

PASTORAL: Committee is led by Shirley.

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 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.

PARISH ADMINISTRATION: Sue Perkins: stgerard.bham@rcaob.org.uk.

HEALTH AND SAFETY: Hayley Macilwraith-hs.stgerard.bham@rcaob.org.uk.

YOUTH: To be appointed: yth.stgerard.bham@rcaob.org.uk.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY LEADERS AND HELPERS: Sue, Grace, Will, Annie, Sarita, Faith and Cynthia.

FINANCE/PREMISES: Committee: Fr, Sue Perkins, Sue Byrne and Frank.

SAFEGUARDING: The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses 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.

ALTAR SERVERS CHAPERONE LEAD: Hayley Macilwraith

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

Year 3 Commitment Mass Sunday 21st April 10.00am

First Confession for Year 3: Wednesday 1st May 9.00am

Year 3 confession Wednesday 12th June in school

First Holy Communion: Saturday 15th June 10.00am.

Great news! 100 schools nationwide have now achieved the Live Simply Award. A third of which are schools in the Archdiocese of Birmingham and one of which is our very own St Gerard's school!!!! The Live Simply award recognises schools and parishes that pledge to live simply, sustainably and in solidarity with the worlds poorest communities. Congratulations

Easter Raffle: Sarita and Bernie's efforts once again raised a whopping £334.00 between the raffle and refreshments. Thankyou the kindness and generosity of the parishioners in supporting them and making our Easter Sunday a real community celebration.

Spring into Spring- Saturday 6th April 11.00am-3.00pm: Upcycle organised a fun filled family day held here at St Gerards church yesterday. The church garden and centre were full of activity celebrating 10 years of Upcycle supporting the Castle Vale community. We are delighted to support them in this celebration and see our church and gardens full of residents of Castle Vale coming together to celebrate with them. From face painting, hotdogs, popcorn, various stalls and wonderful refreshments a great day was had by all. Congratulations Upcycle.

WHY WAS I WALKING THIS LENT? I took part in The Big Lent Walk 2024. I walked over 200km in 40 days! More importantly I raised a whopping £820 for CAFOD. This was my third year taking part so I knew exactly what challenges lay ahead. I also knew exactly how much motivation I get from knowing I have people rooting for me and checking my progress!!! Thank you so much to everyone that sponsored me and encouraged me. I am truly grateful. This includes my husband who accompanied me on my final walk of some 17.3km on Day 40! We spent most of the day just walking to clock up the km's and even when we got to 8pm and we needed just another 2.6km to reach my target he paced beside me! This was done in Lanzarote so the hardship was not so bad for him!

Your donations will change lives. Every £1 raised through the Big Lent Walk will help fight poverty globally in countries like Afghanistan, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and South Sudan. CAFOD are helping fishing communities feed their families in Liberia. Furthermore, CAFOD and SCIAF have a shared project in Ethiopia and are working together to respond to the devastating food crisis there. Years of drought caused by the climate crisis means families are no longer able to cope, but your support means we are working with people right now, providing them with water, emergency food and healthcare. With my walking and your sponsorship this Lent, we can change families' lives for good and tell poverty to take a hike.



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



SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

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Divine Mercy Sunday

God of everlasting mercy, who, in the very recurrence of the paschal feast kindle the faith of the people you have made your own, increase, we pray, the grace you have bestowed, that all may grasp and rightly understand in what font they have been washed, by whose spirit they have been reborn, by whose blood they have been redeemed.

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 7th April

Divine Mercy Sunday

Confession 9.30am

Mass 10.00am with Childrens

Liturgy for Elizabeth Gault

Monday 8th April

Annunciation of the Lord

Mass 10.00am for Robert

Sloan

Tuesday 9th April

Mass 10.00am

Wednesday 10th April

Mass 10.00am

Thursday 11th April

Mass 10.00am

Friday 12th April

School Mass 9.0 0am

Saturday 13th April

Mass 5.00pm

Sunday 14th April

Third Sunday of Easter

Confession 9.30am

Mass 10.00am with Childrens

Liturgy



Collections for the last 4 weeks:

10th March 2024 Attendance: 66

Gift Aid: £96.00

Non Gift Aid:£43.34

Total Banked: £139.34

17th March 2024 Attendance: 68

Gift Aid: £79.00

Non Gift Aid:£72.08

Total Banked: £151.08

24th March 2024-Palm Sunday Attendance: 77

Gift Aid: £48.00

Non Gift Aid:£63.69

Total Banked: £111.69

31st March 2024-Easter Sunday Attendance: 123

Gift Aid: £104.00

Non Gift Aid:£59.74

Holy Places: £74.00

Votives: £38.21

Total Banked: £275.95

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: Marjorie Burke, Pat Bonner, Kath McMullen, Margaret Ludlow, Rose Cogan, Andrew Trueman, Eileen Morrissey, Frances Irwin, George Irwin, Debbie Johnson and all the sick priests of the diocese. May the Lord grant them the healing they require.

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