



Parish of the Sacred Heart and Saint Margaret Mary, Aston

Parish Priest: Fr. Stephen Pimlott

Telephone (0121) 327 0235

sacredheartaston@hotmail.com

website www.sacredheartaston.com

Safeguarding Representatives:

Sacred Heart - Teresa O'Gorman 07585907706 & Sheila McKernan 0121 344 3028
Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham - Registered Charity No. 234216

24th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME 15th /16th September Home Mission Sunday

Day	Aston	Nechells	Intention
Saturday	12.30 pm	6.00 pm	Pat Jennings Marie & Frank Hookway
SUNDAY	10.00 am		People of Parish
Monday		9.30 am	
Tuesday			
Wednesday (school)		9.30 am	Mass in St. Joseph's school
Thursday	10.00 am		
Friday St. Matthew Day of Abstinence	9.30 am 10.00 am	11.45 am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Duong Nguyen Eucharistic Service

25th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME 22nd/23rd September

Day	Aston	Nechells	
Saturday	12.30 pm	6.00 pm	Jackie O'Connor People of Parish
SUNDAY	10.00 am		

Please Pray for the sick; Sheila O'Reilly, Marion Levell, Peter McKernan, Mary Joyce, Bernadette Harnett, Lisa Brean, Teresa Francis, Michael O'Connor, William Parish, Michael O'Reilly, Julie Gallagher, Pat Hayes, Jimmy Armstrong, Anne Robinson, Peter Marron, Mary Crotty.

The collection last weekend came to £272.68

The second collection for Catholic Education came to £168.51.

This weekend there will be a second collection for Catholic Evangelisation

On 22-23 September the second collection will be for Father Hudson's Care. Father Hudson's mission is to provide Catholic social care in the Archdiocese of Birmingham, reaching out to support vulnerable people young and old. At this time of funding cuts the needs are greater than ever. Please give generously to this worthy cause.

This Sunday we shall have another **Name Tag Sunday** to help us all get to know one another better.

SICK LIST If your name or the name of a friend or relative of yours is on the parish list of prayers for those who are sick, and you would like that name to remain on the list, would you please contact Fr. Stephen or Sheila McKernan. We need to make sure that you or your friend or family member has consented to their name being on that list. This is because the list can be seen by a lot of people, as it is available for anyone to pick up in church and is also published on the internet through the parish website. In a couple of weeks' time, the list will be restarted with the names of all for whom the parish have consent. This is necessary to make sure the church takes proper care of your information and complies with current data protection law.

RENEW OUR PARISH Now that we have renewed our Church Roof we need to renew our parish. Please pray the Renewal Prayer everyday so that we can be open to what God wants us to do and become in this Sacred Heart parish.

DO YOU WANT TO BECOME A CATHOLIC? The new RCIA group meets on Thursdays at 6.30 pm in the Undercroft at Sacred Heart.

St. Teresa's Perry Barr Parish Mission You are invited to share in the mission which starts on Saturday 15th September and runs to Sunday 23rd September. Mass every weekday at 10 am and a Mission Service at 7.30 pm Wednesday – Friday. See programme at the back of Church.

40 Days for Life 'Victim of Rape. Victim of Abortion'. Pregnancy through rape is often considered to be one of the hard cases where abortion might be an acceptable option - Come and hear firsthand a moving testimony from a young woman who has lived this reality. [Join us at the 40 Days for Life Kick-Off event on Sunday 23rd Sept 2pm, Upper Cloister Hall, B'ham Oratory, 141 Hagley Rd, B16 8UE.](#) All welcome. For more info contact Isabel: 07773501721

St. Vincent's Nechells Parkway is celebrating its Golden Jubilee on Sunday 30th September at 12 noon. You are invited to join them.

Tabor House, Birmingham's permanent night shelter is looking for volunteers – are you ready to give a hand? Tabor House has been open since September last year offering short term accommodation and support to people living on the street in Birmingham. We are looking for more volunteers to support the project. You could help as:

- A hospitality volunteer or Shift leader – evenings, overnights (you get 4 hours sleep) and mornings
- A volunteer mentor to work one to one with guests

To find out more, come along to the Open evening on Wednesday 19th September from 6pm-9pm at St Anne's Catholic Church, 96 Bradford Street, Birmingham, B12 0PY or call Christy Acton on 07464 928691.

REFRESH is a monthly evening of catechesis, prayer & fellowship for young adults which meets at Oscott College. Next meeting is Wednesday 26th September 7-9 pm.

Are you aged between 18-35? Have you ever wanted to spend a year making a real difference in the community? Have you thought about trying to live out Gospel values in a faith-filled community? If the answer to these questions is yes, then become a Vincentian Volunteer - living in community, serving the needy in our society and living out your faith practically. Spend a year that will change your life. If you want to know more then visit www.vincentianvolunteers.org

FAMILY PRAYER CAMPAIGN You are invited to the launch at St. Thomas More's Sheldon on Saturday 6th October at 2 pm. Holy Mass, Rosary Procession and Benediction. Chief celebrant Bishop Philip Pargeter.

Archbishop Bernard Longley has commissioned a review of our current safeguarding/child protection practices in light of the National Catholic Policies and Procedures. This review is to be welcomed as a means of ensuring that our systems to protect our children and young people are as effective as possible. This review is being conducted by an independent charity called SCIE (Social Care Institute for Excellence). As part of the review, SCIE would like to speak with any individuals who have had experience with any safeguarding issues within the Archdiocese, and have experience of working with our parish safeguarding representatives and the safeguarding team at the Archdiocese. Anyone who is impacted by abuse issues can contact the safeguarding team on 0121 230 6240 (emergency out of hours 07976 516629). If you are able to contribute to this important review and share your experiences with SCIE then please contact Hugh Constant (Hugh.Constant@scie.org.uk or 020 7766 7374 or 07872 602207).

ENGLISH PRAYER TIME You are specially invited to come to the prayer time in Sacred Heart Presbytery on Monday nights 8 -10 pm. when everything will be in English. You can check that it is happening by phoning Sr. Meena on 07957342742.

DAILY EXPOSITION There is normally exposition in the Presbytery every day 10 am – 5 pm and 8 pm – midnight. To check phone Sr. Meena on 07957342742.

THE KINGDOM WARRIORS meet on Tuesdays at 6.30 pm at St. Vincent's Church, Nechells Parkway. This a group for young adults (18+) and involves the study of the Bible.

SACRED HEART CLUB an agent has been appointed to appoint new tenants. Many people appear to be interested in it and we should soon have a short list for us to examine.

First reading Isaiah 50:5-9

The Lord has opened my ear.
For my part, I made no resistance,
neither did I turn away.
I offered my back to those who struck me,
my cheeks to those who tore at my beard;
I did not cover my face
against insult and spittle.
The Lord comes to my help,
so that I am untouched by the insults.
So, too, I set my face like flint;
I know I shall not be shamed.
My vindicator is here at hand. Does anyone start proceedings against me?
Then let us go to court together.
Who thinks he has a case against me?
Let him approach me.
The Lord is coming to my help,
who will dare to condemn me?

Responsorial Psalm (116):1-6,8-9

I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

I love the Lord for he has heard
the cry of my appeal;
for he turned his ear to me
in the day when I called him.

They surrounded me, the snares of death,
with the anguish of the tomb;
they caught me, sorrow and distress.
I called on the Lord's name.
O Lord, my God, deliver me!

How gracious is the Lord, and just;
our God has compassion.
The Lord protects the simple hearts;
I was helpless so he saved me.

He has kept my soul from death,
my eyes from tears
and my feet from stumbling.
I will walk in the presence of the Lord
in the land of the living.

Second reading James 2:14-18

Take the case, my brothers, of someone who has never done a single good act but claims that he has faith. Will that faith save him? If one of the brothers or one of the sisters is in need of clothes and has not enough food to live on, and one of you says to them, 'I wish you well; keep yourself warm and eat plenty', without giving them these bare necessities of life, then what good is that? Faith is like that: if good works do not go with it, it is quite dead.

This is the way to talk to people of that kind: 'You say you have faith and I have good deeds; I will prove to you that I have faith by showing you my good deeds – now you prove to me that you have faith without any good deeds to show.'

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the Way, the Truth and the Life, says the Lord;

No one can come to the Father except through me.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mark 8:27-35

Jesus and his disciples left for the villages round Caesarea Philippi. On the way he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say I am?' And they told him. 'John the Baptist,' they said 'others Elijah; others again, one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he asked 'who do you say I am?' Peter spoke up and said to him, 'You are the Christ.' And he gave them strict orders not to tell anyone about him.

And he began to teach them that the Son of Man was destined to suffer grievously, to be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and to be put to death, and after three days to rise again; and he said all this quite openly. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. But, turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said to him, 'Get behind me, Satan! Because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

He called the people and his disciples to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.'

Reflection

Today's reading is the turning point in Mark's Gospel. In the presentation of the life and ministry of Jesus found in the Gospel of Mark, the deeds of Jesus have shown Jesus to be the Son of God. Yet many, including Jesus' disciples, have not yet realised his identity. In today's Gospel, Jesus asks the disciples for a field report by asking what others say about him. He then turns the question directly to the disciples and asks what they believe. Peter speaks for all of them when he announces that they believe Jesus to be the Christ. The word *Christ* is the Greek translation of the Hebrew word for Messiah, which means "the anointed one." At the time of Jesus, the image of the Messiah was laden with popular expectations, most of which looked for a political leader who would free the Jewish people from Roman occupation. Jesus does not appear to have used this term for himself. As we see in today's reading, Jesus refers to himself instead as the Son of Man, a term derived from the Jewish Scriptures, found in the Book of Daniel and in other apocryphal writings. Many scholars suggest that the phrase Son of Man is best understood to mean "human being." Now that the disciples have acknowledged Jesus as the Christ, Jesus confides in them the outcome of his ministry: he will be rejected, must suffer and die, and will rise after three days. Peter rejects this prediction, and Jesus rebukes him severely. The image of Christ that Jesus is giving is not the image of the Messiah that Peter was expecting. Jesus then teaches the crowd and the disciples about the path of discipleship: To be Christ's disciple is to follow in the way of the cross. We can easily miss the fear that Jesus' words must have evoked in his disciples. Death by crucifixion was all too familiar as a method of execution in Roman-occupied territories. It was also an omnipresent danger to the Christian community for whom Mark wrote. The path that Jesus was inviting his disciples to share meant tremendous suffering and death. This is the kind of radical commitment and sacrifice that Jesus calls us to adopt for the sake of the Gospel.