

Saint Mary's Catholic Church

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Parish Safeguarding Representative: Mr Ross Hulme 07410942535



The Week Ahead (Public Mass is in Red)

Saturday: Vigil Mass for Sunday
17.00: Celebrants Intention

Sunday 6th Twenty –Fourth Sunday
09:30: Krizevac Project

Monday 14th Feast of the Exaltation
of the Holy Cross

09:30: John Wood (*Birthday Mass Bouquet for 7.9.20, Blessings for your 96th*)

Tuesday 15th Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows

09:30: Margaret & Ted Sail RIP (*In school, sorry no visitors permitted*).

Wednesday 16th Memorial of Ss Cornelius, Pope,
and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs

09:30: Barbara & Barry Hamill (*Golden Wedding Anniversay Congratulations & Blessings to you both*).

Thursday 17th Feria in Ordinary Time

09:30: Celebrants Intention

Friday 18th Feria in Ordinary Time

09:30: Celebrants Intention

Saturday 19th Feria in Ordinary Time

09:30: Celebrants Intention

Saturday: Vigil Mass for Sunday
17.00: Stephen Wilits RIP & family

Sunday 20th Twenty –Fifth Sunday in Ordinary
Time

09:30: Private Intention

Psalter Week 4, Twenty-Forth Sunday Ordinary Time. Weekday cycle of Readings Year 2

Donations/Offerings: Thank you so much to those who continue to support St Mary's at this time. Your support is invaluable to us now more so than ever. Any offering put through the presbytery letterbox will be hugely appreciated to help with the upkeep of the church. Also, you can still set up a direct debit/standing order. We will send you all the necessary information. Please contact Eileen Jones at: eileenjones717@gmail.com for more details.

It is also possible to make on-Line Donations:

The Archdiocese has now set up a system for individuals to continue to donate to the church during this unprecedented time. There is a donate button (top right) on the home page of the diocesan website – www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk

From there donations which can also be gift aided can be made to any parish via credit or debit card. There are transaction charges levied by the card processing company which amount to 20p + 1.9% of the value of the donation – so for a £10 donation this will amount to £0.39 which will be deducted from the amount we receive. The Archdiocese does however highlight that a standing order remains the most cost effective way for parishioners to donate.

Stewards: Sincerely grateful to our volunteers but a few more would be welcome to ease the burden on the current team, especially for Sunday.



Please Pray for those whose Anniversaries fall during the week ahead:

Daisy Sandy, Percy Archer, Kenneth Ford, Harry Walker, Ellen Prince, Gill Harris, Winnifred Eyton, Margaret &

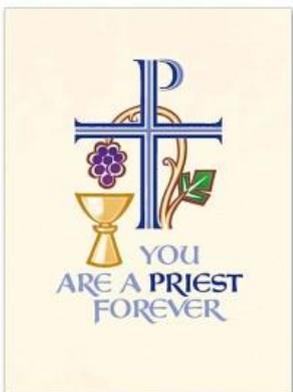
Ted Sail, Fr Dennis Brown, Anthony Baxter, Winnifred Dwyer, Gillian Kelly, Annie Thomas, Margarete Wentz, Betty Mulliner, Bernard Durose.

For the following, the sick and housebound of the Parish we offer our love and prayers:

Janette Colclough, Beth Munroe, Stella Roberts, Jamie McLaughlin, Agnes Anne Wilks, Marie Sowter, Brenda Hammersley, Angela Dartnell, Joan Mern, Josie Goodwin, Joyce Kinder, Hannah Prince, Mary Hackney, Agnes Bradbury. Father Fred, Betty Chadwick, Mary Walton, Paul Gascoigne, John Parsons, Julie Broadbridge, Marilyn *Goode*, Rod Whiston, Kevin McAuley, Eamon Dooley,

For our recently deceased: Tim Jackson RIP.

Deacon Peter Kilgallon RIP.



Ordinations within the Archdiocese:

Priests: On Saturday 12th September at 12noon we celebrate the Ordination of Clive Dytor and Alexander Taylor.

Then on Sunday 20th September at 3.00pm we celebrate the Ordination as Priests of Sean Gough and Benedict Skipper.

New Auxiliary Bishops for the Archdiocese: On Friday 9th October at 12noon, the Feast of St John Henry Newman - we celebrate the Ordination as Bishops of Canon David Evans and Canon Stephen Wright, for service as Auxiliary Bishops in our Archdiocese.

Please support them by keeping them in your prayers.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

We have now received permission to resume home visits. Could those ministers who are willing to resume visits to the sick and housebound please let me know by email. New guidance has been provided for us to follow.

Confession: Is available by appointment. Please contact Fr Paul.

Reminder for Readers at Mass: With two Sunday Masses (Saturday Vigil Mass and Sunday morning) we are calling on our regular Readers more frequently.

Readers: Please remember the following guidance on the Responsorial Psalm. Do not say 'The responsorial psalm' or 'The response is...' Just announce the antiphon, which the congregation will repeat, and then read the verse. (Fr. Paul provides Mass sheets for all who need them.) Do not remain in the pulpit for the Alleluia and please leave the microphone on.

Those Readers who have volunteered as Stewards are not being asked to read. Our thanks to all who serve the Parish in these essential tasks.

Booking for weekend Masses: Please telephone Sue Waller on 01889 565548 to let her know which Mass you plan to attend, to cater for the new Social Distancing seating numbers and Government Guidance on Track & Trace.

Face Coverings: Please ensure you bring one with you. **Toilet:** Apologies but the toilet in church remains closed for now.

Holy Communion: For the distribution of Holy Communion please remember to remain in your place until guided by either Fr Paul or a steward.

Mass Intentions are a long-standing Catholic tradition of requesting that Masses be offered in remembrance of those who have died or for special intentions of those living. There are

none at present so any intention can be offered immediately.

Guild Hall: Under present circumstances the Guild Hall will remain closed until further notice. Apologies for any inconvenience this may cause.

Saint Cornelius' Story

There was no pope for 14 months after the martyrdom of Saint Fabian because of the intensity of the persecution of the Church. During the interval, the Church was governed by a college of priests. Saint Cyprian, a friend of Cornelius, writes that Cornelius was elected pope “by the judgment of God and of Christ, by the testimony of most of the clergy, by the vote of the people, with the consent of aged priests and of good men.”

The greatest problem of Cornelius's two-year term as pope had to do with the Sacrament of Penance and centered on the readmission of Christians who had denied their faith during the time of persecution. Two extremes were finally both condemned. Cyprian, primate of North Africa, appealed to the pope to confirm his stand that the relapsed could be reconciled only by the decision of the bishop.

In Rome, however, Cornelius met with the opposite view. After his election, a priest named Novatian (one of those who had governed the Church) had himself consecrated a rival bishop of Rome—one of the first antipopes. He denied that the Church had any power to reconcile not only the apostates, but also those guilty of murder, adultery, fornication, or second marriage! Cornelius had the support of most of the Church (especially of Cyprian of Africa) in condemning Novatianism, though the sect persisted for several centuries. Cornelius held a synod at Rome in 251 and ordered the “relapsed” to be restored to the Church with the usual “medicines of repentance.”

The friendship of Cornelius and Cyprian was strained for a time when one of Cyprian's rivals made accusations about him. But the problem was cleared up.

A document from Cornelius shows the extent of organization in the Church of Rome in the mid-third century: 46 priests, seven deacons, seven subdeacons. It is estimated that the number of Christians totaled about 50,000. He died as a result of the hardships of his exile in what is now Civitavecchia.

Reflection

It seems fairly true to say that almost every possible false doctrine has been proposed at some time or other in the history of the Church. The third century saw the resolution of a problem we scarcely consider—the penance to be done before reconciliation with the Church after mortal sin. Men like Cornelius and Cyprian were God's instruments in helping the Church find a prudent path between extremes of rigorism and laxity. They are part of the Church's ever-living stream of tradition, ensuring the continuance of what was begun by Christ, and evaluating new experiences through the wisdom and experience of those who have gone before. (*Franciscan media*)

Saint Cyprian's Story

Cyprian is important in the development of Christian thought and practice in the third century, especially in northern Africa.

Highly educated, a famous orator, he became a Christian as an adult. He distributed his goods to the poor, and amazed his fellow citizens by making a vow of chastity before his baptism. Within two years he had been ordained a priest and was chosen, against his will, as Bishop of Carthage.

Cyprian complained that the peace the Church had enjoyed had weakened the spirit of many Christians and had opened the door to converts who did not have the true spirit of faith. When the Decian persecution began, many Christians easily abandoned the Church. It was their reinstatement that caused the great controversies of the third century, and helped the Church progress in its understanding of the Sacrament of Penance.

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Novatus, a priest who had opposed Cyprian's election, set himself up in Cyprian's absence (he had fled to a hiding place from which to direct the Church—bringing criticism on himself) and received back all apostates without imposing any canonical penance. Ultimately he was condemned. Cyprian held a middle course, holding that those who had actually sacrificed to idols could receive Communion only at death, whereas those who had only bought certificates saying they had sacrificed could be admitted after a more or less lengthy period of penance. Even this was relaxed during a new persecution.

During a plague in Carthage, Cyprian urged Christians to help everyone, including their enemies and persecutors.

A friend of Pope Cornelius, Cyprian opposed the following pope, Stephen. He and the other African bishops would not recognize the validity of baptism conferred by heretics and schismatics. This was not the universal view of the Church, but Cyprian was not intimidated even by Stephen's threat of excommunication.

He was exiled by the emperor and then recalled for trial. He refused to leave the city, insisting that his people should have the witness of his martyrdom.

Cyprian was a mixture of kindness and courage, vigor and steadiness. He was cheerful and serious, so that people did not know whether to love or respect him more. He waxed warm during the baptismal controversy; his feelings must have concerned him, for it was at this time that he wrote his treatise on patience. Saint Augustine remarks that Cyprian atoned for his anger by his glorious martyrdom. His Liturgical Feast Day is September 16.

Reflection

The controversies about Baptism and Penance in the third century remind us that the early Church had no ready-made solutions from the Holy Spirit. The leaders and members of the Church of that day had to move painfully through the best series of judgments they could make in an attempt to follow the entire teaching

of Christ and not be diverted by exaggerations to right or left. (*Franciscan media*)

Celebration & Gratitude

Dear Barbara & Barry

Anniversary Joy

Your anniversary is a time
For sharing your affection;
It's obvious the two of you
Have quite a deep connection!

We send glad congratulations
And heartfelt wishes, too,
For joyful happiness and love
In everything you do.

*On your Golden
Wedding Anniversary
With love from all at St Mary's*



*Thank You So Much 'V Team'
for this month's deep cleaning of
the Church.*