

Blessed Robert Grissold Catholic Church, Balsall Common

In the Archdiocese of Birmingham

Sunday Mass Time 9.30 am

1st March 2020 – First Sunday of Lent – Year A

“One does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God”

Pope’s Prayer Intention for March: *“Catholics in China – We pray that the Church in China may persevere in its faithfulness to the Gospel and grow in unity”*

Fr. Frank: Holy Week and Easter are the climax of the Christian liturgical year. The time of the Passion and Resurrection is preceded by Lent, a lengthy period of preparation for these saving and illuminating mysteries. Lent is a time of penitence. It is a time for us to examine our conscience and seek reconciliation with the Lord. Lent is also a time for spiritual growth and enlightenment. In Lent we are invited to listen, and respond, ever more faithfully to the voice of God. Lent also commemorates Israel’s liberation from slavery in Egypt and their forty years of wandering in the wilderness. Lent relates this to our own spiritual journey, to our liberation, our pilgrimage, our feeding on divine manna and of our meeting with God. And, as we see from today’s Gospel, Lent also recalls the forty days that Jesus spent in the desert during which he contended with Satan, the tempter. And our Lent must be a period of fighting against temptation. From this one can see that Lent is a very rich, a very deep mixture of elements which serve to purify and enlighten us. During the time of Lent the Church leads us towards the radiant glory of the Paschal feast. The more serious our Lenten preparation has been, the deeper we shall enter into the joyful mystery of Easter and gather its fruits.

Collection: 23rd February: tbc

Second Collection: There will be a second collection today, Sunday 1st March for Cathedral Maintenance.

Saint’s Days this week: St Chad (2nd), St Casimir (4th), St Perpetua and St Felicity, Martyrs (7th).

Parish Report: The report delivered to Bishop Willian Kenney on his visit to our parish on 15th-16th February can be found on our parish website. The Bishop’s visit was part of the Warwick Deanery visitation. Scroll down the home page at brgparish.org.uk to find the link.

Kneelers - Safety Considerations: Following a recent incident in the church, a risk assessment and inspection of the kneelers has been carried out (by the Parish Maintenance Committee). While the kneelers are in good condition and did not require repairs, the inspection concluded that keeping the kneelers in the ‘down’ position is more hazardous than in the upright position. The Committee would like to remind everyone to take care when entering and exiting the pews.

Lent Breakfasts & Talks: The breakfast talks continue throughout Lent at the Methodist church hosted by local churches. This week (29th) the speaker is Rev Dr Stuart Jennings "The Godliness of the Puritans". Saturday 7th March at 8.30am, Blessed Robert Grissold is hosting the Lenten breakfast at the Methodist church. Cost £2.00 and consists of cereals, croissants, and toast followed by the Lenten talk. The theme this year is "Moving forward by looking back". New visions for the future of Christianity. Speaker Mr Peter Larkin "The drama of Catholicism". All welcome.

Get-together: Wednesday 4th March at 11.30am in the parish room for soup and dessert. All welcome.

World Day of Prayer: Friday 6th March at 10.30am, St Swithin's Church, Barston. Prepared by the Christian Women of Zimbabwe. All welcome, please contact Louise Perry if you can take part in the service.

Evangelisation Team: Our next meeting for the Warwick Deanery parishes is on Monday 2nd March at 7.30pm in the upper Davenport Room, St Peter’s Parish Centre, Dormer Place, Leamington Spa CV32 5AE. It is hoped that each parish could be represented to help us plan how to share the Good News. Contact: Peter Dimambro 01926 428399 mdimambro@hotmail.co.uk

Walk with Me: Walk with Me Booklets for Lent £1 each will be available this weekend. Please put your donation in the wall box. Thank you.

Job Vacancies: (Maternity cover) for Administration Assistant and Finance Assistant: The Columban Missionaries invites applications for the part-time, temporary (maternity cover) roles of Administration Assistant and Finance Assistant. Based in the Columban Mission Office at St. Columban's in Solihull, the roles will support the work of Columban mission in Britain and internationally. For more information and to apply tel: 01564 772 096 or email: hr@columbans.co.uk. Deadline: Sunday 8th March.

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

Your prayers are asked for those who are sick and their carers: Lily Mae Carr, Joseph Lockington, Katya O'Donnell, Consuelo Ramon, Anne Santos, Andrew Burton, Darragh Sheehan, Maureen Carroll, Rob Branson, Val Tims and Father Frank.

Anniversaries: Bunty Coxon, Charlotte Lowey, Judith Whitmarsh, Arthur Innes, Winne White, Tom Carolan, Betty Burleigh, Partick Kinsella, Kay Jay, Mary Webb, Honor Kenny.

Items for Weekly Bulletin: Please note that **Maggie Lloyd** is now editing the bulletin. Please send items to maggie.m.lloyd@gmail.com or call on **07957 623192** by **7.00pm on Wednesday**.

This Week's Liturgy and Rota Arrangements

Date & Time:	Sunday 1 st March 9.30am		Sunday 8 th March 9.30am
Day:	First Sunday of Lent		Second Sunday of Lent
Celebrant:	Father Frank		Father Frank
Intention:	Sister Brigid (RIP)		Maura Green (RIP) 11am Baptism
Altar Servers:	Joe & James		Ethen & Laura
Wardens:	John Perry, Maria Pulley & Kathy Jones		Chris Burleigh, Christine Horner & Christina Plater
Readers:	David Cant & Joel Smith		Bob Jones & Aidir Parizzi
Eucharistic Ministers:	Eileen Selby, John McLellan & Madeleine Peat		Charles Keane, Stefan Hunka & Monica Green
Counting:	Charles Keane & Mike Fairbrother		John Perry & Nuala Fulham
Tea & Coffee:	Bysshe & Judith Gibbs		Anne Stewart & Val Timms
Cleaning:	K Driffield & H Woods		M Hughes & J Kennedy
Flowers:	Lent – No Flowers		Lent – No Flowers
Children's Liturgy:	Monica & Jane		Claire & Louise
Music:	Cathy Grimley		Instrumental Group
Day:	Tuesday 3 rd March	Friday 6 th March	tbc
Time:	10am Mass	10am Mass	
Intention:	Followed by Stations of the Cross Joh O'Regan (RIP)	Followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Pray for Vocations & Lent Fast Day	

Priest: Revd. Father Frank Smith. Tel: 07512 100908 Email: parishpriest@brgparish.org.uk

The parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham, Registered Charity No. 234216.

Parish website: www.brgparish.org.uk

Warwick Catholic Deanery website: www.warwick-catholicdeanery.org.uk

Archdiocese of Birmingham website: [www. Birminghamdiocese](http://www.Birminghamdiocese)