



THE PRECIOUS BLOOD OF OUR LORD & ALL SOULS

The Catholic parish of Chapelfields & Earlsdon
Kingsland Avenue Coventry CV5 8DX



A parish of the Archdiocese of Birmingham in collaboration with the Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham

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SUNDAY 25 APRIL 2021

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

('Good Shepherd Sunday')

Almighty ever-living God, lead us to a share in the joys of heaven, so that the humble flock may reach where the brave Shepherd has gone before. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen

THE GOD WHO SPEAKS: CELEBRATING, LIVING & SHARING GOD'S WORD The Book of Nehemiah (Old Testament)

Returning from exile The people of Israel had returned to their land following the decree of King Cyrus of Persia in 538 BC that all captives should return home. The early chapters tell of the rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem under Nehemiah despite opposition from the people of the land. Later chapters recount a ceremony which renewed the covenant between God and his people and celebrated the law.

Spiritual restoration too The Book of Nehemiah is about the restoration of the physical and spiritual life of the nation of Judah in Jerusalem. Although it seems like the rebuilding Jerusalem's wall is the theme of the Book of Nehemiah, we must understand that the wall symbolically represents the community of God's people. The wall creates their identity because by it they are protected and interlinked. The key to understanding the Book of Nehemiah is the place **prayer** took in the steps of restoration.

Prayer is honest talk with God, here demonstrating Nehemiah's dependence upon God.

The Word of God God raised up spiritual leaders in Nehemiah and Ezra to bring about a renewal among the people. They led the people to the Word of God by proclaiming it and breaking it open for the people. Consequently, the people then saw themselves for what they really were - sinners who had been unfaithful to their God, and when they repented, God restored joy to their hearts and lives. Proclamation of God's Word and preaching on God's Word continues to be part of the pattern of the first part of Catholic liturgical celebrations, including the Mass.

Something for today There is a great need today for Catholics who know God's Word, pray before acting, and take calculated risks for the sake of God's kingdom. As in the time of Nehemiah, we have a unique role to play in changing the course of history.

✦ WORSHIP THIS WEEK ✦

Sunday 25th	FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (<i>'Good Shepherd Sunday'</i>)	10.30am MASS	<i>For the People of the Parish</i> <i>Rosaleen & Michal O'Connor RIP (Fr Tim)</i>
			12noon Confirmation Mass (<i>confirmandi, families and sponsors only</i>)
Monday 26 th	Easter Feria	9.30am Mass	<i>Tom Healy RIP</i>
Tuesday 27 th	Easter Feria	9.30am Mass	<i>Intentions of Clare Oliver</i>
Wednesday 28 th	Easter Feria	9.30am Mass	<i>HRH Prince Philip RIP</i>
Thursday 29 th	ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA, Virgin Doctor of the Church, Patron of Europe	5.00pm Reception of the Body of Con Collins RIP 7.30pm Mass	<i>Bridie & Jack Walsh RIP</i>
			(with the Reception of Janet Waters into the full communion of the Catholic Church)
Friday 30 th	Easter Feria	9.30am Mass	<i>Mary Coen (80th birthday)</i>
			12.45pm Funeral Mass (Con Collins RIP)
Saturday 1 st May	Easter Feria	9.30am Mass	<i>Martin Mulligan RIP</i>
			10.30-11.30am Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)
Sunday 2nd	FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	10.30am MASS	<i>For the People of the Parish</i> <i>Andrew Gardner RIP (1st anniv.) (Fr Tim)</i>

Daily Evening Prayer (Vespers) on Zoom at 6pm (email Fr Paul to receive log-in details)

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for 30 minutes before Mass Monday-Saturday

THE RECENTLY DEPARTED

We pray for the repose of the souls of **Michael Lynch** and **Janina Hopkins**, whose funerals took place last week, and for **Con Collins** (Funeral Mass Friday 30 April) and **Anthony (Tony) Croke** (Funeral Mass 14 May). We extend our prayers and condolences to all their families.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS 2021

Today we are asked to intercede for vocations.

- Will you make a special effort to ask the Lord for more vocations to the priesthood and religious life?
- Pray for the priests who have ministered to you throughout your life, both living and dead.
- Keep our parish priests and deacons in prayer throughout the week.
- Pray for more young people to respond to God's call.
- Encourage your children or grandchildren to discern if they have a calling to be a priest or religious brother or sister.

Today is also a day to pray for *ourselves* – to ask Christ the Good Shepherd to make clearer to each of us what he wants us to do for him and how he wants us to serve his Church.

CLERGY TRAINING FUND There is a second collection for the Diocesan Clergy Training Fund today and at all Masses this week.

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 22 children from year 6 will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation this afternoon. Please pray for them: **Laura, Darci, Cerys, Elijah, Oliver, Archie, Daniel, Lola, Aden, Franciszek, Roza, Julia, Nikodem, Ayda, James, Archie, Lawson, Mia, Taya, Alannah, Daniel, Lola**. We pray too for their families and sponsors.

Spirit of God, grant me:

the gift of WISDOM

to see the world through your eyes;

the gift of COUNSEL

to make difficult decisions;

the gifts of KNOWLEDGE and

UNDERSTANDING

to use my mind to know you and to love you;

the gift of FORTITUDE

to have the courage to live in the faith

despite the difficulties and disappointments;

the gift of PIETY

to be able to express my special love and commitment to you;

and the right kind of awesome FEAR

that makes me pause to wonder and revere God's Love. Amen.

COVID RESTRICTIONS STILL APPLY It is very important that we all continue to observe restrictions in church and to co-operate with the stewards please. These restrictions include: **sanitising your hands** as you enter and leave the church, **leaving contact details** as you enter, **wearing a face covering** whilst in the building and **maintaining physical distance** from other people.

CHURCHES TOGETHER PRAYER BREAKFAST St. Barbara's CE church is hosting the next Churches Together Prayer Breakfast at 8am on Saturday 1 May. Please contact Fr Paul for the log in details.

FRIENDS OF THE HOLY LAND PENTECOST CHALLENGE this year has 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 office at office@friendsoftheholylan.org.uk or telephone 01926 512980.

FRIENDS OF THE HOLY LAND APPEAL On Sunday 9 May Peter Rand will be making a brief appeal on behalf of Friends of the Holy Land at the end of the 10.30am Mass. The Spring edition of the Friends of the Holy Land's newsletter can be found at <https://www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk/issue-23-newsletter>

NEWLY-MARRIED Please pray for Susanne Finnegan and Luke Arnold who were married here yesterday.

BAPTISMS Please pray for all parents who are preparing for the Baptism of their children. The government covid roadmap permits the public celebration of baptism after 17 May, when 30 people will be permitted to attend.

10th ANNIVERSARY OF RECEPTIONS Last Wednesday marked the 10th anniversary of the reception into the Catholic Church of many of the members of the Coventry ordinariate community, who were received by the Archbishop in St. Chad's cathedral on 21 April 2011 (Maundy Thursday). Many other Anglicans were received by the Archbishop at the same time from various parts of the West Midlands. It was certainly a day to remember.

RECEPTION OF JANET WATERS It's a real delight that Janet Waters will also be received into the full communion of the Catholic Church at the 7.30pm Mass on Thursday 29 April. Please hold Janet in your prayers.

HOLY WATER If you would like holy water for use at home, please bring your own bottle ready filled with water which Fr Paul will be happy to bless.

DAY OF PRAYER The Catholic Church in England and Wales will observe Tuesday 4 May as a Day of Prayer for Victims and Survivors of Abuse.

BROADBAND & STREAMING UPDATE How did we know that things wouldn't go smoothly?! The broadband switchover did not happen last Thursday. Hopefully it will very soon and the quality of the livestream will improve.

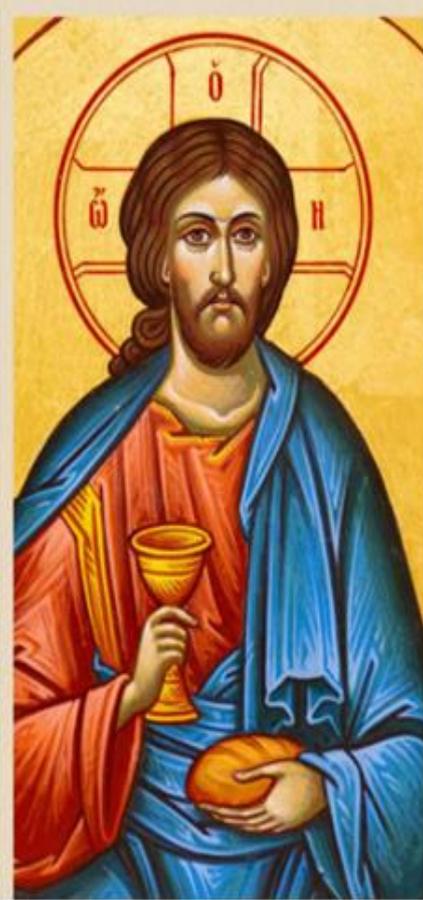
NURSERY PLACES AVAILABLE for September 2021 All Souls' Nursery, located in the heart of Chapelfields, offers a caring, engaging and motivating environment in which your child can be happy, thrive and develop. With a creative curriculum, 'Forest School' and extensive outdoor space, our setting is the ideal place for your child to learn whilst having lots of fun! We can also offer afternoon sessions (30 hour funding available for 3 year olds) with wrap around care available from 7:45am to 5:45pm through All Sorts – our onsite pre-school offering early years care for children from 2 years of age (subject to availability). If you would like further information or to request an application form, please email linsey.rae@allsoulsschool.co.uk.

WEEKLY OFFERTORY ENVELOPES for 2021/22 are available in the parish room after Mass. Please leave church via the usual exit and enter the parish room through the door directly opposite.

ONLINE AND CONTACTLESS GIVING It is possible to donate to our parish and to any advertised Second Collections on our website using the DONATIONS button. You can also donate using the card reading devices in church (entrance and exit).

KNEELERS Could you please leave the kneeler in your place down to indicate to the stewards which pews need cleaning.

Prayers for Spiritual Communion



Prayer for Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,
I believe that You
are 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 if You were
already there and unite
myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be
separated from You.

Amen.

Anima Christi

Soul of Christ, sanctify me
Body of Christ, save me
Blood of Christ, inebriate me
Water from the side of Christ, wash me
Passion of Christ, strengthen me
O good Jesus, hear me
Within thy wounds hide me
Permit me not to be separated from thee
From the wicked foe defend me
At the hour of my death call me
And bid me come to thee
That with thy saints I may praise thee
For ever and ever. Amen.

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your disciples, 'I am with you always'. Be with me today as I offer myself to you. Hear my prayers for others and for myself, and keep

us all in your care. Amen.

O God, help me to trust you, help me to know that you are with me, help me to believe that nothing can separate me from your love revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer of General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you most humble and hearty thanks for all your goodness and loving kindness. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And give us, we pray, such a sense of all your mercies that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful, and that we show forth your praise, not only with our lips but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Conclude with the following:

The Lord bless us, and preserve us from all evil, and keep us in eternal life. Amen.