



## 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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### Fifth Sunday of Lent

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#### The Popes Prayer Intentions for April

*We pray that those suffering from addiction may be helped and accompanied*

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.

#### No Public Masses.

Fr Mathew will say at a private Mass each day at 9.30am

#### Intentions:

Sunday 29th March  
Fifth Sunday of Lent

For Agatha Maher RIP

Monday 30th March

Tuesday 31st March

Wednesday 1st April

Thursday 2nd April

Friday 3rd April

Saturday 4th April

Sunday 5th April  
Palm Sunday

#### Parish News

*Churches are now closed until further notice.*

*That said Fr Mathew will say a private Mass every morning at 9.30am. Please join him in prayer from your homes were possible. If you have special intentions then please let Fr know by email or phone and he will include them in his daily Mass.*

*Please visit the Archdiocese of Birmingham website for links to live streaming of daily masses from various churches in Birmingham.*

<https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/>

*Fr Mathews Induction as Parish Priest of St Gerard's Mass has been deferred for now. A new date will be set once current matters are addressed.*

#### Recently died and those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

**James Farrell, Antony Cooper:** Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

**The sick:** Kath Taylor, 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 or email Fr Mathew.

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

#### Offertory Collection 22nd March 2020

Gift Aid	£
Non Gift Aid	£
<b>Total Offertory</b>	£
Piety	£
Votive Lights	£
<b>Total Banked</b>	£ nil

#### Notice

*Obviously our Parish relies heavily on the weekly offertory collection especially as we are currently receiving no rental income from the Church Centre. Thank you to those parishioners who pay their offerings by way of Standing Order as these will continue to be received. For those that use envelopes or contribute through the offertory collection, please remember your church in the absence of weekly masses and continue to provide for those offerings which can be collected when our Church reopens. A standing order form is available on our website if you wished to set this up or alternatively there is an online giving option on the Archdiocese website.*

## St Gerard's Catholic Primary School

*'We Live, Love and Learn Together with Jesus'*



Twitter: @StGerardsBham

### Who's Who?

- ◆ **Parish Safeguarding Officer** is Hayley Macilwraith : contact on **07840 866201**
- ◆ **Parish Administrator** is Sue Perkins: contact on **07971 076835** or **stgerardscv.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 Beaulah, 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 baptised, attend Sunday Mass regularly and undertake 3 preparation meetings. At least one Godparent must be a baptised, practising Catholic. 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



◆ **Easter Raffle: Deferred until we re open.** Any donations towards the Easter raffle should be brought into Church when we re open and tickets will be on sale for our Post Easter raffle!

◆ **Walk of Witness: Cancelled**

◆ **St Gerard's 100 Club: Suspended**

◆ **Church Garden: Maybe we could make up some pots for when we re-open?** Anyone who wanted to donate any pots (preferably filled with plants/flowers)

◆ **Ladies that Lunch:** Suspended until further notice

◆ **WHAT TO DO WHEN WE CANNOT ATTEND MASS?**

Follow Mass on-line :To follow the Mass celebrated by Pope Francis: <https://www.vaticannews.va/en>

Masses and Services elsewhere: <https://www.churchservices.tv/whats-on-now/>

We are encouraged to make a 'spiritual communion' as it will strengthen our "desire for the sacrament of the Eucharist" (St John Paul II). Saint Teresa of Jesus wrote: 'When you do not receive communion and you do not attend Mass, you can make a "spiritual communion", which is a most beneficial practice; by it the love of God will be greatly impressed on you.'

**How Do I Make a "Spiritual Communion"?** Alone or together with others in your household, make the sign of the cross. You could read the Gospel of the day. Then share prayer intentions quietly or aloud. Say the Lord's Prayer, then make an act of spiritual communion.

*My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen. Close with the sign of the cross.*

**Pope Francis's Prayer to Mary during Coronavirus Pandemic:** O Mary, you always shine on our path as a sign of salvation and of hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm. You, Salvation of Your People, know what we need, and we are sure you will provide so that, as in Cana of Galilee, we may return to joy and to feasting after this time of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who has taken upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows to lead us, through the cross, to the joy of the resurrection. Amen. Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God. Do not disdain the entreaties of we who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.

### 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**