

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 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.

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 confession Wednesday 12th June in school

First Holy Communion: Saturday 15th June 10.00am.

VACANCY: Foundation Governor at St Gerard's Catholic Primary School. Training is provided to help governors fulfil this very important role. If you are interested and would like more information, please contact the school office on 0121 464 2613.

Reflection: Corpus Christi

During the Eucharistic Prayer we ask that God bless the fruit of the earth and the work of human hands through grain and grape. Preparing for a Mass as part of Mission Brazil with the Youth Service, the community we were serving struggled to provide the wine. The Lord comes to us in the context of a meal – one of humanity's basic gestures (means of survival) – that uses what was available: bread and wine, except here they had no wine. It's a reminder that the Eucharistic feast is not immune to challenges and threats to other food and commodities.

How tough it is to pray and hear that prayer 'blessed are you Lord God...for through your goodness we have received the bread we offer you' when the fridge is empty, or you're down to the last tenner. Or, how does 'fruit of the earth and work of human hands' sound when we have lost our job, or when our work bores, demeans or dehumanises us? How does that prayer make sense in a world when work is increasingly automated or when we are given zero hours?

Perhaps we could stress the importance of the offertory procession that leads into these prayers, which is not so much about having full hands but placing our hands into those of God.

Fr Ryan Service, Assistant Priest at Holy Trinity, Sutton Coldfield

Corpus Christi Processions, this Sunday, 2 June

Mass at 1pm at St Michael's Catholic Church, Moor Street, Birmingham, celebrated by Archbishop Bernard Longley.

Then the Corpus Christi Procession moves from St Michael's, Moor Street, to St Chad's Cathedral .

Poetry Night Invitation

Holy Trinity, Sutton Coldfield, Saturday 15 June

The Church has always had a great tradition of promoting the arts, from painting and pottery to poetry and everything in between.

Holy Trinity parish, Sutton Coldfield, is hosting a poetry night for all poetry lovers on Saturday 15 June.

Please bring along a favourite poem (classic or contemporary) to share with others, or come and listen to others reading their chosen words.

All are welcome.



Parish of St. Gerard, Castle Vale
(Part of the Erdington Cluster which includes The Abbey, St Peter and Paul's and St Mary and John's)

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



SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

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O God, who in this wonderful Sacrament have left us a memorial of your Passion, grant us, we pray, so to reveres the sacred mysteries of your Body and Blood that we may always experience in ourselves the fruits of your redemption.

Mass Times

Sunday 2nd June

Holy Body and Blood of Christ

Confessions 9.30am

*Mass 10.00am with Children's Liturgy for
Marjorie Bourke and Ena Broderick RIP*

Monday 3rd June

Mass 10.00am for Elinor Neaves RIP

Tuesday 4th June

Mass 10.00am for Peter Keogh RIP

Wednesday 5th June

Mass 10.00am for Marjorie Bourke RIP

*The body of Marjorie Bourke will be received
into Church at 4.00pm*

Thursday 6th June

Requiem Mass for Marjorie Bourke RIP

11.30am

Friday 7th June

Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

*School Mass 9.00am for Teresa Jennings
birthday intentions*

Saturday 8th June

Mass 5.00pm

Sunday 9th June

Tenth Sunday of Ordinary Time Christ

Confession 9.30am

Mass 10.00am



"Happy the people the Lord has chosen as his own"

Erdington Cluster group meeting

Thankyou to those parishioners that attended the first cluster group meeting at St Peters and Pauls church on Friday evening. We heard a lot about how parishes working together could really benefit the Church. In a time when there are less priests and more rigour around maintaining churches and living out the Church's mission, including looking after our old and young, poor and hungry and strengthening our offerings for families, it is exciting to be joining forces with our neighbouring parishes to plan how we can all achieve more. Please note the top of our newsletter where for the first time we acknowledge our clustering!

The next meeting is planned for Tuesday 18th June @ 7.00pm at St Peter and Paul's Church Hall. We are looking for as many parishioners as possible to join this meeting where, in small groups, we will discuss what each parish does well and therefore may be able to help other parishes in our cluster, and what areas we would like to be better at or need help with. This is a real opportunity for us all to live out our parish mission as below and support the Church in its mission going forward. Please attend if possible. It would be great to demonstrate the wonderful parish that is St Gerard's. Please see Sue if you would like to understand more about this clustering of parishes or understand where you may be able to help in these early stages of clustering. There really is something for everyone.

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.

Recently died and those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Marjorie Burke: Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Amen.

The sick: Theresa Floyd, 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.

Mass Intentions: on behalf of a family member, a friend or a deceased loved one, to remember a birthday or anniversary, envelopes are available at the back of church or email Fr Mathew.

Offertory 26th May

GA:	£51.00
NGA:	£70.24
Votives	£33.51
Total:	£154.75

Attendance: 83

*Thank you for your
continued support and
generosity*