

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCHES OF WALSALL

St. Mary's, St. Patrick's & St. Thomas of Canterbury



Diocese of Birmingham
www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk
Registered Charity No.234216

Archdiocese of Birmingham

ST. MARY'S THE MOUNT

Roman Catholic Church

Vocationists

WALSALL

www.stmarysthemount.co.uk

Telephone:01922 622633



Vocationists
www.vocationist.org
Registered Charity No. 1135796

St. Mary's the Mount Parish Family Wishes You All a Warm Welcome

Parish Priest: Fr. Jobin Kollappallil, SDV

Assistant Priest: Fr. Fabien Ramiandrisoa, SDV

Brother: Edmar Lapus, SDV

St. Patrick's: Fr. Roberto Ciardo, SDV

St. Thomas of Canterbury: Fr. Christogonus

Ugwuakposim, SDV

Chaplain of Manor Hospital: Fr. Christogonus

The Lord's Prayer

OUR FATHER

As was said in last week's newsletter, the Lord's Prayer is among the dearest prayers of every Christian. From this prayer, Jesus teaches us a new way of relating to God in calling him Father. And if we call him Father, obviously we are children and not slaves, we are brothers of Christ and therefore we are also heirs of eternal life. From this week, we meditate on every word of our Father.



We call God 'Father' not because we simply obey Jesus, but above all we are driven by the Holy Spirit who animates us, within us. In fact, Saint Paul helps us to better understand this relationship in his letter to the Romans: "The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." (Rm 8, 15) In this verse, the Greek word for *adoption to sonship* is a term referring to the full legal standing of an adopted male heir in Roman culture, which means that in Jesus, we are also heirs through the Holy Spirit. Therefore, we can invoke God as "Father" because he is revealed to us by his Son made man and

because his Spirit makes him known to us. And we are all His children, and He is the FATHER of all.

The first word of the Lord's Prayer is a blessing of adoration, before being a supplication. This is, in fact, the Glory of God: that we recognise him as "Father", true God. We give him thanks for having revealed his Name to us, for having given us the gift of believing in it and of being inhabited by his Presence. In reality, God, who predestined us to the adoption of children, has made us conformed to the glorious Body of Christ. Having now become participants in Christ, we are naturally called "Christs" (*St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Catecheses mistagogicae, 3, 1: PG 33, 1088A*)

We then understand from this free adoption that we are children, and this requires something from us: a continuous conversion, the desire and will to resemble him. We must also put ourselves in the children's position, that is, feeling small towards him, needing his hand in everything. Pride is therefore to be avoided, that is, feeling satisfied with oneself in our life. *(To be continued...)*

INFORMATION

- **Parish Contributions:** Last Sunday: £1202.23 (Standing Orders: £821, Offertory Collection: £381.23) **Overseas Charities: £6.** **Counting:** This Sunday: Team E, next Sunday: Team A. **This Sunday there will be a voluntary Second Collection for the LIFE Charity.**
- **Diocesan Inter-cultural Mass:** *On Saturday 24th February we will be hosting the Diocesan Inter-cultural Mass in our church at 12 noon. Archbishop Bernard Longley will preside over the Mass.* It is an important occasion, and it would be a wonderful demonstration of our commitment and hospitality, as a parish, if everyone participated. There will be lunch in the parish hall after Mass and we would be very grateful if parishioners/families could contribute some food to this shared lunch. Please write your name on the sheet provided at the back of church if you are able to make any contributions. There is also another sheet on which to write your name if you are attending the Mass.
- **New Canons to the Archdiocese:** On Tuesday 6th February, four priests from the Archdiocese were installed as Chapter Canons of the Metropolitan Cathedral of St Chad: Mgr. Mark Crisp & Fr Raymond Corbett were installed as Chapter Canons, the group of priests who form part of the College of Consultors, who advise the Archbishop about the life and mission of the Archdiocese. Two priests were installed as Honorary Canons: Fr Gary Buckby, and Fr Douglas Lamb. As well as advising the bishop of the Diocese, the Chapter of Canons has a care for the Cathedral and for its liturgical life and so meets and prays together more or less monthly through the year at the Chapter Mass. We congratulate them and wish them all the best.
- **Ash Wednesday Masses:** Ash Wednesday is on 14th February, marking the beginning of the season of Lent, in preparation for Easter. There will be no Mass in school that day, as it is the half-term holiday, but there will be two Masses in church (10am & 7pm). You will receive ashes to mark the beginning of Lent. We encourage all parishioners, adults & children, to attend Mass on this important day. Ash Wednesday is an obligatory day of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In Church, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18-59. Sick people are exempt from fasting.
- **Stations of the Cross:** There will be Stations of the Cross in church at 6:00pm every Friday & Sunday during Lent. There will be no Friday Adoration during Lent; Friday Adoration will resume after Easter.
- **Lent Lunchtime Talks (Wednesday Lunchtime Services):** These sessions will start on Ash Wednesday, 14th February, and continue until Wednesday 27th March. Each session will begin at 12:10pm with a light lunch, followed by a talk at 1pm in the Upper Room of St Paul's Church in the town centre (WS1 1DA). The topic for this year is '*Christian Voices of Hope*' and there will be a variety of speakers, each focusing on a different aspect. Everyone is welcome.
- **Come & See Programme (RCIA):** The next session of the RCIA programme for 2023-2025 will be on **Monday 26th February, beginning with Holy Mass at 7pm in church. The topic for this session is 'The Liturgical Calendar'.** Everyone is welcome.
- **Clergy House Visits:** Fr. Jobin and Fr. Fabien would like to pay friendly visits to the houses of all our parishioners. We are available every Tuesday afternoon and we would be happy to join you for a chat, a cup of tea or to pray the Rosary/Divine Mercy with you and your family at your house. Please speak to one of the priests to make the arrangements.
- **Food Bank:** This week we are in need of tinned vegetables, tinned fish, long-life milk, tinned potatoes, cereal and tinned fruit. We are currently supporting 6 families with your donations. If you know of another family in need who would welcome support from our SVP Group, please contact Father Jobin. Thanks again for your continued support and your generous donations.
- **St. Mary's the Mount Catholic Primary School:** There are two vacancies in Y4 at St Mary's the Mount Primary School. Please contact school if you are interested: postbox@st-marymount.walsall.sch.uk
- **Admission to St. Mary's Nursery:** If you wish your child to be considered for a nursery place in school, I urge you to complete an application form for the nursery as soon as possible. It is never too early! Once

they are baptised (or even before), please submit your application form. Father Jobin has application forms and you can also email school for one: postbox@st-marymount.walsall.sch.uk At the very latest, please submit your application to school (or to Fr. Jobin) by the end of December before they are due to start nursery the following September. We look at applications in January and allocate places from the applications received. Children may start nursery in the term after they are three, but our 'big' intakes are in September each year. If we do not know about you, we cannot allocate your child a place. Please do not think it is too early. If your circumstances change and you don't want to be considered for a nursery place, we would always ask you. It is not a definite commitment on your part.

- **Men's Rosary in Birmingham City Centre:** This is an initiative by a group of Catholic men where men publicly pray the Rosary together. The next one will be on 17th February in Victoria Square, Birmingham City Centre at 12 noon. For more details, please see the poster on the notice board.
- **Knights of St. Columba:** The Knights of St. Columba will be presenting a recruitment appeal at the end of every Mass this weekend.
- **Refreshments:** Refreshments are available in the parish hall on Thursdays (following 10am Mass) and on Sundays (following 9am Mass).
- **School News:** A very busy, hardworking term. We are happy to have a rest now! This week, Nursery and reception class joined us for their first Mass in the school hall. They were perfect! *Catherine Amos - Head teacher*
- **Safeguarding:** The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese's policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are Paul McGill and Doreen Sehdeva. They can be contacted at: sg.stmary.walsall@rcaob.org.uk Alternatively, the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/ safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concerns.

Pope Francis's Prayer Intention for February 2024: For the terminally ill

We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.

Let us pray for those who are sick:

Enid Johnson, Beryl Fearon, Eileen Fogarty, Liccia Petrocco, Wendy Bubb, Martha Ekezie, Moira Law, Madeleine Holland, Anne F Kazmie, Patrick Kelly, Anne Dixon, Cliff Maybury, Anne Kinsey, Faisal Kazilbash, John Horton, Una Greevy, Aga, James McGeough, Mavourneen Smith, Marie Hornblower, Judith Dunthorne, Angela Gonsalves, Margaret Powell, Lee Chit Wei

CONTACT DETAILS OF PRIESTS

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Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time 11th February 2024
Sunday and Weekday Masses

Week II

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	MASS INTENTION	OFFERED BY
Saturday 10 th	5:30pm 6:30pm 6:30pm	St. Mary's St. Patrick's (BD) St. Thomas's	Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	
Sunday 11 th Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time World Day of Prayer for the Sick	9:00am 10:00am 10:00am 11:00am 7:00pm	St. Mary's St. Patrick's St. Thomas's St. Mary's St. Patrick's	Michael Byers – RIP, B Dorreyne Allen - RIP Holy Mass Holy Mass Special Intention - G Holy Mass	Family F Hackett Dr & Mrs F Nwankpa
Monday 12 th	10:00am 10:30am 9:15am 10:00am 7:00pm	St. Mary's St. Mary's St. Patrick's (BD) St. Thomas's St. Mary's	Eric Cartwright – RIP Adoration & Benediction Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass	Cartwright/Moxey Families
Tuesday 13 th	9:15am 10:00am 10:00am 7:00pm	St. Patrick's St. Mary's St. Thomas's St. Patrick's	Holy Mass Special Intention – H, WB Peggy Small – RIP, DA Holy Mass Confirmation Mass	D Powell
Wednesday 14 th Ash Wednesday	9:15am 10:00am 10:00am 6:00pm 7:00pm	St. Patrick's St. Thomas's St. Mary's St. Mary's St. Mary's	Ash Wednesday Mass Ash Wednesday Mass Ash Wednesday Mass Adoration for Vocations Kevin Biggs & Marjorie Byrne – RIP, DA	J Howard-Biggs
Thursday 15 th	9:15am 10:00am 10:00am	St. Patrick's St. Mary's St. Thomas's	Holy Mass Bernard McGeough – RIP, DA Christopher Egbuonu - SI Holy Mass	D Powell F Egbuonu
Friday 16 th	9:15am 10:00am 6:00pm 7:00pm	St. Patrick's St. Thomas's St. Mary's St. Mary's	Holy Mass Holy Mass Stations of the Cross John Duffy – RIP, DA	S Duffy
Saturday 17 th	9:15am 9:45am 10:00am 10:30am 5:30pm 6:30pm 6:30pm	St. Patrick's St. Patrick's St. Mary's St. Mary's St. Mary's St. Patrick's (BD) St. Thomas's	Holy Mass Adoration & Confession Holy Mass Adoration & Confessions Mary Ellen Dowdican - RIP Holy Mass Holy Mass	K Gerrett
Sunday 18 th First Sunday of Lent	9:00am 10:00am 10:00am 11:00am 6:00pm 7:00pm	St. Mary's St. Patrick's St. Thomas's St. Mary's St. Mary's St. Patrick's	Barry Nelson - RIP Holy Mass Holy Mass Special Intention - G Stations of the Cross Holy Mass	Nelson Family Dr & Mrs F Nwankpa