



## 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



### Twenty Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time-Prisoner Week

Sunday 9th October 2022 Year C Volume 2 Page 149

*May your grace, O Lord, we pray, at all times go before us and follow after and make us always determined to carry out good works.*

#### Mass Times

**Sunday 9th October**

**Mass 10.00 am with Children's**

**Liturgy for the Woolgrove  
family RIP**

**Monday 10th October**

**Mass 9.00am**

**Tuesday 11th October**

**Mass 10.00am**

**Wednesday 12th October**

**No Mass**

**Thursday 13th October**

**No Mass**

**Friday 14th October**

**School Mass 9.00am**

**Mass 7.00pm**

**Saturday 15th October**

**Mass 5.00pm**

**Sunday 16th October**

**Confession 9.30am**

**Mass 10.00 am with Children's**

**Liturgy**



#### Sunday Obligation:

Since the beginning of the Covid pandemic, until the present time, we have shared with you our judgment that the situation of the last two years has meant that the Sunday Obligation has been impeded and has needed to be fulfilled in other ways. We thank God that this situation has now changed. "The pressing challenges of the pandemic have lessened significantly. Most people have resumed the wide range of normal activities, no longer restricted by the previous Covid measures. We therefore believe that the reasons which have prevented Catholics from attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation no longer apply. "We understand there will still be some members of our congregations who, for reasons of health, do not feel safe enough to return to Mass. It has always been the understanding of the Church that when the freedom of any Catholic to attend Mass in person is impeded for a serious reason, because of situations such as ill health, care for the sick or legitimate fear, this is not a breach of the Sunday Obligation." **Bishops Conference**

#### Making time for Confession

The Church calls us to examine our lives, and amend and correct those faults that separate us from God. One of the best and most effective ways we can draw closer to God is by confessing our sins. It is through the Sacrament of Reconciliation that the Church provides us with the means to make our relationship right again with God. The sacrament is one of healing because through it we find absolution and mercy and forgiveness. Sometimes we get nervous about going to confession. But don't let nerves or fear hold you back. However long it has been, however bad the sin, however embarrassed you feel, don't let anything stop you from going to confession. Please think about taking this opportunity to come closer to God.

#### Who's Who?

**Parish Safeguarding and  
Health and Safety Officer:**

Hayley Macilwraith: 07840  
866201

**Parish Administrator:** Sue

Perkins: 07971 076835

**Young Persons Officer:**

Therese Mimboe: 07897  
530915

**Parish Finance and**

**Premises Committee:** Fr,  
Sue Perkins, Sue Byrne,  
Therese and Frank.

**Pastoral Committee** is led  
by Shirley.

**Social Committee:**

Beulah, Sarita, Bernie,  
Rosaline and Sue.

#### Altar Flowers

Please consider donating  
towards remembrance of a  
loved one.



**Parish 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.



**Popes Prayer Intentions for October:** We pray for the Church, ever faithful to, and courageous in preaching the Gospel, may the Church be a community of solidarity, fraternity and welcome, always living in an atmosphere of synodality.

Today we welcome our children back for Children's Liturgy. Thank you to all those that have volunteered to run this for our Parish.

#### Offertory

**2nd October 2022**

Gift Aid	£56.00
Regular Giving	£80.00
Non Gift Aid	£36.93
Fr Hudson's	£3.00
Votive Candles	£13.90
<b>Total Banked</b>	<b>£109.83</b>



**Recently died and those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

**The sick:** Joanne Lawton, Rose Cogan, Andrew Trueman, Eileen Morrissey, Mary Quilty, Mark Ford, 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.

*Let us please pray for **Eileen Morrissey**, our wonderful friend and long standing parishioner of St Gerard's Church. A most gentle, generous, kind and faithful servant. Eileen was very unwell in the QE hospital however has astounded doctors by making improvements that were not expected and after being transferred to Good Hope hospital she continued to recover and has now returned home to continue her recovery. Heavenly Father, giver of life and health, comfort and relieve your sick servant and give your power of healing to Eileen, that she may be strengthened in her weakness and have confidence in your loving care, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.*

#### 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](http://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.

**Mass Intentions:** If you would like to have a Mass celebrated for a particular intention: on behalf of a family member, a friend, a deceased loved one, to remember a birthday or anniversary, envelopes are available at the back of church.

**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.

#### SOCIAL

**Trip to Italy—** Fr Mathew is looking to lead a trip to Italy next Easter. It is proposed that it will be for 6 days and take in Pisa, Florence, Assisi, Rome, Venice, Padua, Milan. Please see Fr if you would be interested in joining him. A meeting will be held shortly for those interested to discuss more details.

**Prisoner Week;** This week direct our thoughts and prayers to the needs of prisoners and their families, all who work in and are affected by the criminal justice system. Today please keep them all in our prayers.

**Sunday 23rd October is Missio-World Mission Sunday:** There will be a second collection. Please collect an envelope from the back of church.

#### Kenelm Youth Trust— our Diocesan Youth Team

Please visit their website at : [www.Kenelmyouthtrust.org.uk](http://www.Kenelmyouthtrust.org.uk) to see the many events coming up in the next few months for our children. We are hoping that maybe some of our parish children may be interested in some of the events and would be very supportive of fundraising to make attending these events more realistic. Please see Therese if there any of these events that your child may consider attending and we can see what we can do to assist.

#### WORLD YOUTH DAY LISBON

Please invite a young person (aged 16 - 30 yrs) from your parish to take part in this extra ordinary opportunity to be part of the universal church and meet young Catholics from every country around the world as we gather with Pope Francis in Lisbon. July 24th - Aug 7th 2023 . Our parish is looking to sponsor at least one traveller. Please let Therese know if you are interested.

**The Faith in Action and JPPI Award** enables young people to take an active part in the life of their Church or gives recognition for the service they already give - in the life of their parish community, school and society. It also enables young people to become more aware of the teaching and role of the Catholic Church in the world and to engage at a deep level with Christ.

We would like to run the award in our parish to recognise the great service that our youth provide whether in altar serving, reading, choir, children's liturgy and fundraising. Please see Therese if this is something your child would be interested in.

#### FEARLESS 2022

Join us on Oct 14th - 16th 2022 for our parish youth groups retreat at Alton Castle. Aimed at young people in years 5 - 9. Cost: £79pp. To register your parish youth group please click [HERE](#). After you register you will be sent a consent form link to send to your parents.

Fearless will be a jam-packed weekend full of adventure and always books up quickly so make sure you register your youth group early to avoid disappointment!

#### LIMITLESS 2022

Yes it's back! Our weekend for older teens. 'Limitless' is running at the heavily subsidised price of £55 for young people from our parish communities in years 10 - 13. Book for your parish group or young people are welcome to book themselves and their friends. If you enjoyed the Fearless retreat and are looking for the next step...well this is the retreat for you.

#### FLAME 2023

Journey with KYT on Saturday 4 March 2023 to OVO Arena, Wembley for the largest Catholic gathering of young people in England and Wales.

To see what it's all about watch [FLAME PROMO!](#)

KYT are taking all of the hassle out of the trip for you and organising one all-inclusive booking price. This will include coach travel with a local pick up location, Flame Passes, insurance, and a Diocesan T-Shirt.

#### Relics of St Bernadette arrive in St Chad's Cathedral

This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to celebrate St Bernadette and venerate her relics as they visit three venues across the Archdiocese in October. The relics will be visiting St Chad's Cathedral in Birmingham, Our Lady of Lourdes in Hednesford and the Immaculate Conception in Bicester over the weekend of 7 - 10 October. This very special once in a lifetime event will provide an opportunity for people of all ages and backgrounds to experience the special gifts and charisms of Lourdes. Please register the time you wish to attend (this helps the venues anticipate numbers, it is not a timeslot - entry to venues will be via queuing)