

Blessed Robert Grissold Catholic Church, Balsall Common

In the Archdiocese of Birmingham

Sunday Mass Time 9.30 am

25th April 2021 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

“The good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep.”

Pope’s Prayer Intention for April: Fundamental Rights – We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.

Today is World Day of Prayer for Vocations. We pray for an increase in vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life and that all believers will be faithful to their baptismal vocation. To follow Christ is to love him, to trust him, to serve him and to do his will - which is also what it means to be faithful to our vocation. Christ, the Good Shepherd, tells us that his sheep follow him “because they recognise his voice.” We have to learn to distinguish the voice of the one true God from the voices of the many false gods and idols which call to us today.

Re-opening of Blessed Robert Grissold Church for Mass:

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As you will know, the church re-opened for Mass on Easter Sunday. Fr Chris Greaney will be presiding with the congregation gathered in the main body of the church on the first Sundays of the month. For the reasons I have explained in previous bulletins, I will be saying Mass on the other Sundays in the month with the congregation gathered in the hall behind the glass screen. Thanks to all the volunteers who are making this possible. A booking system will be introduced if it proves necessary but until then the seats will be allocated on a first come first served basis. There are a limited number of seats because of the continued need for distancing. Please see the information at the end of this newsletter.

Because the risk of infection remains high, the Sunday obligation is suspended and as most of our congregation are, understandably, reluctant to gather for Mass, I will continue regularly to post the Mass, a Spiritual Communion and guidance for prayer online.

Hopefully, with the roll-out of the vaccinations, the end of restrictions is in sight. With you, I look forward to the time when we can get back to some kind of normality.

With all good wishes and every blessing

Fr Frank

First Sunday Mass: Fr Chris Greaney will be presiding with the congregation gathered in the main body of the church next Sunday at the 9.30 am Mass next Sunday (2nd May).

Dymphna Cassidy (RIP): Dymphna’s husband, Terry, has asked me to pass on his gratitude to all those Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion who took the Blessed Sacrament to Dymphna during her time at Harper Fields.

Spiritual Communion: I will continue to post a weekly spiritual communion on this parish website together with a meditation. This also provides a framework for daily prayer and meditation throughout the week as I will supply references for the daily Gospel readings.

Mass Online: So that we might continue to pray together during this time of pandemic and restrictions I will be sharing the Sunday Mass with you on-line.

Link for Mass: In order to join in with the Mass online each week please click on the YouTube link below to open the Parish YouTube channel and you will see the latest Mass with the date as the title. -

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-jl7rCVWalEI8W4aBn6pUw>.

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion: Please find below a prayer which you can join in praying during the Mass online as you make your Spiritual Communion. This prayer was written by St Alphonsus Liguori:

My Jesus, I believe that You are truly present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as being already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. We make this, and all our prayers through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

Parish room bookings and cleaning rota: Please note that Louise Perry is stepping down from the role of co-ordinating bookings of the parish hall and organiser of the cleaning rota – thank you Louise for all of your hard work in both of these roles. **Terry Biles** has kindly agreed to take on room bookings and the cleaning rota, please direct any future enquiries to him.

Friends of the Holy Land Pentecost Challenge: Our 2021 Pentecost Challenge is launched, with a focus on helping Christian families keep their children in Christian schools. Please support our appeal by visiting our website www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk/pentecost or sending a donation to FHL, Farmer Ward Road, Kenilworth CV8 2DH. You can register to join an 84-mile virtual pilgrimage between Bethlehem and Nazareth, using your daily exercise. How about obtaining sponsorship from friends or family or looking on the website for parishioners you know to support those already walking, running or cycling? For those with children/grandchildren at local schools, why not encourage them to set up a team? For more information, email our office at office@friendsoftheholylan.org.uk or telephone **01926 512980**. Thank you.

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

Margaret Collins, Martin Dunn, Desmond Orr, Michael Santos.

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

Anniversaries: Arthur Fairbrother, Patrick Flynn, John Scott, Sheila Buckland, Doris Newson, Richard Townsend, Tim Clifford.

Solemnities, Feast Days and Memorials for this week

Sun 25 9:30am	FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER John 10: 11-18
Mon 26	John 10: 1-10
Tue 27	John 10: 22-30
Wed 28	Memorial of St Louise Marie Grignion de Montfort John 12: 44-40
Thu 29	John 6: 44-51
Fri 30	Feast of St Catherine of Siena Matthew 11: 25-30
Sat 1 May	Memorial of St Joseph the Worker Matthew 13: 54-58
Sun 2 9:30am	FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER John 15: 1-8

Rota Arrangements For Sunday Mass

Date & Time:	Sunday 25 April – 9.30 am	Sunday 2 May – 9.30 am
Day:	Fourth Sunday of Easter	Fifth Sunday of Easter
Celebrant:	Father Frank	Father Chris
Intention:		
Wardens:	Monica and David Green, Mike Fairbrother, Nuala Fulham	Terry Biles, Joe Martin, Bob Jones, Dominic Moore, Eileen & Elizabeth Selby
Reader:	<i>None required</i>	John Peat
Eucharistic Minister:	Monica Green	<i>None required</i>

Items for Weekly Bulletin: Please send items for the bulletin to Ellie Clarke: iehclarke@btinternet.com (or call on **01676 533931**) by **7.00pm on Friday**.

Masses at Blessed Robert Grissold in a time of Covid-19

Guidance for Parishioners

- + Attendees must wear a mask
- + Remain 2 metres apart
- + Sanitise hands on entering and exiting the Church
- + Follow the signs
- + Always follow the stewards' instructions

Holy Communion

- + All responses during the Mass to be whispered
- + Single file queue for Holy Communion (in one kind only) - please follow stewards' guidance.
- + The Host to be received in silence, on outstretched hand
- + Masks to be worn to receive the Host
- + Leave the church immediately after the conclusion of Mass – please follow stewards' guidance

Please do not congregate in the car park after leaving the church.

During Mass there will be no:

- + Children's liturgy
- + Offertory procession
- + Sign of peace
- + Parish missals, missalettes or hymn books
- + Congregational singing
- + Passing of collection bags
- + Flowers

Please stay at home if...

- + You are feeling ill or show any symptoms
- + You suspect you may be ill or have been exposed to Covid-19
- + You have a sick family member at home
- + You have come into contact with someone who is infected

Those attending Mass will be asked to supply contact details for track and trace.

Please Note:

- + In the first instance, attendance will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Once capacity has been reached the stewards will prevent entry.
- + Wrap up warm - doors will be left open to increase ventilation wherever possible

Toilets in the church: In order to avoid possible spread of infection and to reduce the need for further cleaning we are trying to keep the toilets closed, but the toilet may be used in the case of emergency. If you need to use the toilet, you are asked to carefully clean and wipe down all surfaces you have touched.

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.or.uk