

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.

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.



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 who received their Confirmation and First Holy Communion recently. May they Live, Love and Learn the true meaning of the Sacraments.

Who's Who?

Parish Safeguarding and Health and Safety Officer: Hayley

Macilwraith: 07840 866201

Parish Administrator: Sue Perkins:
07971 076835

Young Persons Officer: To be appointed

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.

Summer Fete: Saturday 29th 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 the sweet stall and 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.

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:

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

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

W: www.stgerardschurch.co.uk



Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 2nd July 2023 Year A Volume 2 Page 96

O God, who through the grace of adoption chose us to be children of light, grant, we pray, we may not be wrapped in the darkness of error but always be seen to stand in the bright light of the truth.

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 2nd July

Confession 9.30am
Mass 10.00 am with
Children's Liturgy

Monday 3rd July

Mass 10.00am

Tuesday 4th July

Mass 10.00am

Wednesday 5th July

Mass 10.00am

Thursday 6th July

Mass 10.00am

Friday 7th July

School Mass 9.00am

Mass 7.00pm

Saturday 8th July

Mass 5.00pm

Sunday 9th July

Fourteenth Sunday of

Ordinary Time

Confession 9.30am
Mass 10.00 am with
Children's Liturgy



Based on the gospel for Sunday 2 July, Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time: Matthew 10:37-42 *"Anyone who welcomes you, welcomes me; and those who welcome me welcome the one who sent me."*

Jesus' instructions are not easy. He lays bare for the disciples that they may be called to choose him even above their own family. That they will face challenges and may even lose their life. This is a scary prospect. It takes a particular sort of courage to stand up for what we believe in, and not quietly back down when things get tough. How prepared are we really to pick up our cross and follow Jesus?

Jesus goes on to promise a reward for those who welcome his disciples. This is a further challenge, when the messages we hear in so many places today are about what divide us. Do we open ourselves to those who seek a welcome in our community, or in our country? Those who are fleeing conflict, persecution or poverty? Those who might have a different opinion to us or who open our eyes to the need for change? Let us hold onto the idea that in welcoming others, we are welcoming Christ, and seek the courage to follow in his way.

Loving God, open our hearts to welcome you in all our sisters and brothers. Grant us the courage to answer your call in our lives each day. Amen.

Popes prayer intentions for July: We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and opening to the encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters.

Altar Flowers

Please consider donating towards remembrance of a loved one.



Offertory

25th June 2023

GA	£56.00
NGA	£38.08
TOTAL	£94.08

Today there will be a second collection for Peters Pence



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: 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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