



Parish of the Sacred Heart and Saint Margaret Mary, Aston
Parish of St. Joseph's Nechells

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Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham - Registered Charity No. 234216

23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

6th September 2020

Dear Parishioners,

On Saturday 12th September we are having a Requiem for Pat Hayes who died at the beginning of lockdown. It will be at 11 am. Please pass this around so that everyone knows about it. A lot of people are not on this email list.

Julie Gallagher’s birthday is on Friday 11th September. The Mass on the following Sunday will be offered for her and, God willing, we shall have a small socially distanced party for her in the Presbytery garden afterwards.

Although space may be limited and various things are different because of Covid, can I still encourage you to come back to Mass now. We are able to cope with quite a few more still social distancing even at the Sunday 10 am Mass. You will need to come with face covering and to follow the instructions of the stewards. After Mass it is good to hang around for a bit outside in the street and talk to people, but we should still be careful to maintain social distancing.

A few years ago we had the “Year of Mercy”. We learnt about the works of mercy - the corporal works of mercy and the spiritual works of mercy. Perhaps the most difficult of them was the spiritual work of mercy of admonishing the sinner. This Sunday’s readings are very much about that. People’s lives are at stake, yet we so easily excuse ourselves from correcting others even over important matters. We easily get angry with other people, often over trivial things, and this is our own problem with which we have to deal. Admonishing the sinner must be done out of love, because we really care for the other person. “Love is the one thing” says St. Paul in the second reading “that cannot hurt your neighbour”. Ignoring your neighbour can.

A week ago we celebrated the feast of St. Augustine. He is almost certainly the most influential saint of all time (other than Our Lady). Amongst his many writings he wrote his Confessions. This is probably the greatest of the spiritual writings outside the Bible and tells us of his journey to faith and is a “must” for all Christians to read. If you haven’t done so, can I encourage you to read it. “Late have I loved you, Beauty so ancient and so new, late have I loved you! Lo, you were within, but I outside, seeking there for you, and upon the shapely things you have made I rushed headlong – I, misshapen You were with me, but I was not with you.”

May you all have a very blessed week, especially all those who have now started back at school.

Fr. Stephen Pimlott

Next Weekend there will be a second collection for the **Catholic Education Service**

Masses now on Saturdays

11 am at Sacred Heart

6.00 pm at St. Joseph’s

On Sundays 10.00 am at Sacred Heart

I am able to hear some confessions before the Mass on Saturdays in the Sacristy maintaining social distancing. Otherwise you can make a special appointment.

MASS INTENTIONS this weekend. Saturday 11 am Mona Green
Saturday 6 pm (St. Joseph's) Kay Healey
Sunday 10 am People of Parish

Fr. Stephen has now run out of Mass intentions. If you would like Mass said for a particular intention, please let Fr. Stephen know either by email or phone. You can give him the stipend later. Mass cards are available for purchase at church. See Fr. Stephen for these.

FUNERALS (Only 30 people allowed at funerals, so only attend at invitation of family)
Patrick Sherlock 12.15 pm on Monday at St. Joseph's
Peter McKernan 10.30 am on Wednesday at Sacred Heart

40 DAYS FOR LIFE begins on Wednesday 23rd September. The Kick-off event will be on Saturday 19th September in the Upper Cloister Room at the Oratory in the Hagley Road starting at 3 pm prompt. Dr. Eileen Reilly, a gynaecologist/obstetrician, will be talking on 'The Abortion Pill Reversal – A Second Chance to Choose'.

LIFE is celebrating 50 years. Go to their Anniversary Tribute page to see what they have done over these last 50 years. <https://lifecharity.us2.list-manage.com/track/click?u=7163ab72f7f4ce55d87072c05&id=bb691e52f4&e=ef563ac41c>

BIRMINGHAM JUSTICE & PEACE ASSEMBLY 2020: THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY: LISTENING TO THE 'CRY OF THE EARTH AND THE CRY OF THE POOR'. This year the Assembly will take place ONLINE, with one-hour sessions over three evenings at 7.30pm: Monday 28 September, Wednesday 30 September, Friday 2 October and culminating with an Evening Prayer with the participation of Archbishop Bernard on Sunday 4 October at 7pm. Sessions include: Ecological Conversion – an 'examination of conscience' on our care for our common home; Prepare the Future – building back better to address the climate emergency; and Local Government Responsibilities – planning for the West Midlands. For more information and to book go to <https://bit.ly/JPasssembly2020> or email bham.jandp@gmail.com

Bible Study Group now meets on Skype on Mondays at 7.00 p.m. If you would like to join it, please contact Shirley on 07562754382. It is a good time to join because we are just starting 2 Samuel. All are welcome.

EWTN is broadcasting what it calls EWTN essentials which is a continuous devotional broadcast with the Mass every 2 hours. Get it on the free EWTN app.

Please Pray for the sick; Mary Levell, William Parish, Julie Gallagher, Anne Robinson, Maura Greene, Jimmy Armstrong, Pat Davis, Bernadette Harnett, Lisa Brean, Michael Brennan, Alex McClure, Phil Robinson.

CORONAVIRUS For the Church's guidelines see the Conference of Bishops website <https://www.cbcew.org.uk> or go to gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public

USEFUL WEBSITES <https://www.mcnmedia.tv>

<https://www.wordonfire.org>

<https://www.stchadscathedral.org.uk/>

<https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/>

<https://www.ewtn.com/radio/shows/called-to-communion>

<https://www.catholic.com/>

<https://www.walsingham.org.uk/>

<https://magiscenter.com/>

BECOMING A CATHOLIC If you wish to become a Catholic, or know someone who wishes to become a Catholic, or perhaps are a Catholic but have little perception of what that means, please contact Fr. Stephen by phone, email or in person.

DAILY EXPOSITION and the English Prayer Time are suspended during the Corona virus pandemic. To check on any further details phone Sr. Meena on 0795 7342742.

MARRIAGE MATTERS www.twoinoneflesh.org.uk Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
(Ezek 33:7-9 Rom 13:8-10 Matthew 18:15-20) *To listen is to Love*

Matthew reminds us of Jesus' promise "...where two or more meet in my name I will be with them". In all the practical ways we look after each other, we are saying; 'your concerns are my concerns'. Nothing is too small or insignificant in our marriage, and my beloved is beside me to call me back to our life together.

Feasts and Memorials this week

Monday	Feria
Tuesday	Feast of the Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Wednesday	Feria
Thursday	Feria
Friday	Feria
Saturday	Most Holy Name of Mary