

Emergency CAFOD appeal TODAY

The situation in Sudan is deteriorating rapidly. 25 million people need immediate humanitarian assistance. Up to seven million people will now be at risk of famine-like conditions by June.

If you can, please support today's 2nd Collection.

Using the Sunday Scriptures to prepare for Sunday Mass, and to bring to prayer in the days after is one of the most best ways of ensuring that our faith is nourished by the Mass.



The readings for next Sunday, the 6th Sunday of Easter, are

- Acts 10:25 – 26, 34 – 35, 44 – 48
- Ps 98:1, 2 – 4
- • 1 Jn 4:7 – 10
- • Jn 15:9 – 17

Parish Repository: Cards and gifts for First Holy Communion, Confirmation and much more.

Open before or after all Saturday/Sunday Masses

Sutton Coldfield Catenians

invite parishioners to join them to test their knowledge in a quiz about Sutton Coldfield on Mon 13 May at Moor Hall Hotel 7-30pm with a 3-course meal for £25-00. Bookings to Steve Broom thebroomies@hotmail.com or 07879002551

Please pray...

Children of our parish or of St Nicholas Primary School will be receiving Holy Communion for the first time at a number of the Sunday Masses over the first three Sundays of May.

Do please keep these children, their sponsors and godparents and families in your prayer that these celebrations will help them to take fresh



hold of their Christian lives and vocations, and deepen their communion with Jesus in his Church.

A Year of Encounter so as to vote well

With a UK general election due sometime this year, politicians will be looking for our votes. We have a responsibility as Catholics to make sure that parties commit to tackling issues such as poverty and injustice.

Raising our voices and contacting parliamentary candidates as a parish community will send a strong signal to those standing for election in our local constituencies.

A Year of Encounter is a joint initiative between CAFOD and St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP), equipping Catholics to ask key questions of local candidates at the key moments.

Please see cafod.org.uk/encounter for more information, including online sessions on Thursday 25th April and Saturday 4th May to learn more.

Parish Women's Group Next meeting on Friday 24 May at 7.30pm in Benedict Room.



St Nicholas Catholic Church, Boldmere

Address: 243 Jockey Rd., Boldmere, Sutton Coldfield, B73 5US

Website: www.stnicholasboldmere.co.uk

E-mail: stnicholas.boldmere@rcaob.org.uk **Telephone:** 0121 354 1763

Parish Blog: www.stnicholasboldmere.wordpress.com

Cluster blog: www.catholicssuttoncoldfield.wordpress.com

Parish Priest: Fr Allen Morris **Deacon:** Rev John Garvey

Our Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No. 234216

APRIL / MAY 2024: PARISH MASSES

| | | | | |
|----|----|------|----------------------|------------------------------------|
| Sa | 27 | 6pm | | Mary Callaghan RIP (P Morrissey) |
| Su | 28 | 9am | 5th Sunday of Easter | For the parish |
| | | 11am | | Caroline Maynard RD (Rhodes) |
| M | 29 | 10am | St Catherine | Caroline Maynard RD (Wilkinson) |
| T | 30 | 10am | | |
| W | 1 | 10am | | Mary Cullen RD (Cullen) |
| Th | 2 | | St Athanasius | |
| F | 3 | 7am | St Philip & James | Caroline Maynard RD (Redmond) |
| Sa | 4 | 6pm | | Caroline Maynard RD (Mooney) |
| Su | 5 | 9am | 6th Sunday of Easter | John, Kathleen & Madge McGrath RIP |
| | | 11am | | For the parish |

Anointing of the Sick: Next celebration is 26th April at 11am

Sacrament of Confession: Friday 18.30-18.55; 19.30 (after Mass), until 20.00; and Sat 5.30-5.45 — and by appointment

RESOURCES FOR PRAYER.

1. Parish **Morning Prayer**: Mon-Sat, at 8.30am (Zoom link on website)
2. Readings of the day and much more at Universalis.com
3. Resources for the Year of Prayer: <https://bit.ly/47kMBYS>

Please pray for those who are sick including Peggy Dalloway, Sue Gill, Mary Daniels, Lucy Szambir, Betty O'Connor; Theresa Monteiro; Craig Brooks, Brenda Davies; Stephen Burke; Lesley Devlin & Jean Lawlor. **Please pray** for Daniel Connolly who died recently and for Patricia Gallagher, Charles Stroud, Manuel Dos Santos, Mary Burgess & all others whose anniversaries occur at this time.

WEEKDAY SOCIAL. Tuesdays after 10am Mass. All are welcome.

PARISH CAR PARK Free parking for 1 hour is available for anyone at anytime in our carpark. Automatic free parking permits are issued to cover all parking on **Sat** from 5.30 to 7.30pm; on **Sunday** from 8am to 2pm; on **Mon, Tues, Weds** from 9.30 to 11.30am and **Fri** from 6.30 to 8.30pm. *At other times, if on site for parish meetings and the like - to park for more than 1 hour, please scan the QR poster in the church or Benedict Room to extend your 'free' parking time.*

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory **Safeguarding** Guidance and the National and Archdiocesan policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Mary Rose. She can be contacted at: sg.stnicholas.boldmere@rcaob.org.uk Alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk

Please pray for the new Bishops-elect,

chosen to assist Archbishop Bernard as auxilliary bishops: Canon Richard Walker and Mgr Timothy Menezes. Details of their ordination date will be announced shortly

Living and sharing in Communion

We hear regularly of how isolated people can become when they are housebound. Many lack family living close, many find they see friends much less often - and those people who are housebound and Catholic can feel especially separated from the Church when — as is often the case — their friends and families are not practicing.

One way in which their connection with the Church can remain real and vital is when more able members of the parish can bring spiritual support to those presently housebound. We surely do this for those for those we know personally. But there are many who are in our community who are relatively 'anonymous' Catholics. If we are to offer support to all of those who seek it we need to organise some things centrally too.

Probably high on that list is support in prayer and the opportunity to receive Holy Communion regularly.

The hope is that our parish can offer to all who are housebound the opportunity to receive this care and support weekly (fortnightly from Fr Allen, and fortnightly from a lay minister). But to do this we need more ministers willing to offer half an hour or so twice a month to support to complement what Fr Allen can do.

After each Mass this weekend there will be a 20 minute meeting in the Benedict Room for anyone who is interested in learning what would be involved in helping take part in this parish support of some of our 'less visible' members.



The Way of Communion

I invite the whole Church to rediscover, to safeguard, and to live the truth and power of the Christian celebration.
Pope Francis

Liturgy and Worship

is one of the four priorities singled out in Archbishop Bernard's Pastoral Vision to inform and guide the work of preparing more solid foundations for the Church in Birmingham in coming decades.

It is also the focus of the **Prayer and Liturgy** Directory recently issued for Catholic Schools, Academies and Colleges in England and Wales.

The Way of Communion

offers a new opportunity for guided learning about Liturgy, Worship, Prayer. It makes use of two recent publications coming from our Bishops' Conference — the *Prayer and Liturgy Directory* and *Catholic Liturgy*, a study guide written by pastoral and academic liturgists that covers the history, content and debates around the use of Liturgy in the Catholic Church. Each was written with a broad and non-specialist readership in mind.

The course runs from May to December (with August off) with a on-line meeting from 7.30 – 8.30pm on the first two Mondays of each month — with those who wish welcome to stay on beyond the hour to continue and broaden the conversation, with nothing off limits!

The course is FREE. Participants will only need access to Zoom, and their own copies of *Catholic Liturgy* and the *Prayer and Liturgy Directory* — and are asked to read the relevant chapters/sections in advance of each on-line meeting.



The Way of Communion

has been prepared for members of the parishes, schools and communities of 'Catholic Sutton Coldfield' but is open to all members of the Archdiocese of Birmingham.

It is led by Fr Allen Morris, parish priest of St Nicholas, Boldmere, a member of the Birmingham Liturgy Commission, and former Secretary of the Department for Christian Life and Worship of the Bishops Conference of England and Wales.

To register for the course please contact Fr Allen directly at stnicholas.boldmere@rcaob.org.uk

Please apply before 29th April to receive details of the reading and the Zoom link.

The Introductory Rites

Opening Song

The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

Psalm 21 (22):26-28,30-32



My vows I will pay before those who fear him.
The poor shall eat and shall have their fill.
They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him.
May their hearts live for ever and ever!

All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord,
all families of the nations worship before him;
They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust.

And my soul shall live for him, my children serve him.
They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come,
declare his faithfulness to peoples yet unborn:
‘These things the Lord has done.’

1 John 3:18-24

My children, our love is not to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active; only by this can we be certain that we are children of the truth and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence, whatever accusations it may raise against us, because God is greater than our conscience and he knows everything.

My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God’s presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants. His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to.

Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Make your home in me, as I make mine in you. Whoever remains in me bears fruit in plenty. *Alleluia!*

John 15:1-8

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that bears no fruit he cuts away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes to make it bear even more.

You are pruned already, by means of the word that I have spoken to you. Make your home in me, as I make mine in you. As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself, but must remain part of the vine, neither can you unless you remain in me.

I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty; for cut off from me you can do nothing.

Anyone who does not remain in me is like a branch

that has been thrown away – he withers; these branches are collected and thrown on the fire, and they are burnt.

If you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask what you will and you shall get it. It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit, and then you will be my disciples.’

Homily

The Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right
hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

Prayer of the Faithful

All: Through our lives and by our prayers,
your kingdom come.

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

The Offertory *NB Our next collections for the Bethany Food Bank are May 5th and 19th*

The Eucharistic Prayer

Sanctus

The mystery of faith

The Communion Rite

Communion thanksgiving

Concluding Rites

Final Song

Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia. / For He whom you did merit to bear, alleluia. / Has risen, as he said, alleluia. / Pray for us to God, alleluia.

R Egína caéli * laetáre, alle-lú-ia : Qui- a quem me-
ru- ísti portáre, alle-lú-ia : Resurréxit, sic-ut dixit, alle-
lú-ia : Ora pro nó-bis Dé-um, alle-lú- ia.

Penitential Act

Gloria

The Collect

The Liturgy of the Word

Acts 9:26-31

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus.

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World Development Group Auction Saturday June 29th 12-3pm at 21 Goldslie Rd.
For more details see notice on WDG board or go to Facebook.com/StNicholasWDG