

Parish of St. Gerard, Castle Vale

Archdiocese of Birmingham, Registered Charity No. 234216

2 Renfrew Square, Castle Vale, Birmingham B35 6JT

Priest: Father Sean Gough

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29th June 2025 – St Peter and Paul

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DAY	LITURGY	TIME	INTENTION
Saturday 28th June			
<i>Immaculate Heart of Mary</i>	No Mass		
Sunday 29th June			
St Peter and Paul, Apostles	<i>Confessions</i> Holy Mass	<i>From 9-9.30am</i> 10am	<i>People of the Parish</i>
Monday 30th June			
<i>First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church</i>	NO MASS		
Tuesday 1st July			
<i>St Oliver Plunket, Bishop and Martyr</i>	<i>Holy Mass</i>	<i>9.00am</i>	<i>Michael Stanley RIP</i>
Wednesday 2nd July			
<i>Ordinary Time</i>	<i>Holy Mass</i>	<i>9.00am</i>	<i>Marie Liquorice RIP</i>
Thursday 3rd July			
<i>St Thomas, Apostle</i>	<i>Holy Mass</i>	<i>9.00am</i>	<i>Michael Jennings RIP</i>
Friday 4th July			
<i>Ordinary Time</i>	<i>Holy Mass</i>	<i>9.00am</i>	<i>Bernie Cranley RIP</i>
Saturday 5th July			
<i>Our Lady on Saturday</i>	<i>Holy Mass</i>	<i>9.00am</i>	<i>No Intention</i>
Sunday 6th July			
14th Sunday Ordinary Time	<i>Confessions</i> Holy Mass	<i>From 9-9.30am</i> 10am	<i>People of the Parish</i>

This weekend we celebrate the great solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, two pillars of the Church. Peter, who was crucified upside down because he felt unworthy to die as Christ did, reminds us of humility and courageous faith. Paul, the tireless missionary, shows us how the Gospel is for all nations. Together, they gave everything to proclaim the Good News, may their witness inspire us to do the same.

Last week I had the privilege of going on pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City. It's one of the most-visited Christian sites in the world, where the Blessed Virgin appeared to St Juan Diego in 1531. Her image, miraculously imprinted on his cloak, still draws millions. I prayed for all of you there. Our Lady of Guadalupe is the Patroness of the Unborn, which makes it all the more painful to return home knowing that whilst I was away abortion has been decriminalised in our country, and assisted suicide has been legalised. These are deep tragedies. Let us recommit ourselves to praying and working for a culture of life, where every person is valued from conception to natural death.

Next Sunday (6th July) we have the chance to come together again as a diocesan family for the Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes in Hednesford. I will be going. If you've never been to Lourdes, this is the next best thing. It's a beautiful afternoon of prayer, healing, and fellowship. Refreshments from 1pm, Confessions from 2:15–3:45pm, Rosary at 3pm, and the Sacrament of the Sick. Bishop Timothy Menezes will celebrate Mass. Please bring a chair and come if you can. For details, contact Fr Jeremy Howard at 07868 542268 or fr.jeremy.howard@rcaob.org.uk.

Saints Peter and Paul, pray for us.

Our Lady of Guadalupe, pray for us.

Our Lady of Lourdes, pray for us.

NEWS

Annual Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Will be held at Maryvale Chapel and shrine of the Sacred Heart of Jesus (Postcode B44 9AG). The novena of daily masses will begin at 7pm on Thursday 19th June and conclude on Friday 27th June on the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Youth Jubilee Pilgrimage Walk – 13 September: 14-mile walk from St Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham, to the Shrine of Blessed Carlo Acutis. Shorter walk option available. Includes prayer time with Bishop Timothy.

Join the Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes in Hednesford on Sunday 6th July. If you can't make it to Lourdes, this is a chance to share the experience locally. Refreshments from 1pm, confessions 2:15–3:45pm, Rosary at 3pm, and the Sacrament of the Sick. Bishop Timothy Menezes will celebrate. Please bring your own chairs. For details, contact Fr Jeremy Howard at 07868 542268 or fr.jeremy.howard@rcaob.org.uk.

Kids' Corner

This week we celebrate **Saints Peter and Saint Paul**, two of Jesus' bravest friends!

Peter was the first leader of the Church. Even though he made mistakes, Jesus still chose him for a special job. Peter kept telling people about Jesus, even when it was dangerous. When he was arrested in Rome, he was sentenced to be crucified. But Peter said, "I'm not worthy to die like Jesus," so they crucified him **upside down**. Peter shows us how to be brave and faithful, even when it's hard.



Activity: Upside Down Cross

1. Draw an upside-down cross.
2. Inside it, write or draw how *you* can be brave for Jesus.
3. Colour and display it!

Saint Peter, help me to be strong and love Jesus always!

Regular Notices

Hospital Chaplaincy. If you or a family member are in hospital and would like a visit, please inform the parish office.

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 Sean if you know of anyone who is unable to attend Mass and would like to receive a visit.

Baptisms. Baptism can only be organised after attendance at a preparation class. Please speak to Fr Sean after Mass to arrange attendance.

RIP. Please pray for those who have recently died.
Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.

Please pray for the sick. Especially: 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.

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.

SAFEGUARDING

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocesan policies and procedures. Our Parish Safeguarding Officer is Hayley Macilwraith who can be contacted on sg.stgerard.bham@rcaob.org.uk or alternatively you can contact the Diocesan Safeguarding team on 0121 230 6240 if you have any concerns.

Parish Council Members

Chair - Fr Sean	fr.sean.gough@rcaob.org.uk
Sue Byrne - Finance	pt.stgerard.bham@rcaob.org.uk
Sue Perkins - Lead and Admin	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

Parish Pastoral Council

Anna - Leadership	07825738227
Shirley Harris - Service and Stewardship	07530481693
Sue Perkins - Evangelisation	07971076835
Benedict Chadzutsa - Word and Worship	07710474075
Sarita Forrester - Social and Community	07462 876871



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

St Gerard's Catholic Primary School

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