



Parish of St. Gerard, Castle Vale

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

Parish Priest: **Father Mathew Pinakkattu** : 07788790928 Email: stgerard.bham@rcaob.org.uk

Presbytery: 2 Renfrew Square, Castle Vale, Birmingham B35 6JT T: 0121 747 7390

W: www.stgerardschurch.co.uk



PALM SUNDAY

10th April 2022 Year C Volume 1 Page 184

On this day the church recalls the entrance of Christ the Lord into Jerusalem to accomplish his Paschal Mystery. Accordingly the memorial of this entrance of the Lord takes place at all Masses. We should gather outside of Church with our palms that will be blessed and process into Church. The children will be waving their palms as we enter into Church.

Mass Times

Sunday 10th April

Palm Sunday of the

Passion of the Lord

Mass 10.00 am

for Carmel Gaffney and May Eales RIP and anniversary of Jim Sergeant

Monday 11th April

Mass 10.00 am

12.30pm Funeral Mass for May Eales

Tuesday 12th April

Mass 10.00 am for Maureen Oliver RIP

Wednesday 13th April

Confessions 9.30-9.50 am

Mass 10.00 am

Maundy Thursday

Mass of the Lord's Last

Supper

14th April

Mass 7.00pm

Good Friday 15th April

Stations of the Cross

3.00pm

Holy Saturday 16th April

Mass 6.00pm

Easter Sunday 17th April

Mass 10.00am

with Children's Liturgy

for Mary McHugh and Teresa Jennings



Lenten Prayer

"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.

Easter Raffle: Raffle tickets are available from Sarita at the back of church. Thank you to those that have been reaching out for donations from local shops and businesses. We have some wonderful prize.

ITS NOT TOO LATE!! CAFOD-Walk Against Hunger: 38 days in and 185km walked!

Please consider sponsoring Sue for her efforts during this Lent season. Pope Francis calls for us all to live simply, and with love for our sisters and brothers. He says "we can choose to cultivate kindness. Those who do so become stars shining in the midst of darkness." There are 200 million children in the world whose lives are at risk from malnutrition. So, this Lent, Sue aims to walk 200km, and help give hunger its marching orders. She will walk her last 15km over the next two days so please get behind her!!!



Who's Who?

Parish Safeguarding and Health and Safety Officer is Hayley Macilwraith: 07840 866201

Parish Administrator is Sue Perkins: 07971 076835 or stgerard.bham@rcaob.org.uk

Young Persons Officer is Eleanor Perkins: 07852404992 or emp010697@googlemail.com

Parish Finance and Premises Committee is made up of Fr, Sue Perkins, Sue Byrne, Therese and Frank.

Pastoral Committee is led by Shirley.

Social Committee is made up

Altar Flowers



Please consider donating towards remembrance of a loved one.

Thank you

Offertory 3rd April

Gift Aid	£67.00
Regular Giving	£80.00
Non Gift Aid	£44.19
Bonus Ball	£95.00
Total Banked	£206.19

Mass attendance: 64



Recently died and those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

May Eales, Maureen Oliver: Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

The sick: Eileen Morrissey, Mary Quilty, Mark Ford, Janice Pidgeon, Kath Taylor, Stan Oliver, Frances Irwin, George Irwin, Jean Chambers, Debbie Johnson, Perry Desmond, Philip Fox, Kevin Hollis, Tina Parkes and 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.

Funeral Arrangements

May Eales

Monday 11th April 2022

12.30pm Mass at St Gerard's Church

2.00pm at Sutton Cemetery

Maureen Oliver

Wednesday 20th April 2022

4.00pm Received into Church

Thursday 21st April 2022

Requiem Mass 12.00pm

Please remember both of the above ladies who played a big part in our church community during their lives.

PASTORAL

Hospital Chaplaincy: If you or a family member is in hospital and would like a visit by a Priest or Eucharistic Minister please inform the parish office.

Baptism: Please complete the request forms available at stgerardschurch.co.uk and send to the parish office. You will be contacted to book a date but you must give at least two months notice to attend a preparation course before confirming any date. A parent of the child to be baptised must be baptised, attend Sunday Mass regularly and undertake the preparation meetings.

Marriage: Please contact Fr Mathew initially to discuss your request for marriage. This must be done before Fr can agree any dates with you as you will be required to attend wedding preparation classes beforehand.

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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.

WALK WITH ME BOOKLETS available to assist us in our prayers during this important season. *Note: the Parish has paid £1.50 for the booklets so if a donation could be made to cover this cost?*

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Please continue to be vigilant in the COVID times by maintaining distances within church and wearing face coverings where possible. This is particularly important at this time where we are seeing increased numbers of people testing positive for the virus. Hand sanitiser is available when entering and leaving church and we recommend that this is utilised. **If you have any symptoms of COVID please do not attend church without taking a lateral flow test.** Lets continue the good work we have done to date in containing this virus and keeping each other safe.

FINANCE

STOP PRESS: For the first time in a long time, and despite the difficulties that these last 2 years have presented us with, we are delighted to say that we are finally in credit in our bank account and have a secured monthly revenue from rental income from our church centre. We can head into 2022 knowing we are secure in covering our bills each month and have a little to make inroads into the much needed repairs to our church. Without the worry of finances, and with the improvements we will be able to make to the fabric of our church, we can start to think about the Synod message, exploring what our church should look like in this third millennium?

SOCIAL

Upcycle are looking for volunteers to tend the tables in the Café or work in the shop for maybe a few hours once a week? This is a wonderful opportunity to really demonstrate our faith and make a difference to our community. See Sue if you feel you could offer a few hours?

Summer Fete: Sarita has suggested that we look to holding a summer fete this year to celebrate all that we have achieved as a parish over these past couple of years where COVID has impacted on all our lives. We will be setting a date for an initial meeting shortly and would love as many parishioners as possible to get involved. **WATCH THIS SPACE!**

PARISH ADMINISTRATION

Volunteer in the Parish: Our parish needs you. A vital aspect of a church is people willing to bring their talents, experience and energy to our various ministries and activities. Could your New Year's resolution be getting involved in our parish life? This can be very fulfilling and help build our community. We have lots of different ways you can get involved such as:

Coffees: See Sue to put your name down to serve tea and coffee after Mass on Sundays.

Church Gardens: I know a set date is not always convenient for everyone so please feel free to attend at any time to do a bit of weeding/cutting back. All help is greatly appreciated

Church Cleaning: I know a set date is not always convenient for everyone so please feel free to attend at any time to do a bit of cleaning if you have a spare hour. If you phone Fr he will confirm he is around to let you in. All help is greatly appreciated.

Readers Rotas etc: Please see Sue if you would like to offer your services with Mass each week. Flowers/ Visiting the Sick/Eucharistic Ministers/Choir.....

Whilst "being" a Catholic is very important there are many jobs to be done and so "doing" Catholic is equally important. There really is something for everyone!

Proud2Profess 2022:

A huge Thank you to Robert Nancy and Seraphina who attended this event yesterday at Oscott College. They represented our Parish admirably and brave enough to question Bishop Stephen on questions they had about their faith and whether he liked Marmite?? I hope that they enjoyed this time amongst other young Catholics, celebrating their faith, joining liturgy, open mic and lunch, interactive Stations of the Cross, games, sport and Mass. A great start for them to Holy Week.

