

Blessed Robert Grissold Catholic Church, Balsall Common

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

Sunday 22nd January 2017 – Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A
‘The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity’

He went and settled in Capernaum; in this way the prophecy of Isaiah was to be fulfilled.’

Pope’s Prayer Intention. Christian Unity. ‘That all Christians may be faithful to the Lord’s teaching by striving with prayer and fraternal charity to restore ecclesial communion and by collaborating to meet the challenges facing humanity.’

Father Frank. *This is the Sunday within the Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity and, as Christians, we must be deeply committed to that unity among believers for which Jesus prayed. The two great commands of Christ, to love God with our whole strength and being and to love our neighbour as our self, show us the way to that unity, for the more we grow in love and unity with God the more we will grow in love and unity with one another. The scriptures proclaim God’s great love for the world and of his plan to draw all things together in unity in Christ. It is our great privilege to be caught up in this great love of God which we celebrate in the Eucharist where, by faith, we perceive God drawing and gathering his scattered creation into one in Christ.*

Saints and Feast Days of the Week. St Francis de Sales (23rd), Conversion of St Paul (25th), Ss Timothy and Titus (26th), St Thomas Aquinas (28th).

Eileen Innes RIP. Eileen passed away peacefully, at home, surrounded by her loved ones last Sunday. We keep Eileen and her family and friends in our prayers. There will be a Requiem Mass for her here, at Blessed Robert Grissold church, this Tuesday 24th January at 1.00pm.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. On Wednesday evenings Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Meditations and silent prayer will follow the 7.00pm Mass, finishing at 8.00pm with Benediction. At the beginning of this new year the meditations will focus on “hope.” The French poet, Charles Peguy says: “The faith that I like the most is hope.” Why not be still and silent in the presence of Christ in the Holy Sacrament of the Altar and the glorious hope that he brings? All welcome.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The Churches Together Service will take place this afternoon at 4.00pm in St Peter’s Church.

Collection 15th January. Loose plate £51.32, Envelopes £77.00, Standing Orders £355.00, Total **£483.32.**

Meditations before the Blessed Sacrament continue to reflect on the writings of Francis Xavier Nguyen Van Thuan who in 2000 Pope John Paul II chose him 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, nine of which were spent in solitary confinement. The hope he discovered in Communist prisons, where he was incarcerated for his faith, is also hope for the Church and the world. Faced with any darkness, we have a reason for confidence and that reason is Christ our Lord, the Hope of the world.

Candle of Dedication. The candle is lit this week for Frank Clements RIP.

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is offered on the last Thursday of every month. All those who are challenged by their suffering in body, mind or spirit are welcome to receive this sacrament of Christ’s healing. This is a practice which dates back to the earliest Church and is encouraged in scripture, where it is written: ‘Are there any who are sick among you? Let them send for the priests of the Church, and let the priests pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer of faith will save the sick persons, and if they have committed any sins, their sins will be forgiven them.’

Deanery Readers Day. Sat 28th January 2017, 10.30-16.30 at St Gregory’s Stratford-Upon-Avon, exploring the ministry and spirituality of being a Reader. If you are interested, please phone **01926 314077.**

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.

Anniversaries: Anne Marie Bossey, Dick Brennan, Philip Given, Marion Jones, Emily McLellan, Vincent Webb, Beryl Williams.

Lately Dead: Eileen Innes, Laura Dillon (*went to Lourdes many times with Group 63*).

This Week's Liturgy and Rota Arrangements

Date & Time:	22 nd January	29 th January
Day:	Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Celebrant:	Father Frank	Father Frank
Intention:	Joe & Maureen Martin RIP	Liam McGuigan RIP
Altar Servers:	Team A	Team B
Wardens:	John Perry Maria Pulley & Kathy Jones	Chris Burleigh Christine Horner & Christina Plater
Readers:	John McLellan & James Green	David Green & Greg Hobbs
Eucharistic Ministers:	Godfrey Cheshire Teresa Green & Stefan Hunka	Maureen Carroll John & Louise Perry
Counting:	Ciaran McSorley & Bernard Hammond	Bob & Kathy Jones
Tea & Coffee:	Bysshe & Judith Gibbs	Godfrey & Linda Cheshire
Cleaning:	Mary Sharp & Anne O'Brien	Chris Mitchell & Eileen Selby
Flowers:	Christine Harris	Christine Harris
Children's Liturgy:	Kathryn & Celine	Claire & Kathryn
Music:	Instrumental Group	Linda Cheshire

This week's services

Date:	Tuesday 24th January	Wednesday 25th January	Thursday 26th January
Time:	1.00pm Requiem Mass	7.00pm Mass	6.00pm Mass with the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick
Intention:	Eileen Innes	Eileen Innes Followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Meditations until Benediction at 8.00pm	Benefactors of the Johnson Association

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

Contributions for the Bulletin: *Godfrey Cheshire* is currently compiling the newsletter. Please send items to godfreycheshire@btinternet.com or call on 01676 532352 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 www.brgparish.org.uk