

St Francis of Assisi, Baddesley Clinton

[Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No. 234216]

Fr John Sharp

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Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (A)

26th November 2017

PARISH LITURGY – MASS TIMES and INTENTIONS

Saturday	6.00 pm	People of the Parish
Sunday	9.30 am	Tom and Bernadette Sullivan

Monday [Feria]

9.00 am Holy Souls

Tuesday [Feria]

9.00 am Private Intention

Wednesday [Feria]

9.00 am Holy Souls

Thursday [St Andrew, apostle]

9.00 am Private Intention

Friday [St Edmund Campion, priest and martyr]

9.00 am Susanna and James Sullivan

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at the end of Mass until 10.00 am

Saturday [Feria (of Our Lady)]

9.00 am Holy Souls

Confessions: Saturday, 4.30-5.00 pm

Please pray for the sick in our parish and for those who have died: **James Edward Jeffs; Mildred Poutney; William Veale; Harry Granville; Thomas Sampson; Clarice Mulroy** (anniversaries).

Last Week's Collection: £390.70. Thank you.

Bible Study. 7.00 pm in the presbytery. We shall be looking at St Paul's Letter to the Galatians.

November is the month of the Holy Souls. The names of those whom you wish to be remembered at Mass throughout the month can be placed in the casket before the altar; offerings can be placed in the box marked 'Holy Souls' by our Lady's altar.

If you would like to help decorate the church for Christmas, please put your donation on the plate at the back of church.

If you have a red mission box, please bring it to be emptied before the middle of December.

According to the saying of our Lord and Saviour, the kingdom of God does not come in such a way as to be seen. No one will say, 'Look, here it is!' or, 'There it is!'; because the kingdom of God is within us. The word is very near to us; it is on our lips and in our heart. It is clear from this that when a man prays that God's kingdom may come, he is praying, as he should, for the kingdom of God which is within him, that it may rise, flourish and reach its full growth. Every saint is subject to God's reign and obeys the spiritual laws of God who dwells in him as in a well-governed city. The Father is present within him and Christ reigns with the Father in the soul which has become perfect, as he said: 'We will come to him and make our home in him.'

For those of us who press forward unceasingly, the kingdom of God which is within us will reach its full completion when the apostle's words are fulfilled, that Christ, with all his enemies subject to him, will deliver the kingdom of God to God the Father so that God may be all in all. And so, praying unremittently in the spirit which the Word inspires in us, let us say to our Father who is in heaven: 'Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come.'

We must understand this about the kingdom of God – as there is no partnership between righteousness and iniquity, no fellowship of light with darkness, no accord of Christ with Belial, so the kingdom of sin cannot co-exist with the kingdom of God.

If we would have God reign over us, then sin must have no reign in our mortal body. We must put to death what is earthly in us and bear the fruits of the Spirit, so that God may walk in us as in a spiritual garden and reign alone in us with his Christ, so that Christ may be seated within us at the right hand of that spiritual power for which we pray, seated until all his enemies within us are made a footstool for his feet and all the principalities and authorities and powers are destroyed in us.

This can happen in each of us. The last enemy also, death, can be destroyed, so that Christ can say in us too 'O death, where is your sting? O hades, where is your victory?' Now, therefore, let what is perishable in us clothe itself in holiness and imperishability, let what is mortal put on the Father's immortality when death has been destroyed, so that God may reign over us and we may live even now amid the blessings of rebirth and resurrection.

Origen (c.185-c.254 AD)