

# *Blessed Robert Grissold Catholic Church, Balsall Common*

*In the Archdiocese of Birmingham*

*Sunday Mass Time 9.30 am*

## **22<sup>nd</sup> November 2020 – Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe**

*“He will take his seat on his throne of glory, and he will separate men one from another.”*

**Pope’s Prayer Intention for November: *Artificial Intelligence*** – *“We pray that the progress of robotics and artificial intelligence may always serve humankind”*

**Fr. Frank:** *The feast of Christ the King, which the holy Church throughout the world celebrates today, brings to a close the Church’s liturgical year. Our image of a monarch tends to be of one who lives a privileged life and lords it over others. Christ our King is not like that. He came to serve, not to be served and he wants us to imitate him in his loving service of others. That is why, as St. John of the Cross said: “In the evening of life we shall be examined on love.” If to love and to serve our neighbour is heavenly, hell is the suffering of one who refuses to love and serve.*

I hope that you are all keeping well under these trying and frustrating circumstances and that you are coping with the new lockdown. You continue to be in my prayers daily as I offer the Mass. **I will continue to post a weekly Spiritual Communion and reflection on the parish website so that we can still pray together.**

Due to the current lockdown, Mass at Blessed Robert Grissold church has been suspended until further notice. Please see the bulletin, posted on the parish website, for updates and any news.

It has been encouraging to see the generous response to the call for volunteers needed to celebrate Mass. Once again, I have cause to be impressed and grateful for your selfless dedication and for the love of Christ and his Church which this shows. Archbishop Bernard has also recognised the diligence and devotion of the volunteers and asked me to pass on his gratitude and appreciation.

**Thanks from Archbishop Bernard:** Archbishop Bernard has asked me to pass on his appreciation and thanks to the parish stewards, cleaners and other volunteers for all they have done in making and keeping our churches safe for parishioners to come together in worship and prayer. Our thanks also go to Ian and Ellie who have kept lines of communication open to the parish through uploading the spiritual communion, weekly reflection and bulletin.

**National Youth Sunday:** Today the Church in England and Wales celebrates National Youth Sunday. On this day, we celebrate the young people in our parish and community and all the gifts and talents they share with us. The theme for this year’s NYS is ‘Together’. Normally on NYS, young people would be involved in the Liturgy. Whilst the parish community can’t be together physically as we were, we are united together in prayer. On Youth Sunday especially, we pray for the young people of our Parish. Follow @NationalYouthSunday on Twitter and for more information, please go to:

[www.nationalyouthsunday.com](http://www.nationalyouthsunday.com).

Pope Francis said this recently: “After many months we meet each other again our face to face, rather than screen to screen. Face to face. This is good! The current pandemic has highlighted our interdependence: we are all linked to each other, for better or for worse. Therefore, to come out of this crisis better than before, we have to do so together; together, not alone. Together. Alone no, because it cannot be done. Either it is done together, or it is not done. We must do it together, all of us, in solidarity. I would like to underline this word today: solidarity.”

**Diocesan Resources During Lockdown:** In addition to the Spiritual Communion and reflection that is posted weekly on our own website ([www.brgparish.org.uk](http://www.brgparish.org.uk)), there are resources available on the website of the Archdiocese of Birmingham. This includes information about live streams of mass from parishes in the diocese and links to online material for “The Domestic Church” for Catholics to use in their own homes. See [www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/parishes-online](http://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/parishes-online) for details.

**Weekly Offerings:** The Finance committee would like to let any parishioners who wish to catch up with their normal weekly offering know that this can be done safely and easily by giving your donation to Bob Jones at 56 Balsall Street East, Balsall Common, CV7 7FT, or any member of the Finance Committee who

will pass it on. This can either be a cheque (payable to Blessed Robert Grissold Church) or cash. Bob will always ensure that you have a receipt.

Alternatively, you can set up a standing order from your bank account to make regular donations – information about how to do this is available on our parish website. [www.brgparish.org.uk](http://www.brgparish.org.uk).

**Book of Remembrance:** During November, the month of prayers for the dead, we update our Book of Remembrance containing anniversaries of parishioners and loved ones. These names also appear on our website and are included in our weekly newsletter. If you would like an anniversary to be added, please email the name and date to Ian and Ellie Clarke at [iehclarke@btinternet.com](mailto:iehclarke@btinternet.com) before 27<sup>th</sup> November.

**Your prayers are asked for those who are sick and their carers.**

If you would like someone to be named on our list of those who are sick, please contact David Green ([david.monica@btinternet.com](mailto:david.monica@btinternet.com)) or complete the online form (under Parish Life) on our website.

**Anniversaries:** Mary Reid, Mary Slattery, Joseph Martin, Jack Harper, Jack McLean.

**A prayer for hope and healing:**

*God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. (Psalm 46:1)*

God of all healing  
who called the light to shine in the darkness at creation  
and in whose eternal light there is no darkness at all,  
be yourself a light of hope  
to those who dwell in darkness.  
Be a support to the fearful,  
a listener to the lonely,  
a purpose to those in despair,  
that amongst the confusions and struggles of this world  
they would find the path that leads a to the fullness of life,  
and joy, and peace,  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

*Chester Cathedral, 2020.*

#### **Mass Intentions, Solemnities and Memorials for this week**

Sun 22 Nov	<b>SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE</b>
Mon 23	St Columban
Tue 24	Ss Andrew Dũng-Lạc and Companions Intention: Barry Stimpson (RIP) and family
Wed 25	St Catherine of Alexandria
Sun 22	<b>FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>

**Items for Weekly Bulletin :** Please note that **Ellie Clarke** is now editing the bulletin. Please send items to her at: [iehclarke@btinternet.com](mailto:iehclarke@btinternet.com) or call on **01676 533931** by **7.00pm on Wednesday**.

**Priest: Revd. Father Frank Smith. Tel: 07512 100908 Email: [parishpriest@brgparish.org.uk](mailto:parishpriest@brgparish.org.uk)**

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

**Parish website: [www.brgparish.org.uk](http://www.brgparish.org.uk)**

**Warwick Catholic Deanery website: [www.warwick-catholicdeanery.org.uk](http://www.warwick-catholicdeanery.org.uk)**

**Archdiocese of Birmingham website: [www.birminghamdiocese.or.uk](http://www.birminghamdiocese.or.uk)**