



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

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Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 15th January Year A Volume 1 Page 125

Almighty, ever living God, who govern all things, both in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the pleading of your people and bestow your peace on our times.

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.

Mass Times

Sunday 15th January

Second Sunday in Ordinary
Time

Confession 9.30am

Mass 10.00 am with

Children's Liturgy

Monday 16th January

Mass 10.00am

Funeral Service 1.00pm for

Herbert Dobree RIP

Tuesday 17th January

Mass 10.00am

Wednesday 18th January

Mass 10.00am

Thursday 19th January

Mass 10.00am

Friday 20th January

School Mass 9.00am

Mass 7.00pm

Saturday 21st January

Mass 5.00pm

Sunday 22nd January

Third Sunday in Ordinary
Time

Mass 10.00 am with

Children's Liturgy



Themes for the 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Ordinary Time is far from ordinary because it reminds us of the promises God has in store for us.

The Mass readings for the 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A inspire us to think about the call to holiness and the need to declare that Jesus has died for our redemption. In the first reading, we hear one of the "Servant Songs". The psalm is a prayer of both thanksgiving and lament. The second reading evokes the call to holiness. The Gospel recalls the public actions of John the Baptist to identify Jesus as the Lamb of God. John the Baptist recalls the baptism of Jesus and that he saw the Spirit descend upon Jesus.

Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. He is the one of whom I said

'A man is coming after me who ranks ahead of me because he existed before me.'

RIP-Pope Benedict XVI

"I pray for the repose of the soul of His Holiness Emeritus Pope Benedict XVI as his long life of devoted service comes to a close. May he now enjoy forever the company of the saints and the reward of all the Lord's good and faithful servants. I recall with gratitude the warmth and impact of Pope Benedict's presence during his State Visit in 2010 and especially during his visit to Birmingham for the Beatification of Cardinal Newman. He showed us the love of the pastor's heart which had guided his ministry as priest, as bishop and as Supreme Pastor. I am grateful for the prayerful way that he supported his successor Pope Francis, continuing to promote the unity and mission of the Church. On behalf of the clergy, Religious and all the faithful of the Archdiocese of Birmingham I offer our condolences and pray that Emeritus Pope Benedict may rest in peace with the risen Lord" **Archbishop Bernard Longley**

Prayer Cards for the repose of the soul of His Holiness Emeritus Pope Benedict XVI are available at the back of church today. Please take one and join together as a parish to pray for Pope Benedict.

Offertory

8th January 2023

GA £44.00

NGA £36.46

Baptism Donation
£30.00

Total Banked £110.46

Thankyou



Recently died and those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Pope Benedict XVI: Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.

The sick: Isabell Walsh, Mary Walsh, Isabel Hackett, 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.

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.



Please keep our children, teachers and staff in your prayers as they settle into school after their Christmas Break. May the joy of Christmas remain with them as they begin a new term. We look forward to seeing the

new Altar Servers back on the Altar and the younger children back for their weekly children's liturgy on a Sunday morning. As the Pope's Prayer Intention for January states: We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.

Funeral Service for Herbert Dobree RIP.

A simple service will take place at St Gerard's Church on Monday 16th January at 1.00pm for Herbert's family and friends ahead of Herbert's cremation. All are invited. I understand many may be at work and school but where possible it would be nice for any of his brothers and sisters to be present to show our respects and offer our thoughts and prayers for Herbert and his family.



Pope's Prayer Intentions for January: For Educators: We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.



Italy 2023

Nine parishioners along with Fr Mathew have booked their flights for Italy in April 2023 and recently secured accommodation for the various cities we will be visiting. If travellers could aim to pay 50% of their balance by the end of February and the final balance by the end of March ahead of our trip on 10th April. See Sue for details.



Readers Rotas January to June 2023

Thankyou to those who have offered their time to read at our Sunday Masses. A rota covering January to June 2023 is available at the back of church today. If you cannot make your rostered day then please arrange to swop with someone ahead of the date. Thank you.

"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