



## Parish of the Sacred Heart and Saint Margaret Mary, Aston

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Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham - Registered Charity No. 234216

### 30<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME 28<sup>th</sup>/29<sup>th</sup> October

Day	Aston	Nechells	Intention
Saturday	12.30 pm	6.00 pm	People of Parish Sick friend
Sunday	10.00 am		Thanksgiving for the gift of life
Monday	9.30 am		Olwyn Foster
Tuesday			No Mass
Wednesday ALL SAINTS DAY Holy day of obligation	10.00 am 7.30 pm	1.30 pm	Nole Stocks - with children in Church Jack Kay Healy
Thursday ALL SOULS DAY	10.00 am	11.45 am	Souls of the faithful departed Souls of the faithful departed
Friday Day of abstinence	9.30 am 10.00 am	11.45 am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Paul Northam & family Eucharistic Service

### 31<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> November

Day	Aston	Nechells	Intention
Saturday	12.30 pm	6.00 pm	Martin Goulding People of parish
SUNDAY	10.00 am		Charles Kelly

**Please Pray for the sick;** Anne Stapleton, Bridie Murphy, Sheila O'Reilly, Marion Levell, Peter McKernan, Mary Joyce, Bernadette Harnett, Lisa Brean, May Walker, Nirosha Pathiraja, Teresa Francis, Michael O'Connor, Marie Parish, William Parish, Michael O'Reilly, Julie Gallagher, Irene Nelson.



Next weekend we have a second collection for the **Johnson Association** which supports the retired and sick priests of our Diocese. Envelopes are available at the back of the church for taxpayers to Gift Aid their offering.

### THIS WEEKEND THE CLOCKS GO BACK ONE HOUR.

**HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION** The Bishops of England and Wales have restored two of the Days to their proper days. Therefore the Holy Days of Obligation which may fall during the week are:

Christmas Day (25<sup>th</sup> December), Epiphany (6<sup>th</sup> January), Ascension Thursday (date depends on Easter), St. Peter & St. Paul (29<sup>th</sup> June), Assumption of our Lady (15<sup>th</sup> August) and All Saints Day (1<sup>st</sup> November). However, if, apart from Christmas Day, it should fall on a Saturday or a Monday it transfers to the Sunday.

### **First reading Exodus 22:20-26**

The Lord said to Moses, 'Tell the sons of Israel this:

"You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans.

"If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him.

"If you take another's cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity."

### **Responsorial Psalm 17(18):2-4,47,51**

I love you, Lord, my strength.

### **Second reading 1 Thessalonians 1:5-10**

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread – and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

### **Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

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

### **Gospel Matthew 22:34-40**

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: You must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'

## Reflection

This week's Gospel follows close behind the Gospel read last Sunday. It is the last of three questions put to Jesus by Jewish religious leaders who are trying to trick him into saying something that might get him arrested. This reminds us that the context for today's reading is the mounting tension between Jesus and the religious leaders in Jerusalem. The Herodians and the Pharisees asked the first question, which was about taxes. The Sadducees asked the second question, which was about the Resurrection. The third question, considered in today's Gospel, is asked by a Pharisee who asks Jesus about the greatest of the commandments. The question requires Jesus to interpret the Law of Moses. The Mosaic Law consists of the Ten Commandments and many additional rules, numbering over six hundred. Adherence to the Mosaic Law, for a devout Jew, is an expression of faithfulness to God's covenant with Israel. The ranking of the Commandments was regularly debated among the teachers of the Law. Jesus answers the Pharisees' question with a two-fold summary. Jesus says that all of the commandments can be summarized in two commandments: love God and love your neighbor. Both of these were central elements of the religious tradition Jesus learned from his Jewish community. Indeed these continue to be central aspects of contemporary Jewish religious understanding. Jesus' response to his questioners proposed an integral connection between these two aspects of the Jewish Law. Love of God finds its expression in our love for our neighbour.

## What's going on in the Diocese

**ABORTION ACT** Last Friday was the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the passing of the fateful 1967 Abortion Act. The Pro-Life Alliance is asking churches to toll a bell 50 times this Sunday in memory of the 8.8 million lives that have been lost since then.

**40 DAYS FOR LIFE** has started again on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September until Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November. During that time we are asked to pray outside the Abortion Clinic in Arthur Road, Edgbaston between 8 am and 8 pm. You can just turn up and join with others praying the rosary, but it is helpful to the organisers if you can book in a slot on the website <https://40daysforlife.com/local-campaigns/birmingham/> If you can't get there how about spending an hour each week before the Blessed Sacrament at Sacred Heart. You are asked to attend the last hour next Sunday. Please assemble at 7.45 pm outside the clinic.

**ASTON & NECHELLS FOOD BANK** You can help the food bank by going to the John Lewis café at Grand Central and putting a green token in the pot marked "Trussell Trust". If it gets enough "votes" **before 31<sup>st</sup> October** it will receive donations from John Lewis.

**Join the Diocesan Youth Service for Bonfire Night**, Sunday 5th November @Oscott College from 7-9pm. With music, professional firework display, bonfire & BBQ - a night not to be missed, open to youth groups, young adults & families. £10 per person - group & family discounts available. Contact: [kristi.doughty@kenelmyouthtrust.org.uk](mailto:kristi.doughty@kenelmyouthtrust.org.uk) or [www.kyt.org.uk](http://www.kyt.org.uk) for more information.

**FERTILITY CARE** Life Fertility Care offer treatment for infertility and miscarriage. There are leaflets about it at the back of church. If you know anyone needing help, please take a leaflet or visit [www.lifefertilitycare.co.uk](http://www.lifefertilitycare.co.uk)

**Tabor House, Birmingham's only permanent night shelter for homeless people**, has now opened. Could you volunteer as a host or mentor? Contact Christy Acton on 01675 434064 to find out more.

## Parish News

**SACRED HEART CHURCH WEBSITE** Please mark this website and view it regularly.

**BEING A CATHOLIC** A course has started on the Catholic faith both for those adults who would like to become Catholics and to help those who are already Catholics to get a more adult understanding of the faith. It continues each week on Monday at 3.45 pm in Sacred Heart School in Earlsbury Gardens. The sessions will finish at 5 pm. Please come and bring your friends.

**GIFT – A New Life in the Spirit course** finishes this Thursday at 1.00 pm in St. Joseph's School.

**BLESSING OF GRAVES** at St. Joseph's cemetery will take place on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November at 3.00 pm.

**PLANNING A FUNERAL** There are some forms available at the back of the Church to help you plan your funeral, so that your appropriate wishes may be respected by your next of kin.

**Sehion UK ministry** originates from Sehion Retreat Centre in Attapadi, Kerala. Under the direction of Fr. Soji Olikkal, it commenced in the UK in 2009. There are various different ministries conducted by Sehion that you can participate in such as:

**Second Saturday Convention** - Every 2nd Saturday of the month from 8am - 4pm at Bethel Convention Centre, Kelvin Way, West Bromwich, B70 7JW (including a Rosary procession, Holy Mass, Confession, talks, spiritual sharing, testimonies, praise and worship and Eucharistic Adoration).

**Bible Sharing Class** - Every Tuesday here at 85 Prestbury Road from 8pm - 10pm. For further details, please visit the Sehion UK website at [www.sehionuk.org](http://www.sehionuk.org)

**SOME ONLINE RESOURCES: CHURCHPOP** Have a look at the website [churchpop.com](http://churchpop.com). It contains all sorts of material of a Catholic nature set out in a fun way. Something for all the family to enjoy. **Wordonfire.org** Bishop Robert Barron. **Catholic Answers** [www.catholic.com](http://www.catholic.com). **Strangenotions.com**

**KINGDOM WARRIORS** Young adults are invited to join our young adults group called the Kingdom Warriors. They meet each Tuesday at 6.30 pm at St. Vincent's Church in Nechells Parkway, B7 4JY for Lectio Divina. At present they are studying St. Matthew's Gospel.

**Sacred Heart School Community Lunch Club** has begun again on Tuesdays. It is intended for members of the community, especially for those living alone, who would welcome the opportunity to meet with others for a tasty cooked lunch and a social activity. Lunch is served at 12.00 pm, and usually consists of a cooked main course and dessert. Members are asked to pay just £4.00 towards the costs of the food. Please call the school on 0121 356 4721 for more details or to book a place.

**MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR COMPLETION OF ROOF REPAIRS**  
The Archbishop will be coming to Sacred Heart for a Special Mass on  
Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January at 11.00 am.  
Please mark this off in your diary. More details later.