



Parish of the Sacred Heart and Saint Margaret Mary, Aston

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Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham - Registered Charity No. 234216

8th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Day for unemployed

2nd/3rd March 2019

| Day | Aston | Nechells | Intention |
|--|---------------------|----------|--|
| Saturday | 12.30 pm | 6.00 pm | People of SJ & SH parishes Janet Brennan |
| SUNDAY | 10.00 am | | Bill Lawton |
| Monday | | | Ann Walsh |
| Tuesday | | | No Mass |
| ASH WEDNESDAY Day of Fast & Abstinence | 10.00 am 7.30 pm | 1.30 pm | Derek Davis with school in church Rita Rogers in St. Joseph's school Gerry Sommers |
| Thursday | 10.00 am | | Holy souls |
| Friday Day of abstinence | 9.30 am 10.00 am | 11.45 am | Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Frances Goulding Eucharistic Service |

1st SUNDAY OF LENT

9th/10th March 2019

| Day | Aston | Nechells | Intention |
|----------|----------|----------|------------------------------|
| Saturday | 12.30 pm | 6.00 pm | Kitty McManus Derek Smith |
| SUNDAY | 10.00 am | | People of parish |

Please Pray for the sick; Mary Levell, Peter McKernan, William Parish, Julie Gallagher, Anne Robinson, Maura Greene, John Mullen, Jimmy Armstrong, Pat Davis, Bernadette Harnett, Lisa Brean, Michael O'Connor, Andy Walsh, Joe Thewlis, Michael Brennan.

The collection last weekend came to £216.06

The February **Fiver a month** collection came to £283.70

The 2019 MISSION APPEAL is this weekend for the Society of St. Columban which is an organisation working in fifteen countries with a special commitment to Asia and Latin America. The primary aim of the Columbans is inculturation of the Gospel in Cross Cultural environments. They engage in Reconciliation, Dialogue and building relationships between peoples of different faiths, cultures and ideologies. Columban missionary work of evangelisation includes outreach to poor and marginalized peoples, building bridges between faiths and cultures and supporting emerging local churches. At the heart of their work is the call to help people become fully human, to help establish a world of peace with justice and care for the integrity of creation in solidarity with the poor. The appeal will be conducted by Fr. Gerry Markey SSC who has worked on Missions around the globe in the Philippines, on the Mexican border in Ciudad Juarez and latterly in Chile.

LENT BEGINS THIS WEEK It is a time for careful preparation to make your confession and renew your baptismal promises at Easter. The focus is on the Easter Ceremonies on Holy Saturday night when the catechumens will be baptised. Make a special Lent rule this year for fasting, prayer, almsgiving and if possible attendance at weekday Masses and exposition.

LENT STATIONS OF THE CROSS will take place following straight on from the Sunday Mass at Sacred Heart and at 5.30 pm before the Saturday Mass at St. Joseph's.

LENT RETREAT Walking together with Jesus You commit to 15-30 minutes prayer time a day using on-line resources, and a weekly group meeting. The local meeting will take place at St. Joseph's Presbytery on Mondays at 7.30 pm. The first meeting to get started will be on Monday 4th March. Contact Ann Kelly at a.m.kelly@btinternet.com or 07890 066 309 or go to www.pathwaystogod.org

We need people who could run the **Children's Liturgy**. Please see Fr. Stephen or Sheila McKernan if you think you could help.

PARISH CENSUS Following the new Data Protection Act we need to renew our parish data. If you had a form last week, I hope you have remembered to bring it back. If you didn't get one, please make sure you take one. This is important. Thanks.

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 is a group for young adults (18+) and involves the study of the Bible.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE started again on Ash Wednesday. Please keep it in your prayers and if you can help go to <https://40daysforlife.com/local-campaigns/birmingham-2/>

Tabor House, Birmingham's only permanent night shelter, is looking for volunteers to help, especially overnight and mentors. If you are interested in finding out more why not come along to their Open evening on Wednesday 20th March 2019, 6pm - 8pm at St Anne's Training Room, 96 Bradford Street, Birmingham, B12 0PY. please contact Sharon McCall: 07387 418319 for further information.

As you will be aware, **Brexit** is causing uncertainty and concern to many EU citizens living in the UK. Both clergy and laity alike share this uncertainty and concern. Apart from those who are uncertain about their future, others are inevitably in a state of ignorance and unaware that Brexit will affect their immigration status. In March 2019, the Government is due to launch a Settlement Scheme. All EU citizens living in the UK will be required to make an application if they wish to remain here after Brexit. However, Irish citizens will not be required to apply as their rights are separately protected. Many parishioners, priests and religious leaders in our Dioceses will be affected.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES IN MAY If there is anyone who is sick who would like to go on the pilgrimage, there may be some funding to help towards it. Please ask Fr. Stephen.

CLICK TO PRAY is the Pope's new app. Go and download it, it may help you to pray. Also get **Catholic Mega App** It is a gateway to lots of Catholic resources on the internet. Have you signed up to **Churchpop.com** yet? Short easily accessible articles about Catholic things, some more of a fun nature, some very serious.

The Birmingham Faith Leaders Group has organised an Event under the title Restoring a Just and Compassionate City on Monday 11 March 2019 from 6-9pm at Birmingham Progressive Synagogue, 1 Roseland Way, (off Bishopsgate Street) B15 1 HD. Pre-booking essential by 8th March jonathangurling@yahoo.co.uk or phone 07980 127628.

First reading**Ecclesiasticus 27:5-8**

In a shaken sieve the rubbish is left behind,
so too the defects of a man appear in his talk.
The kiln tests the work of the potter,
the test of a man is in his conversation.
The orchard where a tree grows is judged on the quality of its fruit,
similarly a man's words betray what he feels.
Do not praise a man before he has spoken,
since this is the test of men.

Responsorial Psalm**Psalm 91(92):2-3,13-16**

It is good to give you thanks, O Lord.

It is good to give thanks to the Lord,
to make music to your name, O Most High,
to proclaim your love in the morning
and your truth in the watches of the night.

It is good to give you thanks, O Lord.

The just will flourish like the palm tree
and grow like a Lebanon cedar.

It is good to give you thanks, O Lord.

Planted in the house of the Lord
they will flourish in the courts of our God,
still bearing fruit when they are old,
still full of sap, still green,
to proclaim that the Lord is just.
In him, my rock, there is no wrong.

It is good to give you thanks, O Lord.

Second reading**1 Corinthians 15:54-58**

When this perishable nature has put on imperishability, and when this mortal nature has put on immortality, then the words of scripture will come true: *Death is swallowed up in victory. Death, where is your victory? Death, where is your sting?* Now the sting of death is sin, and sin gets its power from the Law. So let us thank God for giving us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Never give in then, my dear brothers, never admit defeat; keep on working at the Lord's work always, knowing that, in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in vain.

Gospel Acclamation **cf.Ac16:14**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Open our heart, O Lord,
to accept the words of your Son.

Alleluia!

Gospel**Luke 6:39-45**

Jesus told a parable to his disciples. 'Can one blind man guide another? Surely both will fall into a pit? The disciple is not superior to his teacher; the fully trained disciple will always be like his teacher. Why do you observe the splinter in your brother's eye and never notice the plank in your own? How can you say to your brother, "Brother, let me take out the splinter that is in your eye," when you cannot see the plank in your own? Hypocrite! Take the plank out of your own eye first, and then you will see clearly enough to take out the splinter that is in your brother's eye.

'There is no sound tree that produces rotten fruit, nor again a rotten tree that produces sound fruit. For every tree can be told by its own fruit: people do not pick figs from thorns, nor gather grapes from brambles. A good man draws what is good from the store of goodness in his heart; a bad man draws what is bad from the store of badness. For a man's words flow out of what fills his heart.'