

PASTORAL: Committee is led by Sue Perkins.

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

"With Christ at our side and St Gerard as our guide, we live, love, learn and pray together"

Twitter: @StGerardsBham

School website: www.stgerard.bham.sch.uk

Telephone: 0121 464 2613



Walk with Me Prayer: Lord God, our light and our salvation, we praise you for your gifts of life and faith. We thank you for the desire that you have planted in our hearts, our yearning to see your face. Help us to meet you in prayer, to walk in your ways, and to speak to others of our joy and consolation in your presence. Give us faithfulness in this present life so that we may come to know and praise your beauty, with all our brothers and sisters, in the life to come. **Amen**

Parish Council:

Fr Mathew	Chair stgerard.bham@rcaob.org.uk
Sue Byrne	Finance Pt.stgerard.bham@rcaob.org.uk
Sue Perkins	Pastoral Lead and Parish Administrator stgerard.bham@rcaob.org.uk
Hayley MacIlwriath	Safeguarding and Health and Safety sg.stgerard.bham@rcaob.org.uk hs.stgerard.bham@rcaob.org.uk
John Wardell	Premises and Facilities.

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.

Youth Contacts: Altar Servers Chaperone: Cynthia Chadzutsa

Youth Ministry: Sue Perkins

Pastoral Council: Chair: Sue Perkins. Below suggested Leads-To be confirmed then volunteers approached to assist with each area.

Area	Lead	Responsibilities
Leadership	Anna – 07825 738227	Erdington Clustering Parish Register
Service and Stewardship	Shirley Harris-07530 481693	Altar Server Chaperone: Cynthia Chadzutsa Flowers/Altar Cloths, Liturgical Colours, Cleaning, Eucharistic Ministry, Piety, Votive Lights, Remembrance Book
Evangelisation	Sue Perkins-07971 076835	Youth Ministry: yth.stgerard.bham@rcaob.org.uk Children's Liturgy Leaders and Helpers: Sue, Grace, Will, Anna, Sarita Legion of Mary, RCIA, Sacramental Preparation, Vocations
Word and Worship	Benedict Chadzutsa- 07710474075	Liturgical preparation, Readings, Bidding Prayers, Rotas, Choir, Christmas, Easter, Advent, Lent, Church Anniversaries, Feast Days, Community prayer, Rosary, Stations of the Cross
Social and Community	Sarita Forrester -07462 876871	Social and Community events, Raffles, Fundraising, Refreshments, Sick List and Visiting the housebound, SVP, Outreach, Pilgrimages



Jubilee Year 2025, "Pilgrims of Hope"

The Jubilee Years, also known as Holy Years, started in 1300AD and recall the great jubilee of Israel: a time for land to be rested and debts to be cancelled, when God called people to be reconciled with one another and with Him. They now occur every 25 years, although the next will be 2033 – the anniversary of Christ's death and resurrection and the descent of the Holy Spirit. These Years, the Church explains, are years "of reconciliation between adversaries, of conversion and receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation, '...and consequently of solidarity, hope, justice, commitment to serve God with joy and in peace with our brothers and sisters'". On Christmas Eve Pope Francis opened the Holy Door at St Peter's Basilica in Rome. This was the Solemn Opening of the Jubilee Year which will continue throughout 2025. During this Holy Year we are invited to become Pilgrims of Hope.

Please visit the diocesan web pages for more information and resources for the Jubilee in Birmingham. There are regular events already happening. Website: www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/jubilee-year



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.

Sunday 26th January 2025 Year C Volume 1 Page 129

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time-Sunday of the Word of God.

Almighty, ever-living God, direct our actions according to your good pleasure, that in the name of your beloved Son, we may abound in good works.

Mass Times

Sunday 26th January 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Confession 9.30am

Mass 10.00am

Monday 27th January

Funeral Mass 11.30am

Mrs Ann Kathleen Dovey

Tuesday 28th January

Mass 9.00am

Wednesday 29th January

Mass 10.00am

Thursday 30th January

Mass 10.00am

Friday 31st January

School Mass 9.00am

Saturday 1st February

Mass 5.00pm

Sunday 2nd February Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

Confession 9.30am

Mass 10.00am

Based on the gospel for Sunday 26 January, Third Sunday in Ordinary Time: Luke 1:1-4, 14-21

"Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

In Luke's gospel, Jesus' first recorded public teaching is given in his hometown in Nazareth, soon after his forty days in the wilderness. He reads aloud from the scroll of the prophet Isaiah and, in doing so, speaks words which will define his ministry.

Jesus, anointed by the Spirit, has come into the world to bring good news and freedom to those who are marginalised and oppressed and to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour. This is the language of Jubilee; a time of liberation where debts are cancelled, relationships restored and creation is renewed (see Leviticus 25).

Sitting down in the synagogue, Jesus gives a remarkable sermon in just one sentence: "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing" The justice and joy of the Jubilee is fully revealed and present in him.

As we celebrate Word of God Sunday, may our engagement with Scripture strengthen and inspire us to proclaim and participate in the justice and generosity of the Jubilee. May we journey as pilgrims of hope in this Jubilee Year, seeking to come together to build a better world for all people and all creation.

Prayer

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. Amen.

Erdington Cluster Masses

St Gerard's-Wednesday 12th February @7.00pm

St Peter and Pauls-Thursday 13th March @ 7.00pm

St Mary and St Johns-Friday 30th May@ 7.00pm

The Abbey- Thursday 26th June @ 7.00pm

Upcoming events:

St Patricks feast day celebration (singing/dancing/food) Friday 14th March @ St Peter and Pauls Parish Hall. 7.30pm. Tickets £5 adults £2.50 children.

Passion Play "Born for this-The way of the Cross" presented by St Edmund Campion school @ The Abbey Monday and Tuesday 7th and 8th April

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 he rest in peace. Amen.

The sick: George Harris, 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 19/01/25

GA	£58.00
NGA	£54.94
Pax Christi	£36.12
100 club	£150.00
Total	£299.06.