



Parish of St. Gerard, Castle Vale

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

Parish Priest: **Father Mathew Pinakkattu : 07788790928**

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First Sunday of Lent

1st March 2020 Year A Page 151

The Popes Prayer Intentions for March

We Pray that the Church in China may persevere in its faithfulness to the Gospel and grow in Unity.

Life is a journey and as Christians we have all the same end in our journey-eternal life with God. Let us help each other on this journey as we all belong to God's family.

Mass Times

Sunday 1st March
First Sunday of Lent
Day of Prayer for the
Candidates for the Sacraments
Mass 10.00 am
For Maureen Smith RIP
With Children's Liturgy

Monday 2nd March
St David's Day
Mass 8.15 am

Tuesday 3rd March
Mass 7.00pm

Wednesday 4th March
Mass 10.00am

Thursday 5th March
Youth Group 7.00pm

Friday 6th March
Whole School Mass 9.00 am
Stations of the Cross 7.00pm

Saturday 7th March
Confessions 11.00am-11.45am
Mass 5.00pm

Parish Fundraising

Our Youth came together last weekend to bake a selection of cakes which were available by way of a raffle and cake sale after Mass. With your support they raised £140 for our Parish. These proceeds along with donations from our Filipino community fundraising, also last weekend, and a donation from the Christmas Raffle mark the start of our Parish fundraising towards renovating our parish community space in the church centre. Thankyou to both for their efforts. We await quotes for the renovation and hope that work will start shortly.

Our first Social Committee meeting will take place after Mass today to plan social and fundraising for our Parish for the rest of the year. Our newly formed Health and Safety committee met yesterday and now have a plan of required actions required in that respect. We do have a lot to do as our Pastoral, Premises and Financial Committees are still to meet but our hard work is starting to pay off. Thank you to everyone that is getting involved.

Recently died and 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.

The sick: Stan Oliver, Frances Irwin, George Irwin, Jean Chambers, Linda Conroy, Debbie Johnson, Perry Desmond, Philip Fox, Kevin Hollis, Bernie Bergin, Kathy Beatie, Tina Parkes, Father Gabby Maguire & all the sick priests of the diocese. May the Lord grant them the healing they require.

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 are 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 23rd February 2020

Gift Aid	£ 92.50
Non Gift Aid	£ 71.13
Total Offertory	£163.63
Votive Candles	£ 11.95
Donation— Baptism	£ 6.11
Total Banked	£ 181.69

Thank you for your continued generosity

Notice

2nd collection today for Cathedral Maintenance

Mandatory second collections will be notified the week before they are to take place and will be by way of an additional offertory collection after Communion.

On all other weeks we will hold a retiring collection, by way of a basket collection, for donations towards the work we are doing to renovate our Parish Centre.

St Gerard's Catholic Primary School

'We Live, Love and Learn Together with Jesus'



Twitter: @StGerardsBham

School website: www.stgerard.bham.sch.uk

As our children prepare for the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion, Fr has arranged for Saturday Vigil Mass at 5.00pm for those unable to attend Sunday Mass.

Who's Who?

- ◆ **Parish Safeguarding Officer** is Hayley Macilwraith : contact on **07840 866201**
- ◆ **Parish Administrator** is Sue Perkins: contact on **07971 076835** or xcvbnstgerardscv.rc@gmail.com
- ◆ **Young Persons Officer** is Eleanor Perkins: contact on **07852 404992** or emp010697@googlemail.com
- ◆ **Parish Health and Safety Officer:** Hayley Macilwraith contact on **07840 866201**
- ◆ **Parish Finance Committee** is made up of Fr, Sue Perkins, Sue Byrne. Therese and Frank.
- ◆ **Pastoral Committee** is currently being led by Shirley Harris
- ◆ **Social Committee** is made up of Beulah, Sarita, Bernie, Rosaline and Sue.
- ◆ **Premises Committee** is still to be established. Interested in joining this committee? Speak to Sue Perkins.
- ◆ **Baptisms;** A parent of the child to be baptised must be a baptised Catholic, attend Sunday Mass regularly and undertake 3 preparation meetings. If you require your child to be baptised then please speak to Father for details of forthcoming preparation meetings.
- ◆ **Communion to the Sick and Housebound:** Anyone who is unable to go to Mass and would like Communion or would like to receive sacrament of the sick before going into hospital? Let Fr Mathew know and he will endeavour to arrange.

Parish Notice Board



- ◆ **Family Fast Day Friday 6th March:** Envelopes are available at the back of church today and collection will take place next Sunday.
 - ◆ **Spaces available for St Gerard's Nursery September 2020:** If you know of any child born between 1st September 2016 and 31st August 2017 whose parents would like to apply for a place for them in our nursery please contact the school office on 0121 464 2613.
 - ◆ **Saturday Vigil Mass:** As our children prepare for the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion, Fr has arranged for Saturday Vigil Mass at 5.00pm for those unable to attend Sunday Mass.
 - ◆ **St Gerard's 100 Club:** There are numbers available for our 100 club. This tote provides a very valuable source of income for our Parish. If any parishioners, family of parishioners, work colleagues were interested in taking these numbers and indeed any more numbers that we could make available then please see Frank.
 - ◆ **Church Garden:** Anyone who wanted to donate any pots (preferably filled with plants/flowers) to add some colour to our garden then they would be gratefully received. In addition if anyone could spare an hour or so throughout the week to generally tidy up and trim back and tend to any pots then pop in to the garden. The side gate is always open.
 - ◆ **Church Cleaning:** Thank you to the ladies that cleaned our church this week. As School Mass will take place every Friday morning it has been decided that the most appropriate time for cleaning would be at 10.00am after this Mass. Rather than clean the whole church once a month we are going to trial spending 30-45 minutes every Friday concentrating on different areas. Anyone able to lend a hand would be very welcome.
 - ◆ **Parish Council meeting:** Next meeting planned for Thursday 19th March at 7.00pm.
 - ◆ **Archdiocese of Birmingham:** Finance Support Manager: The Diocese are looking to appoint a Finance Support Manager to its Finance Team. Please see advert on the Church noticeboard.
 - ◆ **Red APF boxes:** If you haven't already please could any boxes be brought into and left at the back of Church so emptying can be arranged. Thank you.
 - ◆ **Ladies that Lunch:** The dates for the forthcoming teas are:
 - Thursday 19th March. 12.30 pm
 - Thursday 16th April 12.30 pm
 - Thursday 21st May 12.30 pm
 - Thursday 18th June 12.30 pm
- THE GOD WHO SPEAKS'**
- 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*
- Our Lady of the Assumption Pray for us**
- St Matthew Pray for us , St Jerome Pray for us**