



## THIS SUNDAY

**We rejoice in the Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ.** After our disciplines of Lent and the solemnity of the Passion, we now celebrate the victory of our blessed Lord over sin and death. We witness the empty tomb and we give thanks that life is stronger than death, that love is stronger than hatred and that Jesus Christ is alive and with us for evermore!

### **HAVE A HAPPY AND HOLY EASTER, EVERYONE.**

Thank you to those who have worked **so hard**, front of house or behind the scenes, for our Holy Week and Easter celebrations. **It is greatly appreciated.**

I wish to thank Father David, the altar servers, our organist, musicians and singers, cleaners, readers and wardens for all they have done during Lent, Holy Week and the Triduum.

**Special thanks** for the beautiful floral decorations and our gratitude to those who have worked so hard to create them.

**All Children are invited to take home with them a small Easter egg after the Easter masses with our love.**

**Please note that there will be only ONE COLLECTION at the Easter Masses.**

**The Gift Aid and Planned-Giving *ordinary* envelopes will go to the parish.**

Those envelopes marked **Easter Offering** and all other monies will be an offering to your parish priest, who in advance, expresses his gratitude.

**All Missio red boxes should be returned by today, please.**

## NEXT SUNDAY

**It will be Divine Mercy Sunday next Sunday.**

We will be welcoming **FATHER PAUL MARTIN**, the Priest Director of the St. Barnabas' Society. Once known as the Converts' Aid Society, this Catholic Charity provides help for those ordained in other Christian communities to come into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church. Father Paul and I were at Oscott College together, and I look forward very much to his visit, to say mass and to preach an appeal.

**There will be a second collection at all masses on that day for the work of the charity.** Please give a warm welcome to Father Paul.

### PARISH AGM: NEXT SUNDAY 28 APRIL

Please remember that the Parish AGM, will be on **Sunday 28 April at 6.30pm in the Parish Centre**. Please put the date in your diary as it is an important meeting for anyone interested in the running of the parish. We have three nominations to be on the Parish Council. This is of great importance for the parish. Can you be of help?

**Please contact D. Spillane on 01926 513 196.**

### MARGARET WOFFENDEN RIP

Recently we all heard the very sad news of the unexpected death of **Margaret Woffenden**. I took her the Blessed Sacrament two weeks ago, hardly realizing that her death was imminent. Margaret and her husband John have been parishioners since 1968 and have been immersed in the life of St Austin's Church, St Joseph's Convent and School. We extend our loving sympathy to John, Sarah, Jacqueline and the whole family. **Reception will be into St Austin's Church at 5 pm Thursday 2 May, for Requiem Mass at 12 noon on Friday 3 May.** May Margaret rest in peace

## NOTRE DAME DE PARIS

I wish to express to our parishioners from France, the heartfelt concern of the whole parish after the devastation by fire of the Cathedral of the Archdiocese of Paris. I remember many times of worship and prayer within its walls and pray for the Cardinal Archbishop and all the people of the Diocese and all of France. After such destruction may there be a wonderful Resurrection; Notre Dame de Paris, priez pour nous!

### PIETY STALL/REPOSITORY

Val and Caroline wish to inform parishioners that the Repository now has Easter items available as well as olive wood goods from the Holy Land.

### GIFT AID SCHEME AND ENVELOPES

**Envelopes for this tax year are available.** It is always good to welcome new contributors. The only requirement is that you give to the Parish and pay sufficient income tax. If you would like to sign up for the Gift Aid Scheme by envelope or Standing Order, please contact T. Stokes (857 866). Thanks for all of the hard work! Sincere gratitude is offered to all supporters for your kind generosity over last year.

**Please take the diocesan handouts about Gift Aid and Legacies.**

### SERVICE IN OUR SCHOOLS

The Birmingham Diocesan Education Service is offering a course on Saturday 11 May 2019 entitled 'A day for practising Catholics aspiring for a leadership role in our schools in the Archdiocese of Birmingham'.

Venue: Birmingham Diocesan Education Service, Don Bosco House, Coleshill. B46 3EA, Time: 8.30 to 3.30 pm.

To book, please access the booking form by typing the link below into your web browser <http://w.pfrms.co/bj4jc> or visit our website [www.bdes.org.uk](http://www.bdes.org.uk)

### CHRISTIAN AID WEEK: 12 - 18 MAY

I wish to thank very much those who have already volunteered to collect during the house-to-house collection for the important work of Christian Aid.

We do, however, need more collectors to enable us to cover the roads allocated to us. If you are able to help please **contact S. MacMahon on Tel: 01926 858 436.**

### PASTIMES

Meetings are on Mondays 2 – 4pm in the Parish Centre, with (knitting Craft Corner, needlework etc), Bridge, Whist, Scrabble etc. and refreshments Subscription is 40p.

**Please note: There will be no meetings until 29 April**

### ST FRANCIS' PARENTS' AND TODDLERS' GROUPS – TERM TIME ONLY

The **Monday** group meets at the Parish Centre from 10 – 11.15am.

There is also a **Wednesday** group at Crackley Hall from 10 – 11.30am.

**FOOD BANK ROTA** Please check whether you are transporting food this week.

### OFFERTORY COUNTERS

This Sun: **NO COUNTERS REQUIRED ON EASTER SUNDAY, THANK YOU**

Next Sun: M Swinburne, D Spillane, J Rice, R Palmi

### CHURCH CLEANING

St Francis': S Allinson, G Chapman, A Kelly

St Austin's: M and E Butler

**EASTER BLESSINGS AND GOOD WISHES TO YOU ALL, Father Kevin.**