **The Sun tokens:** The Sun have teamed up with Collins Big Cat to offer schools a free pack of books worth more than £600. Tokens will be available from Saturday 23rd November if anyone is able to collect and bring into church we will pass them on to school.
- ◆ **Tabor House:** Tabor House night shelter is providing a safe place for people experiencing homelessness in Birmingham. To support their work, you can buy a beautiful 2020 calendar online at <http://bit.ly/WASPSCalendar2020>.
- ◆ **Church cleaning:** We are planning on cleaning the church on Friday at 9.30am if anyone is free to join us for an hour.
- ◆ **Parish Roles:** We are looking to appoint a Health and Safety Officer to undertake the necessary maintenance and checks of our Church and Presbytery. If anyone feels able to take up this role or would like to know more then please speak to Sue. Also we require an additional counter to count the weekly offerings as this job requires two people.
- ◆ **Church Centre:** Currently vacant whilst we establish all repairs required for future use. A survey has been undertaken and once the report is available we will be discussing the centre with the Diocese. We can continue to use the centre for parish events including refreshments after mass and our Ladies that Lunch afternoons, the next one being Thursday 23rd January 12.30pm.

'THE GOD WHO SPEAKS'

We are all encouraged to celebrate, live, and share God's Word during this year 2020. Based on St Matthew's Gospel Prayer:

Living God you walk beside us and speak to us throughout the Scriptures. Your Son Jesus Christ listens to our hopes and fears and shows us how to live for one another. Send us the Holy Spirit to open our hearts and minds so that we may be you witnesses throughout the world. Amen

V. Your Word is our Path and your truth is our light

Response: This day and every Day

Our Lady of the Assumption Pray for us

St Matthew Pray for us

St Jerome Pray for us