

Blessed Robert Grissold Catholic Church, Balsall Common

In the Archdiocese of Birmingham. Mass Time Sunday 9.30am.

Sunday 5th February 2017 – Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

'You are the light of the world'

Pope's Prayer Intention: Comfort for the Afflicted - 'That all those who are afflicted, especially the poor, refugees, and marginalized, may find welcome and comfort in our communities.'

Father Frank. In the Gospel today Jesus teaches that the lives of his followers should have a distinctive quality. Like salt, we should add a peculiar flavour to life because our life in Christ is distinctive and peculiar. This distinctive and peculiar quality of the Christ-life in us should shine like a light in the world, because Christ is the Light of the world. But if we lose our distinctive and peculiar taste - if the light in us is dimmed or hidden from the world - then we are no longer fit for purpose for we are called to witness to the love and light of Christ by our lives so that all may "taste and see that the Lord is good."

Saints and Feast Days of the Week. St Paul Miki & Companions (6th), Day of Prayer for the Victims of Trafficking (8th), St. Scholastica (10th).

Collection 29th January: Loose plate £83.50, Envelopes £123.00, Standing Orders £355.00, Total **£561.50**.

Fr Hudson's send grateful thanks for your generosity for the recent collection raising £117.18

Meditations before the Blessed Sacrament on Wednesdays continue to reflect on the writings of Francis Xavier Nguyen Van Thuan who in 2000 Pope John Paul II chose to preach a course of Spiritual Exercises for himself and the Vatican staff. Archbishop Van Thuan majors on "hope" in his addresses - a hope that he discovered during his 13 years imprisonment for his faith, nine of which were spent in solitary confinement. This Wednesday's meditations focus on what Jesus called the 'one thing necessary,' or as Van Thuan puts it "Choosing God and not the works of God." Archbishop Van Thuan found hope in the presence of Christ, even amidst severe trials and deprivation. In our prayerful stillness and reflection before Christ in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar we can find that same hope. All welcome.

Forty Days for Life - Prayerful Witness 1/3/17 – 9/4/17. Prep. launch event 26/2/17 2.30-4pm: "Spiritual Warfare Boot Camp." An opportunity to deepen your faith this Lent by coming to learn the spiritual essentials under the guidance of 7 local priests at the. For info: 07773 501 721 or izzyvvs@gmail.com.

Princethorpe College: Invigilators wanted at Princethorpe College. Contact 01926 634220.

Candle of Dedication. The candle is lit this week for Emily & Jack McLellan (RIP) and Jim Hickman (RIP).

Coffee Together: BRG will be hosting the next 'Coffee Together' on Sat. 4 March 10.30-12 noon in the Jubilee Centre. We are in urgent need of more helpers. Please see Louise or John Perry for more info.

Churches Together Lenten Breakfasts: are being held on Saturday mornings during Lent at the Methodist church from the 4th March to the 1st April. Each church hosts the breakfasts and Blessed Robert Grissold will be hosting on the 15 March. We need volunteers on this occasion. See notice board for more information or speak to Louise or John Perry.

Lenten dates for your diary: why not take one or more of these up for Lent ?

- Wednesday 1st March - Ash Wednesday. Imposition of Ashes - the beginning of Lent.
- Tuesdays in Lent - 10 am Mass followed by Stations of the Cross.
- Wednesdays in Lent - 7pm Mass followed by talks/discussion on the Eucharist which is at the heart of the Church and who we are.
- Thursdays in Lent - 7pm Mass followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Meditations, silent prayer and Benediction at 8pm – echoing the pattern of worship on Holy Thursday.
- First Fridays in Lent - 10 am Mass of the Sacred Heart.

Other dates for your diary:

- Sunday, 19th February Bacon Breakfast
- Friday, 3rd March Women’s World Day of Prayer
- Sunday, 5th March Millennium Breakfast (Visit by a Columban Father)
- Saturday, 1st April Spring Fair
- Saturday, 20th May Parish Supper
- Sunday, 9th July Celebration of the Consecration of our Church

Your prayers are asked for those who are sick and their carers: Monica Pillow, Lily Mae Carr, Mary Keane, Consuelo Ramon, Denise Hamilton, Sister Maria Goretti, Joseph Lockington, Brian Kenny, Canon Peter Taylor, Kevin Lambert, John Aitken, Helen Hopkins, Heather O’Connell, Vincent Webb, Dave & Ian, Teresa Petropoulos, Ian Gibbs, Becky Hulme, Frances Carroll, Sarah & Martin Dunne, Cat Patton-Kennedy, Beryl Mound, Father Pat Sayles, Jonathan Ridler, Sister Teresa Moore, Kevin O’Donnell, Mary Murray, Adele Rudd, Anthony O’Reilly, Marjorie Lee, Anne Santos, Louis Loughran, Linda Hatton, Leonardo Byrne, Sue Wolverson, Joan Shields, Ellie Clarke.

Anniversaries: Tommy Kelly, Derek Bubb, Mollie Lea, George Hammond.

Lately dead: Fred Elkington

This Week’s Liturgy and Rota Arrangements

Date & Time:	5 th February	12 th February
Day:	Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Celebrant:	Father Frank	Father Frank
Intention:	Mary Slattery (RIP)	David Doyle (RIP)
Altar Servers:	Tom, Ethan & James	Matthew, Daniel and Jacob
Wardens:	Ian & Fran Lester Alan Devoy	Christine Harris, Dominic Green & Irene Gibbons
Readers:	Tony Cotterill & Raymond Ritchie	Leslie Ritchie & Hannah Clarke
Eucharistic Ministers:	Carol Beck Charles Keane & Madeleine Peat	Teresa Green, Joe Martin & John McLellan
Counting:	Kevin & Sue McGovern	Maureen Carroll & Jean Henser
Tea & Coffee:	Anne Stewart & Val Timms	Bridget Harrison
Cleaning:	Anne Stewart & Val Timms	Chris and Margaret Burleigh
Flowers:	Louise Perry	Louise Perry
Children’s Liturgy:	Celine Burleigh & Jane Devoy	Louise Perry & Monica Green
Music:	Kathryn Green	Instrumental Group

This week’s services

Date:	Tuesday 7 th February	Wednesday 8 th February	Thursday 9 th February
Time:	Mass 10am	Mass 7pm	Mass 10 am
Intention:	Margaret Bixby (RIP)	Followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Meditations until Benediction at 8.00pm Private Intention	Dorothy Bassett

Parish Room: *MUST be booked with Louise Perry* – Tel **01676 533357**.

Contributions for the Bulletin: *David Green* is now compiling the newsletter. Please send items to david.monica@bopenworld.com or call on **01564 775155** by 7.00pm on Wednesday.