

Blessed Robert Grissold Catholic Church, Balsall Common

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

Sunday 7th May 2017 – 4th Sunday of Easter (A)

'I am the gate of the sheepfold'

Pope's Prayer Intention: Christians in Africa - 'That Christians in Africa, in imitation of the Merciful Jesus, may give prophetic witness to reconciliation, justice, and peace'.

Father Frank: Today is World Day of Prayer for Vocations. We pray for an increase in vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life and that all believers will be faithful to their baptismal vocation. To follow Christ is to love him, to trust him, to serve him and to do his will - which is also what it means to be faithful to our vocation. Christ, the Good Shepherd, tells us that his sheep follow him "because they recognise his voice." We have to learn to distinguish the voice of the one true God from the voices of the many false gods and idols which call to us today.

Collection 30th April: Loose plate £ 65.18 Envelopes £ 65.00, Standing Orders £355.00, Total £ 485.18

Clergy Training Fund: There will be a second collection today for the Clergy Training Fund.

Meditations before the Blessed Sacrament on Wednesday evenings 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 Curia. 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. In this week's meditations Van Thuan once more reflects on the beautiful mystery of the Church and of her witness to the love of Christ. In our prayerful stillness and reflection before the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar we can find healing and peace and be present to the Christ who is present to us and feeds us with the life of heaven in and through the Eucharist - the Sacrament which forms the Church.

May, the Month of Our Lady: During May we will pray a decade of the Rosary after each midweek Mass to honour Our Blessed Lady and to encourage us to have recourse to this powerful means of prayer.

Mass this Tuesday: Please note that Tuesday Mass this week begins at the earlier time of 9.30am in order that Fr Frank might attend the Deanery Meeting in Stratford-upon-Avon.

Evangelisation Team: Our next Meeting for the Warwick Deanery parishes is on Monday 8th May at 7.30pm in the upper Davenport Room, St Peter's Parish Centre, Leamington Spa, CV32 5AE. It is hoped that each parish will be represented. Contact 01926 428399.

Quiet Morning. *'Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest'*. Mark 6 v 31. Meet at the Old Hall, Temple Balsall (adjacent to the church). Saturday, 13th May. Coffee will be available at 9.30am as we arrive for a prompt 10.00am start; finishing at 12 noon. In the season between Easter and Pentecost the Revd Penny Hughes, formerly of St John Baptist Church, Berkswell will help direct our thoughts before we find our *'own individual space'* within the beautiful grounds and buildings.

Next Week (14th – 20th May) is Christian Aid Week. The more people willing to collect on behalf of this worthy cause the easier it would be for the village as a whole. Please consider during mass today whether you could spend a couple of hours to deliver and collect envelopes from a road near to you. Then before you leave church put your name on the sheet in the Narthex. Alternatively give Godfrey Chesshire a call during this week (532352). Thank you.

100 Club Draw: Winners from last Sundays draw are 1st No. 30 (Anne O'Brien), 2nd No. 58 (Nigel Driffield), 3rd No. 48 (Kathryn Driffield).

Churches Together Youth Group: Tonight the Youth Group meets at the Methodist Church, 6.30pm to 7.45 pm. This is open to all Secondary School Children, as well as those in Year 6. All welcome.

Parish Supper: The annual Parish Supper will be held on Saturday 20th May 7.30pm for 8pm. This will consist of a 2 course meal with special entertainment. Price will be £10 per head. Please speak to Pam or Chris.

Warwick Catholic Deanery Website: For those not aware there is a website used to share information across the Deanery. This can be found at: www.warwick-catholicdeanery.org.uk

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, 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, Marjorie Lee, Anne Santos, Louis Loughran, Linda Hatton, Leonardo Byrne, Ellie Clarke, Lucy Knifton, Jim Slattery, Bernard Hammond, Terry Fairbrother.

Anniversaries: Matthew Tanner, Bridget Brookes, Nini Brennan, Bridie Deeley, Jocelyn Hawker, Margaret Hills, John Crouch, Bert Belford.

This Week's Liturgy and Rota Arrangements

Date & Time:	7 th May – 9.30am	14 th May – 9.30am
Day:	Fourth Sunday of Easter	Fifth Sunday of Easter
Celebrant:	Father Frank	Father Frank
Intention:	Julie Matts (RIP)	Gordon Denton (RIP)
Altar Servers:	Matthew, Daniel & Jacob	Kathryn, Hannah & Laura
Wardens:	Kevin & Sue McGovern, Madeleine Peat.	Bysshe & Judith Gibbs & Helen Woods
Readers:	David Green & Greg Hobbs	Tony Cotterill & Lesley Ritchie
Eucharistic Ministers:	John & Louise Perry, Godfrey Chesshire	TBC
Counting:	Veronica/Skuli Thorvardardson	Ciaran McSorley & Bernard Hammond
Tea & Coffee:	Chris Lynn & Mary Sharp	Madeleine Peat & Nuala Fulham
Cleaning:	Chris Mitchell & Eileen Selby	Anne Stewart & Val Timms
Flowers:	Linda Chesshire	Anne Parker
Children's Liturgy:	Jane Devoy and Monica Green	Claire Keane & Jane Devoy
Music:	Instrumental Group	Instrumental Group

This week's services

Date:	Tues. 9 th May	Wed. 10 th May	Thurs. 11 th May
Time:	9.30 am Mass	7pm Mass followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Meditations and Benediction	10 am Mass
Intention:	Jean O'Reilly (RIP)		Jean O'Reilly (RIP)

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

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

Priest: Revd Father Frank Smith Tel: 07512 100908 Email: frankj.smith55@yahoo.co.uk

The parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham, Registered Charity No. 234216. Parish website: www.brgparish.org.uk

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