



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



Thirty First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 30th October 2022 Year C Volume 2 Page 157

Almighty and merciful God, by whose gift your faithful offer you right and praiseworthy service, grant, we pray, that we may hasten without stumbling to receive the things you have promised.

Mass Times

Sunday 30th October

Mass 10.00 am with Children's Liturgy for Jaisamma Abraham RIP

Monday 31st October

Mass 7.00pm

Tuesday 1st November

Solemnity of All Saints

Mass 7.00pm followed by Italy meeting

Wednesday 2nd November

All Souls Day

Mass 7.00pm

Thursday 3rd November

Mass 10.00am

Friday 4th November

School Mass 9.00am

Baptism Preparation 6.00pm

Mass 7.00pm

Saturday 5th November

Mass 5.00pm

Sunday 6th November

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.

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 November We pray for children that are suffering, especially those who are homeless, orphans, and victims of war; may they be guaranteed access to education and the opportunity to experience family affection.

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.

Offertory

23rd October 2022

Gift Aid	£63.00
Regular Giving	£80.00
Non Gift Aid	£62.37
Missio	£31.35
Total Banked	£156.72

Thank you for your continued generosity

Next week there will be a second collection for the Johnson Association



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: A parent of the child to be baptised must be baptised, attend Sunday Mass regularly and undertake the preparation meetings. Please see Fr after Mass to discuss your request. You will be required to attend a preparation course before confirming any date for baptism so please bear this in mind in preparing for the child's baptism.

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.

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.

SOCIAL

Trip to Italy—Fr would like all those interested in joining him for our trip to Italy next Easter to join him for a brief initial meeting after 7.00pm Mass on Tuesday 1st November. We hope that following Fr's test run recently we will be able to firm up our plans for the 6 day trip. If you are interested but cannot make this meeting then please let Fr know and he will update you following the meeting.

New Testament Church of God on Castle Vale

We have received an invitation from our neighbours to join them in celebrating 50th Anniversary Celebrations of Christian Witness of the New Testament Church of God here on Castle Vale. Please see the poster on the noticeboard for the details. Celebrations will be held on Saturday 29th October and Sunday 30th October at St Cuthberts Church.

Fr Solomon Ghebray— Silver Jubilee of Ordination

We have been asked to advertise the celebration of Fr Solomon's Silver Jubilee of Ordination at his Parish.

Parishioners are most welcome to attend the Mass on Sunday 6th November at 11.00am at St Vincent's Church followed by a Buffet Reception in the Parish Social Room.

It would be really helpful for catering purposes if you could text Anne on 07773 731301 and let her know if you will be attending.

World Youth Day (WYD) is a worldwide encounter with the Pope celebrated about every three years in a different country. The most recent WYD was celebrated in Panama City, Panamá from January 22-27, 2019 and the next World Youth Day will be held in Lisbon, Portugal in 2023. WYD is open to all young people who want to take part in a festive encounter centered on Jesus Christ together with their peers. This event is an opportunity to personally experience the universality of the Catholic Church, and to share with the whole world the hope of many young people who are committing their lives to Christ and His Church. World Youth Day is a unique way to deepen your faith and grow closer to Christ, through prayer and the sacraments, together with hundreds of thousands of other young people who share your interests and ambitions. Our four young adults Robert, Nancy, Seraphina and Joyce are hoping to join the Birmingham Catholic Youth team on this trip. They will be sharing with us their journey of preparation and request for support.

Blessing of the Graves 2022

The Abbey	Sunday 6 th November 1pm
Oscott	Saturday 5th November 3pm
Rectory Road	Sunday 20th November 2.30pm
Newhall	Sunday 6th November 2.30pm
Witton	Sunday 27 th November 2.00pm
Handsworth	To be confirmed

Our refreshed Piety stall!

Our Youth have taken responsibility for running our piety stall, overseen by Therese. They have purchased a few nice items and would love to hear from you as to what else you would like to see available to purchase from them? Their initial purchases have been supported by the parish with funds provided by the 100 club but we hope that they will very soon generate funds to be able to add to their stock. We are very hopeful to have a parish Christmas card this year! These will be available from the piety stall in December so please hold fire in purchasing your cards! Please take a moment to take a look after mass and speak to the children. Maybe over a period of time the profits generated will help them finance a youth retreat at Alton Castle or further afield!!