

## *Blessed Robert Grissold Catholic Church, Balsall Common*

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

### **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2017 – Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A**

*'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors; but I say this to you'*

**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 Christ teaches us about the relationships we should nurture and enjoy as members of his Body - the Church. As the baptised we are called to live and act in a way that is caught up in God's love and life. In this way we witness to Christ in the world. We are not to live as those who do not know Christ - those who quarrel and divide over selfish preferences, those who are motivated by self-serving desire. Rather, as members of the Church, we are to live differently, bearing witness to the alternative life Christ brings, for, as members of his Body, we are bound to him in his loving mission to the whole of creation. As co-workers with Christ we are called to enact God's deep love for the world - to get our minds off ourselves and our petty self-interests and to live together harmoniously.

**Saints and Feast Days of the Week:** Racial Justice Day(12<sup>th</sup>), Day of Prayer for Europe (14<sup>th</sup>), St Cyril (14<sup>th</sup>).

**Collection 5<sup>th</sup> February:** Loose plate £75.46, Envelopes £61, Standing Orders £355.00, Total **£491.46.**

**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 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. This Wednesday's meditations continue to explore the great blessing of coming into the present moment - the place where God - the eternally present 'I AM' - is to be found. We are greatly assisted in this by having Christ present to us, in the sacrament of the altar. In our prayerful stillness and reflection before Christ in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar we can be present to the One who is ever present. All welcome.

**Reception into full Communion:** The talks on Wednesday evenings in Lent are an opportunity for all us to go deeper into our knowledge and love of that sacrament which forms, nurtures and nourishes us as the Church. These talks will be especially useful, also, for those who are considering being received into full Communion with the Church.

**Candle of Dedication.** The candle is lit this week for Eileen Innes (RIP) and Mary Cotton (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 25<sup>th</sup> March [Corrected date from last week]. We need volunteers for 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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.
- 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.

**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, Anthony O'Reilly, Marjorie Lee, Anne Santos, Louis Loughran, Linda Hatton, Leonardo Byrne, Sue Wolverson, Joan Shields, Ellie Clarke, Lucy Knifton (daughter of a Lourdes 'Friend of Maureen).

**Anniversaries:** Tom Ward, Jack McLellan, Ken Cottrill, Josie Quinn, Samuel & Ruth Carter.

**Recent died:** Becky Hulme (John McLellan's Granddaughter)

### This Week's Liturgy and Rota Arrangements

<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	12 <sup>th</sup> February	19 <sup>th</sup> February
<b>Day:</b>	Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
<b>Celebrant:</b>	Father Frank	Father Frank
<b>Intention:</b>	David Doyle (RIP)	Sue Cowley (RIP)
<b>Altar Servers:</b>	Matthew, Daniel and Jacob	Kathryn, Hannah & Laura
<b>Wardens:</b>	Christine Harris, Dominic Green & Irene Gibbons	Ciaran McSorley, Celine Burley & John McLellan
<b>Readers:</b>	Leslie Ritchie & Hannah Clarke	Chris Burleigh & Andrew Chesshire-Ramon
<b>Eucharistic Ministers:</b>	Teresa Green, Joe Martin & Eileen Selby	Godfrey Chesshire, Mike Fairbrother & Eileen Selby
<b>Counting:</b>	Maureen Carroll & Jean Henser	Chris Burleigh and Martin Sheehy
<b>Tea &amp; Coffee:</b>	Bridget Harrison	Charles and Claire Keane
<b>Cleaning:</b>	Chris and Margaret Burleigh	C Platter & N. Fulham
<b>Flowers:</b>	Louise Perry	Bridget Harrison
<b>Children's Liturgy:</b>	Louise Perry & Monica Green	Half Term – none this week
<b>Music:</b>	Instrumental Group	Linda Chesshire

### This week's services

<b>Date:</b>	Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> February - 7pm	Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> February
<b>Time:</b>	February	Followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Meditations until	Mass 10 am
<b>Intention:</b>	Mass 10am	Benediction at 8.00pm	
		Private intention	

**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](mailto:david.monica@btopenworld.com) or call on 01564 775155 by 7.00pm on Wednesday.

## More Notices

### Dates for your diary:

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

**Group 83 HCPT The Pilgrimage Trust Amazon Wish list:** This year there is a new way you can support Group 83 as they prepare for the annual Easter visit to Lourdes. They have opened up an 'Amazon wish list'! These are items identified for this year's pilgrimage which supporters can buy for the Group. If you would like to buy something off the list simply go to <http://amzn.eu/hgeB513>, choose an item to buy and either have it sent to the group leader direct or to you for passing on through Maureen or Louise. Thanks for your support.

**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 Birmingham Oratory. For further information see leaflets and poster at the back of Church, call on 07773 501 721 or email [izzyvs@gmail.com](mailto:izzyvs@gmail.com)

**Inspiring Hope:** Bishop Kenney shares his experience of Iraq and South Sudan and CAFOD's work there. Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 7.30-9.00pm, St John the Evangelist, 25 South Bar Street, BANBURY, OX16 9AF. For further information call 01922 722944.

**Legacy Leaflets** are available at the back of the church inviting us to consider leaving a legacy to the Church in our wills.

**Parish Finances:** There will be a short Finance Committee meeting after mass today. Next Sunday (19<sup>th</sup>) there will be a brief resume given to the Parish on last years finances. The reward for staying to listen is that it's also Bacon Breakfast day !

**Choir:** Choir practice will recommence on Sunday 19th February after mass. This will be an ideal stepping on point for anyone who has wondered about joining the choir as we will be learning a new piece of music for Easter. All welcome!

**100 Club:** Subscriptions for 2017 are now due. If you have not yet renewed your subscription and would like to do so, Chris Burleigh will be available after Mass today, and for the next few Sundays. The cost is £15 for the year, with the chance to win £75, £45, or £30 each quarter. Last year the 100 Club contributed £645 towards church funds. Many thanks for your support.

**The Christmas Giving Tree:** A letter has been received from Mr. Andy Quinn, The Chief Executive of Father Hudson's Care, Coleshill thanking you all for the Christmas Gifts you very kindly donated. They were much appreciated. They were distributed along with many others to various parts of Our Diocese.