

"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?

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocesan policies and procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Officer is Hayley Macilwraith who can be contacted on sg.stgerard.bham@rcaob.org.uk or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team on 0121 230 6240 if you have any concerns.

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.bham@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 new academic year. We pray that they continue to live out and deepen their faith and look forward to seeing the children back in church preparing for receiving the Sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Communion in the coming months.

As a Parish we continue to pray for Vocations. Matthew 9:38 "Pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into His harvest". We pray that people may hear God's call and respond generously. We pray for our bishops, priests and deacons, that they may faithfully live out their calling in the service of God and His people. We pray for our own vocations too. Please continue to pray for the Seminarians in St Mary's College, Oscott, in their formation to priesthood. We will be adopting the Diocesan Prayer for Vocations at the beginning of Mass each Sunday. Please pick up a card at the back of Church. We will also be praying the Rosary during the month of October for Vocations. This will be at 7.00pm on a Friday evening. This will start Friday 6th October. Please do try to attend and support our Parish prayers.

PARISH ADMINISTRATION:

Young Persons Officer: We are looking to appoint a new Young Persons Officer to organise and run activities for our youth. This includes recruiting and training Altar Servers, encouraging participation in our choir, establishing a youth group and encouraging participation in the many diocesan activities on offer for youth. Could this be you or someone you know? Please see Fr for details.

I think Spring is well and truly over so we could probably do with a post spring clean of our church. If anyone can spare an hour over the coming weeks to come along and do a bit of cleaning it would be very much appreciated. Just call Fr to let him know when and he will arrange for you to gain access. Thank you.



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



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.

Twenty Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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O God, who manifest your almighty power above all by pardoning and showing mercy, bestow, we pray, your grace abundantly upon us and make those hastening to attain your promises heirs to the treasures of heaven.

Pope's Prayer Intention for October: We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world.

Mass Times

Sunday 1st October

Confession 9.30am

Mass 10.00 am for Bernie Kelly RIP

Monday 2nd October

Mass 10.00am

Tuesday 3rd October

Mass 10.00am

Wednesday 4th October

Mass 10.00am

Thursday 5th October

Mass 10.00am

Friday 6th October

School Mass 9.00am

Rosary 7.00pm

Saturday 7th October

Mass 5.00pm

Sunday 8th October

Twenty Seventh Sunday of

Ordinary Time

Confession 9.30am

Mass 10.00 am



Rosary- Friday evening- 7.00pm- We will be praying the Rosary during the month of October for Vocations. This will be at 7.00pm on a Friday evening. This will start Friday 6th October. Please do try to attend and support our Parish prayers.

Christ obedient unto death

This week's readings call us to turn to the Lord, modelling our actions and words on Christ Jesus. The First Reading gives hope. Those who think better of their situation and renounce it are given life. The Psalm reveals the heartfelt prayer of someone turning away from their sin and embracing the gift of new life. The apostle Paul shows what it is to give up sin and take on the mind of Christ (Second Reading). The Church at Philippi was on the whole a source of joy for Paul, but here he appeals for greater unity. This is reached only by imitating the humility of Christ, who became obedient even unto death. Out of love for us, Christ even gives up his divinity, freely and without reservation. Amidst growing tension following the overturning of the money changers' tables in the Temple, the religious leaders confront Jesus, demanding to know the source of his authority. Jesus tells the parable of the two sons, and poses a question, causing the chief priests to reflect on the difference between putting self or others first. By answering correctly, thereby aligning themselves to the boy who said he would do his Father's will but then doesn't, they convict themselves (Gospel) This week, let us keep close to Christ, who obeyed the Father perfectly in word and deed. And let us remember that it is never too late for us to turn to God and follow God's will.

Friday 6th October is CAFOD Family Fast Day. Please take an envelope at the back of church for your donations as a result of this day of fasting.

Recently died and those whose anniversaries occur at this time: **Ann O'Regan:** Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she 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

24th September 2023

GA	£46.00
NGA	£40.27
Fr Hudson's	£63.64
TOTAL	£149.91

Mass Attendance :51