

"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

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 and Frank.

Pastoral Committee is led by Shirley.

Social Committee: Beulah, Sarita, Bernie, Rosaline and Sue.



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 return for the next academic year. We pray that they have enjoyed some rest and continued to live out and deepen their faith during their summer break. We look forward to seeing the children back in church.

Altar Flowers

Please consider donating towards remembrance of a loved one



Sunday 10th September Mass was offered for Vocations followed by Adoration. Matthew 9:38 "Pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into His harvest". Thank you to all who came together to pray for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life, that people may hear God's call and respond generously. We prayed for our bishops, priests and deacons, that they may faithfully live out their calling in the service of God and His people. We prayed for our own vocations too. A big Thankyou to Jaison and Neil who joined us from St Mary's College, Oscott to share their experiences. We continue to pray for them in their formation to priesthood.

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!



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



Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 17th September 2023 Year A Volume 2 Page 128

Evangelii Gaudium Day

Look upon us O God, Creator and ruler of all things, and, that we may feel the working of your mercy, grant that we may serve you with all our hearts.

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 17th September

Confession 9.30am

Mass 10.00 am RIP with Children's Liturgy

Monday 18th September

Mass 10.00am

Tuesday 19th September

Mass 10.00am

Wednesday 20th September

Mass 10.00am

Thursday 21st September

Mass 10.00am

Friday 22nd September

Mass 9.00am

Saturday 23rd September

Mass 5.00pm

Sunday 24th September

Twenty Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Confession 9.30am

Mass 10.00 am with Children's Liturgy



"Forgive your brother from your heart."

Forgiveness can be one of the most challenging aspects of Jesus' teaching, however much we might think of ourselves as a loving and tolerant person, particularly if we feel we've been wronged. Nelson Mandela spent 27 years of his life in prisons, enduring many hardships and unable to attend the funerals of his mother and son. Yet when he emerged from captivity, he wasn't driven by feelings of bitterness, revenge and hatred towards those who'd taken away his freedom. Instead, he sought to build a new South Africa with a selfless message of reconciliation and forgiveness, telling his people "You will achieve more in this world through acts of mercy than you will through acts of retribution". Our world today is troubled by many wars between countries, civil wars, internal conflicts and ethnic and religious violence. It is estimated one quarter of our global population lives in conflict-affected areas, with the poorest and most vulnerable often paying the highest price. Conflict may be fueled by legacies of the past or give rise to continued feelings of injustice between peoples. Nelson Mandela also observed "Reconciliation does not mean forgetting or trying to bury the pain of conflict but working together to correct the legacy of past injustice". May the spirit of reconciliation not only bring an end to conflicts, but also a just resolution of differences, so all may live in lasting peace. Through our campaigning and prayers to end to conflict and injustice, may we be witnesses of Christ's message of forgiveness. Lord Jesus, you taught us to forgive one another May all peoples of our world learn to see each other as a brother or sister to be loved. Where there is conflict, may true reconciliation and healing bring about lasting peace. Amen.

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: Christine, 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

10 September 2023

GA	£TBA
NGA	£TBA
TOTAL	£TBA

Mass Attendance:65
Today there is a second collection.