

## 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 Officer:** Hayley Macilwraith-

sg.stgerard.bham@rcaob.org.uk

**Parish Health and Safety** Hayley Macilwraith-

hs.stgerard.bham@rcaob.org.uk

**Parish Administrator:** Sue Perkins:  
stgerard.bham@rcaob.org.uk

**Young Persons Officer:** To be appointed :

yth.stgerard.bhm@rcaob.org.uk

**Parish Finance and Premises**

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

## Summer Fete: Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> July

**12.00-3.00 Donations required:**

*Books for a book stall. Cakes for a cake stall (on the day). Plants for a plant stall (on the day). Bottle for a bottle stall. Prizes for a tombola. Flower arrangements to decorate our church? Sweets for small prizes. Please let Sarita know if you are available to help on a stall on the day.*



Raffle tickets available. Please take a few books and encourage family and friends to support us.



## St Gerard's Catholic Primary School

*'We Live, Love and Learn Together with Jesus'*

**Twitter:** @StGerardsBham **School website:** www.stgerard.bham.sch.uk

Please keep in your prayers all the children and staff of our school as they begin their summer break. May they enjoy some rest and continue to live out and deepen their faith during this time.



## Summer Fayre – next Saturday 12-3 pm.

Please come along with friends and family and support us with this wonderful day of being together and celebrating all that is St Gerard's!

**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:*

**Young Persons Officer:** We are looking to appoint a new Young Persons Officer. Please see Fr for details.

**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. **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/Piety Stall**

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 must 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](mailto:stgerard.bham@rcaob.org.uk)

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

W: [www.stgerardschurch.co.uk](http://www.stgerardschurch.co.uk)



### Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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#### World day for Grandparents and the Elderly

*Show favour, O Lord, to your servants and mercifully increase the gifts of your grace, that, made fervent in hope, faith and charity, they may be ever watchful in keeping your commands.*

#### 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 23rd July

Confession 9.30am  
Mass 10.00 am with  
Children's Liturgy

##### Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July

Mass 10.00am

##### Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July

Mass 10.00am

##### Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> July

Mass 10.00am

##### Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> July

Mass 10.00am

##### Friday 28<sup>th</sup> July

Mass 7.00pm

##### Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> July

##### Summer Fayre 12-3

Mass 5.00pm

##### Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> July

#### Seventeenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Confession 9.30am  
Mass 10.00 am with  
Children's Liturgy



#### Gospel Reflection for the 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time July 17th – *Balance in all things*

We all know people who seem to be busy and active all the time. We also know those who have the habit of letting others do all the work. Neither extreme is good for us. We can't be busy all the time and neither can we sit back and let others do all the work. What is called for is balance; being active and engaged and taking time to rest and renew ourselves. Jesus himself knew and appreciated this. He didn't spend all his time with the crowds of people teaching and healing them. He often took time be by himself so he could pray. In Mark's gospel, we read that Jesus got up early, left the house and went to a lonely place where he prayer.' Jesus realised the importance of taking time off and away from all activity so he could renew his relationship with God and be refreshed for his own daily life of activity and ministry. In today's Gospel, we are given the two complementary sides of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. We have Mary who sat at the feet of Jesus and listened to him as he spoke. We are also presented with Martha who prepared and served the food. Neither one is better than the other. Both ways of experiencing and encountering Jesus are needed and part of our own daily lives. There are times when we are busy with the daily routines and activities that occupy our days. This is normal and healthy. These are the times when we can look to Martha as a role model. Serving others is how we put our faith and love into action. However, there are times when we are called to be silent so that we can hear what Jesus is saying to us. Mary in the gospel is an example of this listening attitude. In scripture we are encouraged to be still and know God. If we are always busy and active we are not allowing ourselves time to maintain our friendship with God. On the other hand, we are also called to live in the ordinary world of house work and daily activities. Through our prayer and relationship with Jesus, we can bring a deep quality of service and ministry not only to our own lives but the lives of those we serve and care for.

Perhaps two questions that are offered to us from this gospel are; do I take time to rest and pray? What is the quality of my service and care of others?

#### Recently died and those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Isobel Hackett, John Roche, Kirsty Ward:

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

**The sick:** Margaret Ludlow, 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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#### Offertory

16th July 2023

GA	£48.10
NGA	£37.20
Second Coll	£6.00
Piety	£38.23
Baptism	£50.00
Sehion	£100.00
100 club	£150.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£429.53</b>