



## Saint Mary's Catholic Church

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Parish Safeguarding Representative: Mr Ross Hulme 07410942535



The Week Ahead: Lockdown Restrictions:  
(COVID-19; Public Mass now suspended  
until after 2 December)

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November:

Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of  
the Universe

09:30: Frank Killian

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> Feria in Ordinary Time

09:30: Holy Souls

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> Memorial of St Andrew Dung-  
Lac, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs

09:30: Holy Souls

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> Feria in Ordinary Time

09:30: Holy Souls

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> Feria in Ordinary Time

09:30: Holy Souls

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> Feria in Ordinary Time

09:30: Holy Souls

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> Feria in Ordinary Time

09:30: Holy Souls

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November:

First Sunday of Advent

09:30: Denis Hamill

Weekday Cycle of Readings Year II

Supporting St Mary's with Donations/Offerings:

Thank you so much: To those who continue to support St Mary's financially at this time. Your support is invaluable to us as we journey through these months keeping the church functioning and now facing the winter months under continued restrictions. As a consequence of the pandemic our income has dropped but our gratitude remains unbounded to those who continue to help and support us.

If you are able any offering will be hugely appreciated to assist with the upkeep of the church. You can still set up a direct debit/standing order. We will send you all the necessary information to do so. Please contact Eileen Jones at: [eileenjones717@gmail.com](mailto:eileenjones717@gmail.com) for more details.

It is also possible to make on-line donations: As the Archdiocese has 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 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.



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

Stephen McAllister, Eileen Finch, Eric Bell, Josephine Ivinson, Reginald Prime, Fr. Arthur Sammons, Joseph Wilks, Mabel Felton, Lillian Waring, William Brinkler, May Fallows, Fr. Edward Neary, Vincent Goode, Edgar Martin, Thomas Morris, Adrian Roberts.

**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.

*(Please let Fr Paul know if there is anyone who would now wish to be removed from the list)*

**The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe:**

Formerly referred to as "Christ the King," was established by Pope Pius XI in 1925 as an antidote to secularism, a way of life which leaves God out of man's thinking and living and organizes his life as if God did not exist. The feast is intended to proclaim in a striking and effective manner Christ's royalty over individuals, families, society, governments, and nations.

Today's Mass establishes the titles for Christ's royalty over men: 1) Christ is God, the Creator of the universe and hence wields a supreme power over all things; "All things were created by Him"; 2) Christ is our Redeemer, He purchased us by His precious Blood, and made us His property and possession; 3) Christ is Head of the Church, "holding in all things the primacy"; 4) God bestowed upon Christ the nations of the world as His special possession and dominion.

Today's Mass also describes the qualities of Christ's kingdom. This kingdom is: 1) supreme, extending not only to all people but also to their princes and kings; 2) universal, extending to all nations and to all places; 3) eternal, for "The Lord shall sit a King forever"; 4) spiritual, Christ's "kingdom is not of this world." (*Rt. Rev. Msgr. Rudolph G. Gandas*)

Before the reform of the Roman calendar in 1969, this feast was celebrated on the last Sunday of October.

**Saint Andrew Dung-Lac and Companions' Story**

Andrew Dung-Lac, a Catholic convert ordained to the priesthood, was one of 117 people martyred in Vietnam between 1820 and 1862. Members of the companions group gave their lives for Christ in the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries, and received beatification during four different occasions between 1900 and 1951. All were canonized during the papacy of Saint John Paul II.

Christianity came to Vietnam through the Portuguese. Jesuits opened the first permanent mission at Da Nang in 1615. They ministered to Japanese Catholics who had been driven from Japan.

Severe persecutions were launched at least three times in the 19th century. During the six decades after 1820, between 100,000 and 300,000 Catholics were killed or subjected to great hardship. Foreign missionaries martyred in the first wave included priests of the Paris Mission Society, and Spanish Dominican priests and tertiaries.

In 1832, Emperor Minh-Mang banned all foreign missionaries, and tried to make all Vietnamese deny their faith by trampling on a crucifix. Like the priest-holes in Ireland during English persecution, many hiding places were offered in homes of the faithful.

Persecution broke out again in 1847, when the emperor suspected foreign missionaries and Vietnamese Christians of sympathizing with a rebellion led by one of his sons.

The last of the martyrs were 17 laypersons, one of them a 9-year-old, executed in 1862. That year a

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treaty with France guaranteed religious freedom to Catholics, but it did not stop all persecution.

By 1954, there were over a million Catholics—about seven percent of the population—in the north. Buddhists represented about 60 percent. Persistent persecution forced some 670,000 Catholics to abandon lands, homes and possessions and flee to the south. In 1964, there were still 833,000 Catholics in the north, but many were in prison. In the south, Catholics were enjoying the first decade of religious freedom in centuries, their numbers swelled by refugees.

During the Vietnamese war, Catholics again suffered in the north, and again moved to the south in great numbers. Now reunited, the entire country is under Communist rule.

**Reflection:** It may help a people who associate Vietnam only with a 20th-century war to realize that the cross has long been a part of the lives of the people of that country. Even as some people ask again the unanswered questions about United States involvement and disengagement, the faith rooted in Vietnam’s soil proves hardier than the forces that willed to destroy it.

**Red Box Holders:**



Time to empty your box. This year please empty the contents into a strong plastic bag and make secure. Please make sure that your name and telephone number is

clearly visible on or in the bag for accounts purposes. Then, drop it through the letterbox at the presbytery where it will be passed to our new **Local Secretary Sally Herbert**. Sincere thanks to Sally for taking on this role.



**NOVEMBER**  
THE MONTH OF ALL SOULS

**Our recently deceased:** Tim

- Jackson.
- Deacon Peter Kilgallon
- Sue Waller
- Rev Fr Thomas Edward Williams

**The Prayer of St. Gertrude**

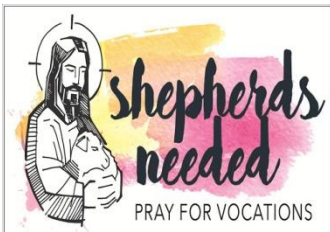
Eternal Father, I offer Thee the Most Precious Blood of Thy Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the masses said throughout the world today, for all the holy souls in purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal church, those in my own home and within my family. Amen.

**Last Week:** This Year may I ask that you place the list of those whom you wish to be remembered at Holy Mass during November through the presbytery door. I shall then place them around the candle on the altar in the Lady Chapel where they will remain throughout the month. Those listed will be remembered collectively at every Mass celebrated throughout the month.

Individual Mass intentions remain available should you prefer.



**Peter’s Pickles are now available.** All proceeds in support of St Mary’s. To place your order please call Peter and Hazel on 07857658563



**Parish Prayer Rota for Vocations**

*Lord Jesus, we ask you to send more servants to your people. Choose*

*from our parishes, from our homes, our schools and colleges, an abundant harvest of apostles for your Kingdom: priests, sisters, brothers, deacons, and lay ministers. We pray that those you call may never lose awareness of the dignity and need of their vocation.*

*O Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, guide all those Master calls to say a joyful "Yes" as you did at the Annunciation. Amen.*

**For the week beginning Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November:**

Sun. Shirley; Mon. Laura; Tues. Suzanne; Wed. Veronica; Thurs. David; Fri. Alison; Sat. Hazel

*To join the rota please speak with Veronica*

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**Message from Archbishop Bernard Longley:**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Bishops of England and Wales have met in prayer and dialogue to respond to the final IICSA Report into the Catholic Church. The report shows institutional failures on the part of the Church which failed to keep the vulnerable safe from abuse and failed to offer compassionate responses to those who suffered. It is with shame and profound sorrow that we recognise these failures and accept our need for a change of heart. Our first thoughts and prayers must always be for those who have suffered. In their terrible suffering we must also recognise that they are our best teachers on how to improve.

The bishops have also responded to the Elliot Report. This independent review and report was commissioned by the bishops to recommend changes that are necessary to ensure best practice in safeguarding in the Church at every level. Victims/Survivors of abuse in the Church have played a crucial role in presenting the bishops with these necessary recommendations. The bishops have accepted and will implement all the recommendations contained in both the Elliot and the IICSA Reports.

Safeguarding is the work of all of us in the Church. I wish to thank all the volunteers and clergy in our parishes who help to ensure that they are safe places for all-comers. The IICSA Report acknowledges the vast improvements over the last 20 years in safeguarding practices. The acceptance and implementation of the Elliott Review recommendations will help us all improve further. The Bishops' Conference, under the leadership of Cardinal Vincent, is committed to improve our practices and our responses to those who have suffered.

Abuse has no place in the Church. The Archdiocese will always report allegations to and co-operate fully with the police and statutory agencies. I invite anyone who has suffered abuse to contact the police or if

appropriate to contact the Diocesan Safeguarding Team:

[safeguarding@rc-birmingham.org](mailto:safeguarding@rc-birmingham.org).

I would encourage you to read the Bishops' Statement in full.

Thank you for your prayers for all those who have suffered abuse, within and beyond the Church, as well as for Cardinal Vincent and the bishops at this important moment.

With my prayers and every kind wish.

Yours devotedly in Christ,

X Bernard

You can find the Bishops' Conference Statement on the final IICSA Report into the Catholic Church together with the bishops' acceptance of the independent Elliot Report's recommendations which lay out the changes to safeguarding structures and procedures within the Church which are necessary to ensure best practice on the diocesan website.

There you will also find Cardinal Vincent's personal message.

<https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/statement-on-safeguarding-from-the-bishops-conference>

