



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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Fourth Sunday of Lent

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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.

No Public Masses.

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

**Sunday 22nd March
Fourth Sunday of Lent**

Monday 23rd March

Tuesday 24th March

**Wednesday 25th March
Solemnity of the Annunciation
of the Lord**

For David Perkins RIP

**Thursday 26th March
For Felicity Knight 90th Birthday
on 28th March 2020**

**Friday 27th March
For Malachay Grey RIP**

**Saturday 28th March
The practice of covering crosses
and images may be observed.**

**Sunday 29th March
Fifth Sunday of Lent
For Agatha Maher RIP**

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 15th March 2020

Gift Aid	£104.60
Non Gift Aid	£ 64.39
Total Offertory	£168.99
Piety	£ 22.30
Votive Lights	£ 10.00
Total Banked	£ 201.29

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.

Thank you for your continued generosity

St Gerard's Catholic Primary School

'We Live, Love and Learn Together with Jesus'



Twitter: @StGerardsBham

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

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 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 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



My dear Parishioners,

I hope you and your family are keeping well during these difficult and troubling times. I am sure that you will take all the recommended advices to maintain your own health and wellbeing as much as possible. Remember that we all are travelling on the same boat and struggling together against this dangerous Coronavirus, the whole world are in agony so everybody should support each other and give a hand to fight against this deadly virus.

During this troubling time, we have been advised to have NO public gathering in Church, this is the most difficult time for our spiritual life; I have already missed you all greatly during celebrating Mass without you this morning, I don't know how long this agony go on but I can assure you my daily prayers offer to the Lord for you and your loved ones. Don't give up hope and prayers because the Lord will see our effort and He is not far from us.

During this time:

- ◆ The Church will be open for prayers as usual.
- ◆ We have Mass everyday but IN PRIVATE .
- ◆ There will be NO Baptism (Please re-book later in the year)
- ◆ There will be NO Weddings during this time
- ◆ There will be NO meeting and any kind of gathering, including our instruction classes for children and converts.
- ◆ In case of very urgent illness, please ring us and I'll be there for your loved ones who have died will be celebrated later in Church.

In the meantime, I can assure you that I shall be keeping you in my thoughts and prayers. May the Lord bless and keep you and your family safe during this difficult times. Yours ever in the Lord, Fr Mathew

- ◆ **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

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