

**PASTORAL COUNCIL** 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.

**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](http://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 <a href="mailto:stgerard.bham@rcaob.org.uk">stgerard.bham@rcaob.org.uk</a>
Sue Byrne	Finance <a href="mailto:Pt.stgerard.bham@rcaob.org.uk">Pt.stgerard.bham@rcaob.org.uk</a>
Sue Perkins	Pastoral Lead and Parish Administrator <a href="mailto:stgerard.bham@rcaob.org.uk">stgerard.bham@rcaob.org.uk</a>
Hayley Macilwraith	Safeguarding and Health and Safety <a href="mailto:sg.stgerard.bham@rcaob.org.uk">sg.stgerard.bham@rcaob.org.uk</a> <a href="mailto:hs.stgerard.bham@rcaob.org.uk">hs.stgerard.bham@rcaob.org.uk</a>
John Wardell	Premises and Facilities. <a href="mailto:Bm.stgerard.bham@rcaob.org.uk">Bm.stgerard.bham@rcaob.org.uk</a>

Following a very productive meeting of the Parish Council on Thursday evening we have been able to re-establish commitment from all the council members. We are extremely grateful for our council which looks after all the diligence of our parish. It is no small feat and the members willingness to use their time and efforts is gratefully appreciated. God calls us to be disciples and this work is a real demonstration of those serving God and the Church. This extends to those wonderful parishioners that have come forward to lead areas of our Pastoral Council. Our next step as a parish is to gather all of our Pastoral Council leads together and plan how we will work together along with our cluster parishes to grow our offerings in each of the areas listed below. Sue will be contacting them all shortly to set up an initial meeting and then hope to take names of volunteers that may be able to offer their time and expertise to help.

**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](mailto:sg.stgerard.bham@rcaob.org.uk) or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team on 0121 230 6240 if you have any concerns.

Parish Pastoral Council 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: <a href="mailto:yth.stgerard.bham@rcaob.org.uk">yth.stgerard.bham@rcaob.org.uk</a> – Faith Chadzutsa Children's Liturgy Leaders and Helpers: Sue, Grace, Will, Anna, Sarita Legion of Mary, RCIA, Sacramental Preparation, Vocations- Sue Perkins
Word and Worship	Benedict Chadzutsa- 07710474075	Liturgical preparation- readings, bidding prayers, Christmas, Easter, Advent, Lent, Church Anniversaries, Feast Days, Community prayer, Rosary, Stations of the Cross- Ben Chadzutsa Rotas- Yvonne Kinahan Choir- Rosaline Bacchus
Social and Community	Sarita Forrester -07462 876871	Social and Community events, Raffles, Fundraising, Refreshments, Sick List and Visiting the housebound, SVP, Outreach, Pilgrimages

#### The Archdiocese is recruiting for the following four positions:

Operations Director, IT Manager, Finance Manager and Gift Aid Officer. Full details and closing dates can be found at [www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/jobs](http://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/jobs). If you think you have the skills, please do apply.

#### Men's Rosary in the City

**Saturday 22nd February 12.00 - Chamberlain Square by the fountain.** We are called to be a shining light in the darkness and to be a witness to all nations. Join a growing movement of men who peacefully go into the heart of Birmingham and kneel in front of a statue of Our Lady to pray for our city, nation, and for men to live out their God given vocation as protector, defender and servant.

**For more information contact Ben - 07885505116**



## 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](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)



### 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 16th February 2025 Year C Volume 1 Page 137

#### Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time- Racial Justice Day

"Baptism not only purifies from all sins, but also makes "a new creature", an adopted son of God, who has become a "partaker of the divine nature"- escaping the world's decay and rising above sinful desires, a member of Christ and coheir with him and a temple of the Holy Spirit"

#### Mass Times

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February**

**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*Confession 9.30am*

*Mass 10.00am with*

*Children's Liturgy*

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February**

*Mass 9.00am*

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> February**

*Mass 9.00am*

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February**

*Mass 9.00am*

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> February**

*Mass 9.00am*

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February**

*Mass 9.00am*

**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February**

*Mass 5.00pm*

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February**

**Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*Confession 9.30am*

*Mass 10.00am with*

*Children's Liturgy*



#### Erdington Cluster Masses

**St Gerard's-Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February @7.00pm**

Thankyou for those that were able to attend our first cluster Mass for 2025 where we welcomed not only the parishioners and priests from our neighbouring parishes but also our new Dean Fr Andrew Franklin. It was a very joyous occasion with our Altar servers, Choir supported by some of our school children, refreshments served by our lovely Sarita and helpers and generously donated by our parishioners and beautiful singing as ever from Nancy. A truly wonderful evening. A whole community coming together to celebrate our unity as the Erdington cluster.

#### Erdington Cluster Masses

St Peter and Pauls-Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March @ 7.00pm

St Mary and St Johns-Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May@ 7.00pm The Abbey- Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June @ 7.00pm

#### Upcoming events:

St Patricks feast day celebration (singing/dancing/food) Friday 14<sup>th</sup> 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 Church. Monday and Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> April @6.00 pm. No booking required.

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> April - Cluster Youth Activity Day-** during the Easter school holiday for 8–13-year-olds from across our cluster. This is aimed at enabling our young people to feel part of the cluster community through positive activities. The Junior Vincentians of St Edmund Campion school will act as Youth Leaders and a member of our parish will be there to supervise. If you would like to include your child in this day then please let Sue know.

#### 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 re regular events already happening. Website:

[www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/jubilee-year](http://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/jubilee-year)

**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.

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#### Offertory 09/02/25

**GA £72.00**

**NGA £32.14**

**Second Collection: £32.11**

**Piety: £15.00**

**Total £151.25**

**Attendance: 62**