

## 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](http://www.stgerard.bham.sch.uk)

## Reflection for 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

**His heart was moved with pity for them, for they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.**

**Mark 6:34**

On the 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B, the readings highlight God's care for His people and the unity brought by Christ. They show how God promises to guide and protect us, breaking down barriers and giving us peace.

**God's Promise to Lead:** Jeremiah speaks of God condemning bad leaders and promising to lead His people with wisdom and justice. This shows God's commitment to guide and protect His flock.

**Unity in Christ:** Ephesians highlights how Christ's sacrifice has made us one. He has broken down barriers, giving us all access to the Father and creating peace among us.

**Compassion of Jesus:** In Mark's Gospel, Jesus sees the crowd's need and teaches them with compassion. He recognizes their need for guidance, like sheep without a shepherd.

**Just Leadership:** Jeremiah's message emphasizes the need for just and wise leaders. God promises to personally ensure the safety and growth of His people.

**Peace Through Sacrifice:** Ephesians explains how Christ's sacrifice brings peace. His actions reconcile us with God and each other.

**Need for Guidance:** Mark's Gospel shows people seeking Jesus' guidance. Jesus responds with compassion, understanding their need for a shepherd. The 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B reminds us of God's promise to lead and protect us. It also shows how Christ's sacrifice unites us and brings peace. **God Cares for Us.** In the first reading from Jeremiah, God speaks against the leaders who mislead His people. These leaders have not cared for the flock and have led them astray. God promises to step in and lead His people Himself, ensuring they are safe and well-guided. God's promise is one of hope. He will appoint new leaders who will be wise and just. This gives us assurance that God is always looking out for our well-being and will never abandon us. God's care for us is constant. Even when human leaders fail, God's leadership is perfect. He will always guide us on the right path and protect us.

**Christ Unites Us.** In the second reading from Ephesians, Paul speaks about how Christ's sacrifice has made us one. Jesus broke down the barriers that separated us. Now, we all have access to God and can live in peace with each other. This unity is a gift from Christ. His death on the cross was for all people, breaking down walls of division. Through Him, we are brought together as one family in God. Our unity in Christ brings peace. We are no longer strangers but brothers and sisters. This peace is a sign of Christ's work in our lives, making us one. **Jesus' Compassion.** In the Gospel from Mark, we see Jesus and His apostles seeking rest. But the crowd follows them, longing for guidance and teaching. Jesus, moved by compassion, teaches them because they are like sheep without a shepherd. Jesus' compassion is a model for us. He sees the needs of the people and responds with love. He teaches us that true leadership involves caring for others and addressing their needs. As we reflect on the 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B, we see God's promise to lead, Christ's unifying sacrifice, and Jesus' compassionate leadership. These readings remind us of God's constant care and the unity and peace we find in Christ.

## Prayer

**Dear Lord, thank You for Your constant care and guidance. Help us to trust in Your leadership and to follow You faithfully. Unite us in Christ and fill our hearts with peace. Teach us to show compassion to others, just as Jesus did. Amen.**



**Parish of St. Gerard, Castle Vale**  
(Part of the Erdington Cluster which includes The Abbey, St Peter and St Paul's  
and St Mary and St John's)  
part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham—Registered Charity No. 234216  
**Parish Priest:** Father Mathew Pinakkattu: 07788790928 Email: [stgerard.bham@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:stgerard.bham@rcaob.org.uk)  
**Presbytery:** 2 Renfrew Square, Castle Vale, Birmingham B35 6JT T: 0121 747 7390  
W: [www.stgerardschurch.co.uk](http://www.stgerardschurch.co.uk)



#### SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

21<sup>st</sup> July 2024 Year B Volume 2 Page 109

Show favour, O Lord, to your servants and mercifully increase the gifts of your grace, that, made fervent in hope, faith and charity, they may be ever watchful in keeping your commands.

#### Mass Times

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> July**

**Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary  
Time**

*Confession 9.30am*

*Mass 10.00am with Children's  
Liturgy*

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July**

*Mass 10.00am*

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July**

*Mass 7.00pm*

*Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm*

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July**

*Mass 10.00am*

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> July**

*Mass 10.00am*

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> July**

*Mass 10.00am*

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> July**

*Mass 5.00pm*

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> July**

**Seventeenth Sunday of  
Ordinary Time**

*Confession 9.30am*

*Mass 10.00am with Children's  
Liturgy*



#### 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.

#### Parish Council Meeting; Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 7.30pm after 7.00pm Mass.

We ask that all our parishioners continue to discern how we currently use our skills and talents to assist in the many areas of responsibilities here at St Gerard's and consider whether there is more that you could do to keep our parish thriving. Please try your best to attend this parish meeting where you will be able to see what areas of responsibility you may be able to assist with. From cleaning the church, chaperoning our Altar Servers, leading Children's Liturgy, Visiting the Sick, preparing people for receiving Sacraments, helping maintain our beautiful Church..... there really is something for everyone. As we hear in today's Gospel:

*His death on the cross was for all people, breaking down walls of division. Through Him, we are brought together as one family in God. Our unity in Christ brings peace. We are no longer strangers but brothers and sisters. This peace is a sign of Christ's work in our lives, making us one. Jesus' Compassion. In the Gospel from Mark, we see Jesus and His apostles seeking rest. But the crowd follows them, longing for guidance and teaching. Jesus, moved by compassion, teaches them because they are like sheep without a shepherd. Jesus' compassion is a model for us. He sees the needs of the people and responds with love. He teaches us that true leadership involves caring for others and addressing their needs.*

Remembering we are brought together as one family in God, what can we do to support our Parish.

**Missio-** Thankyou to those that have returned their red boxes for counting. After many years Frances Irwin has stepped down as our Missio Secretary. As we have yet to appoint a new secretary, we will not be distributing the boxes until such time we have a new secretary to continue to support Missio in their work as we have so generously for many years. If you are interested in becoming the Missio secretary for St Gerard's then please see Sue Perkins.

**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:** Sarah Purcell, 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 7<sup>th</sup> July 2024  
and 14<sup>th</sup> July 2024**

**To be announced.**