



Holy Trinity Catholic Church

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Holy Trinity is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham Trust

Sunday 14 January 2024 Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Year B

NEXT WEEK in

Holy Trinity:

Monday 15 January

Mass at 9:15am

Tuesday 16 January

Mass at 9:15am

Wednesday 17 January

Saint Anthony

Thursday 18 January

Mass 9:15am

Friday 19 January

Saint Wulstan

Praying the Holy Rosary

for Peace 9:15am

Saturday 20 January

Saint Fabian; Saint

Sebastian: Blessed Virgin

Mary

6pm Vigil Mass

Sunday 21 January

Mass 11am

Third Sunday In Ordinary

Time

ALL WELCOME

**Weekday Masses in our
sister parish St Teresa's
Charlbury 9.15am on
Wednesday, Friday and
Sunday.**

Dear Parishioners

What do you want? The annual Christmas and birthday question! This is the theme of today's readings from the book of Samuel, the Psalm and the Gospel of St John on this the Second Sunday of Ordinary time.

In our first passage the boy Samuel is called by the Lord God while asleep. He had been dedicated to the Lord as a Nazirite, whose hair would never be cut and who would drink no wine, after his mother the childless Hannah had been heard and granted her deepest wish to bear a child. She had promised that if she could have what she wanted, he would follow the Lord and so Samuel was serving his apprenticeship in the Temple under the old priest Eli. "Samuel, Samuel!" the Voice called out to him and eventually he responded "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening."

The Response in our Psalm echoes the sentiment: "Here I am Lord I come to do your will."

In the Gospel of St John, two disciples, Andrew and another, follow the Master after John the Baptist had pointed Him out: "Look, there is the Lamb of God." "What do you want" Jesus asks them. Another translation says: "What do you seek?" This is a question for everyone. What do we want in and from our lives? We won't go on for ever and with the turnover of the years, there comes the realisation that time past is never to be regained.

In this last week two great sporting icons have died. Franz Beckenbauer (der Kaiser as he was known...the King) the German footballer/ coach, and JPR Williams the Welsh Rugby player. Both heroes and giants in their time and legends, superb athletes and ambassadors for their sports but still subject to the law of mortality.

So what do we want? Perhaps this is the year to decide, to take stock of ourselves, where we are and where we are going. Are we listening to the Voice who wants only our happiness because He has created and loves us, rather than the sirens of the world who promise satisfaction but who never deliver? And to say with Samuel "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening."

God Bless, Father Clive

Parish Notices

Masses as usual this week. Don't forget the Rosary for Peace at 9.15 am on a Fridays in Holy Trinity. The world needs these prayers!

Last Wednesday David Bowers and I met our Ukrainian family at Heathrow and a welcome party greeted them on their arrival in Holy Trinity. Serhii, Hannah and the girls were tired but seemed very happy. A huge thank you and well done to everyone who has done so much to prepare the presbytery and to make all the necessary arrangements. Right at the beginning I said that this was the Catholic community's opportunity to fulfil the Commandment to love our neighbour and I am moved by the warmth of response.

The Crib collection for Holy Family Gaza was also very well supported and once all collections have been counted I can send off a payment to the Latin Patriarchate. Again a big thank you.

Requests for Baptism and also Instruction in the Faith are lively and I thank God for our continued growth in Holy Trinity and St Teresa's, for those who work "behind the scenes" in our music, cleaning and keeping both churches looking so lovely. I feel blessed to be the pastor of two such parishes.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for January 2024: For The Gift Of Diversity In The Church Let us pray that the Holy Spirit helps us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church.

Please continue to pray for our sick, housebound and frail parishioners of both our Parishes: Carol Wilson, Tom Cantwell, Bridget Kennelly, Audrey Nellis, Richard O'Farrell, Mary Ward, Paula Biggs, Lynette Murphy, Betty, Ania.

In addition to your own daily prayers please remember: All those who mourn the loss of loved ones: The repose of the souls of those who have died: People whose anniversaries occur at this time: The people of the Middle East, Morocco, Ukraine, Turkey and Syria.

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese policies and procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is **Tammy Lawson**. Alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or at safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concerns.