



Parish of St. Gerard, Castle Vale

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

Parish Priest: **Father Mathew Pinakkattu** : 07788790928 Email: stgerardscv.rc@gmail.com

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Second Sunday after The Nativity

Sunday 3rd January 2021 Year B Volume 1 Page 112

Almighty ever-living God, splendour of faithful souls, graciously be pleased to fill the world with your glory, and show yourself to all peoples by the radiance of your light

Mass Times

Sunday 3rd January Mass
10.00am

For Margaret McAtavey RIP
with Baptism of Rosie Wootton

Wednesday 6th January

Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

Holy Day of Obligation

Mass 7.00pm

Thursday 7th January

Requiem Mass 10.30am for Linda Elizabeth Conroy

Sunday 10th January

Mass 10.00am

For Linda Conroy RIP

Confession on request.

Today we welcome Rosie Wootton to our Parish. Rosie will be Baptised during Mass this morning.

Linda Conroy RIP:

This Thursday we celebrate requiem Mass for the lovely Linda Conroy. Linda was the most remarkable lady, who along with the "Mothers" worked tirelessly for many many years for our parish and always with a smile on her face, a sparkle in her eye, a soft tone to her voice and a real care and genuine interest for others. She really was a very special lady and I know you will all join in praying for Linda and her family throughout this week and particularly on Thursday as we receive Linda into St Gerard's Church for her last time. God Bless you Linda and may you rest in peace. As we still have COVID restrictions in place regarding the numbers of people able to attend services, this Mass is for family and guests only.

As we begin a New Year, may I take this opportunity to thank everybody in this parish: Parishioners, Benefactors, Friends, Visitors, who have helped in many ways through unprecedented times to maintain loving and caring community that is St Gerard's. May the Lord continue to 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.

Who's Who?

Safeguarding and Health and Safety Officer Hayley

Macilwraith: **07840 866201**

Administrator Sue Perkins:
07971 076835 or
stgerardscv.rc@gmail.com

Young Persons Officer Eleanor Perkins: **07852 404992** or
emp010697@googlemail.com

Parish Finance Committee Fr, Sue Perkins, Sue Byrne, Therese, Frank.

Pastoral Committee led by Shirley Harris.

Social Committee Beaulah, Sarita, Bernie, Rosaline, Sue.

Premises Committee is still to be established. Speak to Sue Perkins if interested.

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.

Communion to the Sick and the Housebound: Please speak to Fr if you know of anyone who is unable to come to Mass and would like to receive Communion.

Altar Flowers

Thankyou to everyone who donated towards our flowers for the Altar over the Christmas period. Please continue to consider sponsoring the flowers each week in memory of a loved one.



Offertory Collection 27th December 2020

Gift Aid	£ 83.00
Non Gift Aid	£ 22.15
Total Offertory	£115.15
Total Banked	£115.15

Mass attendance: 33

Thankyou for your continued generosity especially those who continue to support the parish whilst unable to attend Mass.

Please remember in your prayers:

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

The sick: Noel O'Reilly, Janice Pidgeon, Kath Taylor, Stan Oliver, Frances Irwin, George Irwin, Jean Chambers, Debbie Johnson, Perry Desmond, Philip Fox, Kevin Hollis, Kathy Beatie, Tina Parkes, Father Gabby Maguire & all the sick priests of the diocese. May the Lord grant them the healing they require.

And all those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May the rest in peace. Amen

**St Gerard's Catholic Primary
School**

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



Twitter: @StGerardsBham

FINANCE

**Gift Aid envelopes and Gift Aid
donations**

If you would like to take a box of envelopes for regular use then please enquire with one of the stewards or visit the Presbytery. Please complete a Gift Aid declaration if you are a taxpayer. Thank you to those parishioners who regularly pay their offerings by way of Standing Order. As you would expect our collections have been substantially reduced during these uncertain times and as our only source of income and no financial support from the Government for churches we still have to cover our bills.

A standing order form is available on our website if you wished to set this up.

PASTORAL

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.

Baptisms; A parent of the child to be baptised must be baptised, attend Sunday Mass regularly and undertake 2 preparation meetings. If you require your child to be baptised then please speak to Father for details of forthcoming preparation meetings.

PREMISES and HEALTH AND SAFETY

We are pleased to announce that our Church Hall has been rented on a full time basis by Upcycle. Many of you may be familiar with Upcycle who have relocated from their previous premises to be in the centre of the Castle Vale community whom they serve. Upcycle opened their doors last week. Please pop in and see what they have to offer. Not only is the rental income important for our parish sustainability, we hope to be able to work closely with Upcycle extending the services that we can offer to the residents of Castle Vale.

SAFEGUARDING

At this current time it continues to be in everyone's safety for only Fr to be present on the Alter during public Mass. Reading Lists, Eucharistic Ministers Lists and Altar Servers and Choir will be resumed once social distancing measures are withdrawn.

SOCIAL

It is very much hoped that we may see our Thursday afternoon tea club returning in the New Year once COVID restrictions are lifted. The new Parish Area is coming along and is now ready for decorating. Any volunteers? We hope to transform this area into a Café style room for our social gatherings and maybe open it to the public as a Café a couple of mornings a week for income. Please keep our intentions, and the needs of our community in your prayers.

Lord, I thank you for this new day. I know that you love me, You look at me at this moment and want this day to be a brand-new beginning with "a future full of hope". Whatever I have to face today, one thing I know is that you will be there with me as my best friend, helping, consoling, strengthening, healing and guiding me.

Lord Jesus, I give you my hands to do your work.

I give you my feet to go your way.

I give you my eyes to see as you do.

I give you my tongue to speak your words.

I give you my mind that you may think in me.

I give you my spirit that you may pray in me.

Above all, I give you my heart that you may love in me your Father and all humankind.

I give you my whole self that you may grow in me, so that it is you, Lord Jesus, who live and work and pray in me this day. Amen



Please keep our children and staff in your prayers as our school continues to keep our children safe and well in these uncertain times. It is a real joy to see and hear them enjoying their playtimes which is a welcome reminder that all is well and God is good.

PARISH ADMINISTRATION

Church Gardens

After the lovely job that we did on the gardens for the spring summer we could do with a "gardening morning" preparing for the forthcoming winter season. Any volunteers?

Church Cleaning

As you are aware our church has to be cleaned before and after any service. If anyone is able to help after Mass on Sundays please let one of the stewards know. Thank you

For both of the above please only volunteer if you are well and not shielding. Social distancing measures will apply.