



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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Fourth Sunday of Lent

Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving.

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O God, who through your Word reconcile the human race to yourself in a wonderful way, grant, we pray that with prompt devotion and eager faith for Christian people may hasten toward the solemn celebrations to come.

Mothering Sunday

Dear Lord, today I turn to you to give you thanks for my **mother**. With your own gift of life, she bore me in her womb and gave me life. Most of all, Lord, on this **Mother's Day**, give my **mother** the graces she most needs and desires today. I ask you this, in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Saviour forever and ever. Amen.

Mass Times

Sunday 14th March

Confession 9.30am-9.50am

Mass 10.00am

For Hoods Charitable Trust deceased parents and sick members of the family.

Stations of the Cross

6.00pm

Sunday 21st March

Confession 9.30am-9.50am

Mass 10.00am

Reflection:

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

Mission Statement *We, the members of St Gerard's R.C. Church, are baptised in Jesus Christ, empowered by the spirit, nurtured in community and nourished by prayer, word and sacrament. Therefore, for the greater glory of God, we proclaim for all people the saving message of the Gospel, and joyfully share our time, talent and resources, in works of mercy and justice, both within and beyond our parish community.*

Red Boxes— If not already done so Please bring your Missio Red Boxes into church and leave them on the table in the Narthex

Geoff Hood Charitable Trust— Today's Mass is offered in Thanksgiving of the Geoff Hood Charitable Trust, in remembrance of the deceased members of the Hood family who established this trust and for sick members of the Hood family. This charity has regularly supported St Gerard's with requests for funding for projects and has recently provided funds to assist with our regeneration of the Parish space in the church centre. With their support, and I should say the support of our neighbouring parish Holy Cross & St Francis and The New Testament Church of God here on Castle Vale, this project is planned for completion in time for us to be able to come together socially and provide a much needed community space for the people of Castle Vale post Covid.

Children's Liturgy— Today we will be offering a children's liturgy at the back of church. We continue to ensure that COVID restrictions in terms of social restrictions and hygiene remain hence why we will not be leaving church and there will not be the usual offertory procession that we now the children enjoy!. Hopefully this will be a start to us returning to some normality. Today they will be saying thank you to our Mother Mary and also their Moms.

Second Collection: Today and next week there will be a retiring collection for flowers for the Alter over Easter. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Easter Mass Times: Will be published shortly.

Alter Flowers:

Please continue to consider sponsoring the flowers each week in memory of a loved one.

Thank you



Offertory Collection 7th March 2021

Gift Aid Envelopes	£ 68.00
Gift Aid Standing orders	£50.00
Non Gift Aid	£26.98
Second Collections	£ 11.00
Piety	£37.38
Total Banked	£ 143.36
Mass attendance:	36

Today there will be a retiring collection for Alter Flowers



PASTORAL: Committee led by Shirley Harris.

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

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.

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

Children's Liturgy Group and our Parish Youth Group will resume as soon as allowed. We are exploring opportunities for a virtual Youth Group. Watch this space!!



St Gerard's Catholic Primary School

'We Live, Love and Learn Together with Jesus'

Twitter: @StGerardsBham

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

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 has been a real joy to see and hear them enjoying their playtimes recently and a welcome reminder that all is well and God is good.

FINANCE: Committee Fr, Sue Perkins, Sue Byrne, Therese, Frank.

Gift Aid envelopes, Standing Orders and Legacy donations

We have obtained a quote for repair of the church roof where water has been leaking.

If you would like to take a box of envelopes for regular use by yourself or members of your family then please enquire with one of the stewards. Please complete a Gift Aid declaration if you are a taxpayer. A standing order form is available on our website if you wished to set this up.

Red Boxes: Could you please your red boxes into Church during March for counting. If you are aware of any friends or neighbours that have a box you could bring on their behalf.

PREMISES: Committee Fr, Sue Perkins, Sue Byrne, Therese, Frank.

We are pleased to announce that the rental agreement on our Church Hall has been renewed for a further 12 months to Upcycle. This rental income is very important to our parish sustainability as is being able to work closely with Upcycle, extending the services that we can offer to the residents of Castle Vale. *Please keep the success of this partnership in your prayers.*

HEALTH AND SAFETY AND SAFEGUARDING: Safeguarding and Health and Safety Officer Hayley Macilwraith: 07840 866201

As we have entered Lockdown 3 it is ever important that we adhere to the stringent restrictions in place in our church to ensure the safety of our parishioners, visitors, volunteers and clergy. Please continue to follow the guidance of our stewards in respect of hygiene, remaining in your seats for the duration of Mass and following one way systems around the church when entering and exiting. Please help us to do our bit to reduce the spread of this virus. It continues to be in everyone's safety for only Fr to be present on the Alter during public Mass. Thankyou to everyone who has helped us to be exemplary in our approach to safeguarding our Priest in his service and our parishioners in their ability to visit our church safely. We pray that we soon start to see the lifting of some restrictions and a move back to more normal services where we get to follow mass books and hymn books and engage in a bit of congregational singing!

SOCIAL: Committee Beulah, Sarita, Bernie, Rosaline, Sue.

We await restrictions being lifted before we are able to come together socially. Please keep our intentions and the needs of our community in your prayers. Please check out our **Facebook page and Website for updates.**

We are also operating a WhatsApp group to share daily prayers, blessings, prayers and intentions. Please join that group by seeing Sue who will add you. You do need a mobile phone to do so.

PARISH ADMINISTRATION: Sue Perkins: 07971 076835 or

stgerardscv.rc@gmail.com

Diocesan Newsletter

To keep up-to-date with all the latest news, information and online events from across the Archdiocese and beyond please sign up to the newsletter, issued every few weeks via email.

Please visit www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/e-news to sign up.

Please remember in your prayers:

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

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