

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

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 Macilwraith	Safeguarding and Health and Safety sg.stgerard.bham@rcaob.org.uk hs.stgerard.bham@rcaob.org.uk
John Wardell	Premises and Facilities. Bm.stgerard.bham@rcaob.org.uk

Thank you to all the Parish Council and Pastoral Council members who have taken up their responsibilities so willingly and started to think about how we can improve and extend our offerings in each of the areas here at St Gerard's. God calls us to be disciples, and this work is a real demonstration of those serving God and the Church. There will be a meeting after mass next Sunday for all of our Pastoral Council leads where we can discuss their areas in more detail and explore how we may work together along with our cluster parishes and engage the volunteers that have come forward to assist us. With Lent approaching it is a wonderful time to look forward to the Easter season, with new beginnings and a time maybe for us to make our Lenten promises which may include making extra efforts for serve our church and our community? Again, thank you for the progress we have made thus far. Fr Mathew.

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.

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: yth.stgerard.bham@rcaob.org.uk – 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. 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

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 23rd February 2025 Year C Volume 1 Page 141

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that, always pondering spiritual things, we may carry out in both word and deed that which is pleasing to you.

Mass Times

Sunday 23rd February

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Confession 9.30am

Mass 10.00am with

Children's Liturgy

Monday 24th February

No Mass

Tuesday 25th February

No Mass

Wednesday 26th February

No Mass

Thursday 27th February

No Mass

Friday 28th February

School Mass 9.00am

Saturday 1st March

Mass 5.00pm

Sunday 2nd March

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Confession 9.30am

Mass 10.00am for The

Keating Family RIP with

Children's Liturgy



Fr Mathew will be away Monday until Friday this week as he attends his annual retreat with his Archdiocese. There will be no midday masses this week for this reason. We assure him of his prayers this week for a fruitful retreat.

Well done to us! This week we had our mandatory five-year survey completed on our buildings, including our church, presbytery and church hall. Whilst we await the report which will include matters that require addressing, we were congratulated on the many repairs and improvements that we have made since the last report. It was commented that it was evident that we have a very well maintained and cared for church. It was great to hear that our work is recognised as we embark on our Pastoral mission during this Year of Hope.

Erdington Cluster Masses

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 Church. Monday and Tuesday 7th and 8th April @6.00 pm. No booking required.

Monday 14th 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 are regular events already happening. Website:

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 16/02/25

GA £38.00

NGA £85.34

Votives: £13.00

Total £136.34

Next week a second coll for Cathedral Maintenance