

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 may 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.

FINANCE:

APF Red Boxes: *These are due to be collected and counted. Please arrange to bring these into church over the next few weeks. Thankyou.*

Offertory Boxes: *I know a lot of people have kindly moved to standing order for regular giving, but we do have spare offertory boxes for any parishioners that feel able to make regular contributions to our parish, especially when they are unable to always attend weekly Mass. Please see Sue if interested.*

Piety Stall

First Holy Communion and Confirmation cards along with medals, bibles and gifts are available to purchase or order at the back of church today. Please take a look as you leave church. Thank you.



Please keep in your prayers all the children who received the Sacrament of Confirmation this week and are preparing for First Holy Communion in June.

SOCIAL: Summer Fete: *We look to holding a summer fete again this year to celebrate all that we have achieved as a parish over the past year. A date for an initial meeting will follow shortly and would love as many parishioners as possible to get involved. -Meeting after church next Sunday to discuss.*

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. This can be very fulfilling and help build our community. We have lots of different ways you can get involved such as:*

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.

Flower arranging/Visiting the Sick/Eucharistic Ministers/ Choir/Altar Serving

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!

"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



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



Solemnity of Pentecost

Sunday 28th May 2023 Year A Volume 1 Page

O God, who by the mystery of today's great feast sanctify your whole Church in every people and nation, pour out, we pray, the gifts of the Holy Spirit across the face of the earth and, with the divine grace that was at work when the Gospel was first proclaimed, fill now once more the hearts of believers.

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 28th May

Pentecost Sunday

Confession 9.30am

Mass 10.00 am with

Children's Liturgy

Monday 29th May

No Mass

Tuesday 30th May

No Mass

Wednesday 31st May

Mass 10.00am

Thursday 1st June

Mass 10.00am

Friday 2nd June

Mass 7.00pm

Saturday 3rd June

Mass 5.00pm

Sunday 28th May

Solemnity of Most Holy

Trinity

Confession 9.30am

Mass 10.00 am with

Children's Liturgy



Based on the gospel for Sunday 28th May, Pentecost Sunday John 20:19-23

The Season of Easter concludes with today's celebration, the Feast of Pentecost. On Pentecost we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles gathered in the upper room in Jerusalem; this event marks the beginning of the Church. The story of Pentecost is found in the Acts of the Apostles, today's first reading. The account in today's Gospel, John 20:19-23, also recounts how Jesus gave the gift of the Holy Spirit to his disciples. There is no need to try to reconcile these two accounts. It is enough that we know that after his death, Jesus fulfilled his promise to send to his disciples a helper, an advocate, who would enable them to be his witnesses throughout the world. We already heard today's Gospel proclaimed on the Second Sunday of Easter this year. That Gospel passage, however, also included the description of Jesus' appearance to Thomas. In that context, we were led to reflect on belief and unbelief. In the context of the Feast of Pentecost, John reminds us about the integral connection between the gifts of peace and forgiveness and the action of the Holy Spirit. Jesus greets his disciples with the gift of peace. Jesus then commissions his disciples to continue the work that he has begun, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you." He breathes the Holy Spirit upon the disciples and sends them to continue his work of reconciliation through the forgiveness of sins. Jesus' act of breathing the Holy Spirit mirrors God's act of breathing life into Adam at the time of Creation. This Gospel reminds us that the Church is called to be a reconciling presence in the world. The reconciling presence of Christ is celebrated in the Church's sacramental life. In the Sacrament of Baptism, we are cleansed of sin and become a new creation in Christ. In the Sacrament of Penance, the Church celebrates the mercy of God through the forgiving of sins. This reconciling presence is also to be a way of life for Christians. In situations of conflict, we are to be agents of peace and harmony among people.

Altar Flowers

Please consider donating towards remembrance of a loved one.



Offertory

21st May 2023

GA £99.00

NGA £55.83

Cath Comms £58.89

Total £213.72

**Thank you for
your continued
generosity**



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

The sick: Margaret Ludlow, Isabel Hackett, Rose Cogan, Andrew Trueman, Eileen Morrissey, Mary Quilty, Mark Ford, Frances Irwin, George Irwin, 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.

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