

## *Blessed Robert Grissold Catholic Church, Balsall Common*

**11<sup>th</sup> February 2024, Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*'The leprosy left him at once and he was cured'*

**The Pope's Prayer Intention:** We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.

**Fr Frank:** *At the time of Jesus, lepers were treated as social and ritual outcasts. They were not welcome in society or in the Temple. Therefore the leper in today's Gospel makes a bold move in approaching Jesus. Jesus makes him "clean" enabling him to be accepted as part of the worshipping community and revealing to us how God, in Christ, is reconciling the world to himself. No one is outside the welcoming love of God.*

**Response to the Psalm:** You are my hiding place, O Lord; you surround me with cries of deliverance.

**Second collection:** There will be a second collection after Mass today for LIFE charity.

**Confession:** 5.15-5.45pm Saturday at St Francis church or by arrangement.

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:** There is an opportunity for us all to spend time with Our Lord in silent prayer and meditation every Thursday at Saint Francis, Baddesley Clinton. Christ has chosen to be with us in the Eucharist until the end of time. We can reverence the love and humility of Christ, who comes to us in this way, by being with Him, listening to Him and opening our hearts to Him as he is presented to us in the Blessed Sacrament on the Altar. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament begins after the 9.00am Mass on Thursday and ends at 10.00am, with Benediction (a blessing with the Blessed Sacrament). Prayer cards are available at the back of St Francis Church to assist in your full participation.

**St Peter Julian Eymard on Eucharistic Adoration** "The object of Eucharistic adoration is the Divine Person of our Lord Jesus Christ present in the Most Blessed Sacrament. He is living there. He wants us to speak to Him and He will speak to us. Anybody may speak to our Lord. Is He not there for everybody? Does he not tell us, "Come ye all to Me"? This conversation between the soul and our Lord is the true Eucharistic meditation, i.e. adoration... Look upon the hour of adoration assigned to you as an hour in Paradise. Go to your adoration as one would to Heaven, to the Divine banquet. You will then long for that hour and hail it with joy."

**Prayer to St Michael the Archangel by Pope Leo XIII:** Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle; be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray: and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all the other evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

**Tuesday Mass:** Tuesday mass at Blessed Robert Grissold this week is at the earlier time of 9.30am (Intention: Desmond Orr (RIP)). This is to enable Father to attend a Deanery meeting.

**Ash Wednesday:** Lent begins this Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February (Ash Wednesday) with the customary imposition of ashes at Mass. There will be a Mass at 9.00am at Saint Francis and 7.00pm at Blessed Robert Grissold.

**Lent:** During Lent Father hopes to follow each Tuesday Mass at BRG and Friday Mass at Saint Francis with Stations of the Cross. He also hopes to run a Lent Course at Saint Francis on Wednesdays after the 9.00am Mass.

**Holy Rosary** There is an opportunity to pray the Holy Rosary together every Wednesday immediately after 9am Mass at St Francis Church.

**Get Together:** The next gathering of the monthly parish coffee morning will take place at 10.30 am this Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> February, in the Parish Room. Join us for tea, coffee, cakes and a chat. All welcome.

**LENTEN BREAKFASTS: Organised by Churches Together in Balsall & Berkswell:** The Churches Together Lenten breakfast series is held on Saturdays during Lent at the Methodist Hall on Station Road. They start at 8.30 with a Danish pastry and tea/coffee (£2 donation) and the talks start at 9.00. This year's subject is: 'Trail blazers of faith: Women Spiritual Icons in Christian History'. The dates/talks this year are:

- 17th February - 'Hildegard of Bingen' speaker Revd Clive Hicks
- 24th February - 'Edith Stein' speaker Revd Pauline Warner
- 2nd March - 'Evelyn Underhill' Canon Mark Britton
- (HOSTED BY BLESSED ROBERT GRISSOLD)
- 9th March - 'Teresa of Avila' speaker Annie McCormick
- 16th March - 'Julian of Norwich' speaker Susan Mobberley

For more information about the speakers please see Church notice board.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** – We need volunteers to help us host the third Churches Together Lenten talk (see above) on Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> March at the Methodist Hall. This involves being at the Methodist Hall at 8am to help with refreshments and then help to clear up afterwards at 10.00. Please contact Louise Perry if you can help.

**Preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation** - Preparation for this important Sacrament is open to young people who are in Year 6 and above at school. For further information please contact Teresa Green on 07583 540060.

**Blessed Robert Grissold Church 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, dates for your diary:** 2024 marks the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the opening of Blessed Robert Grissold Church. The following is advanced notice and dates for your diary of planned events to celebrate the anniversary year:

- The Archbishop has been invited to celebrate Mass during the year to coincide with Blessed Robert Grissold's Feast day and the Churches Consecration (Early summer - date to be confirmed).
- Parish Quiz Night - 28<sup>th</sup> Sept 2024
- Parish Meal (and entertainment) - 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov 2024
- Youth Mass (followed by a party for the youth and children) – 24<sup>th</sup> Nov 2024 (Youth Sunday)

**Easter raffle** - Donations of chocolate, biscuits or any other related 'Easter' treat are being requested for a Parish Easter Raffle. All profits will be donated to Church funds. Raffle tickets will be available from the beginning of March and the draw will be held on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March. All contributions will be gratefully received. Please give your donations to Teresa Green.

**Your prayers are asked for those who are sick and their carers:** Maggie Ellis and Maureen Carroll.

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

**Anniversaries this week:** Tom Ward, Jack McLellan, Ken Cottrill, Josie Quinn and Frank McArle.

**Weekly envelope offerings** - The new envelopes for 2024/25 are now available for those parishioners who contribute to the Church by using the weekly planned envelope scheme. The boxes are available on the table in the Narthex; should any problems arise, please contact Teresa Green on 07583 540060.

**Balsall Common memories café - Dementia Friends Awareness Session:** This is a 1 hour interactive session open to everyone who wants to become a Dementia Friend or know more about dementia. The session will be taken by David Rees-Jones from The Alzheimer's Society at 2.30pm on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at the Village Hall, Station Road, Balsall Common. For more information contact: Christine Hornsby on 07974 140353.

**Deanery and Diocesan websites:** Details of events and masses at other churches in our deanery, and news from our diocese, can be found on the deanery and diocesan websites given at the bottom of this newsletter.

**BRG Church Room Bookings:**

Mon 12 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Slimming World	08:30hrs to 1100hrs
Mon 12 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Berkswell Flower Club	11:00hrs to 16:00 hrs
Tues 13 <sup>th</sup> Feb	U3A Swing Band	14:00 hrs to 16:00 hrs
Tues 13 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Slimming World	17:00hrs to 19:30hrs

**Notices for the Bulletin:** Please send all notices for the weekly bulletin to David Green by 7.00 pm on Thursdays at [david.monica@bopenworld.com](mailto:david.monica@bopenworld.com)

**Rota Arrangements for Mass at BRG**

<b>Date &amp; Time:</b> <b>Day:</b> <b>Celebrant:</b> <b>Intention:</b>	11 <sup>th</sup> February 9.30am <b>Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Father Frank Desmond Orr (RIP)	18 <sup>th</sup> February 9.30am <b>First Sunday of Lent</b> Father Frank Desmond Orr (RIP)
<b>Wardens:</b>	John and Louise Perry	Godfrey Chesshire & Aidir Parizzi
<b>Readers:</b>	Stefan Hunka	Louise Perry
<b>Tea &amp; Coffee:</b>	Selby Family & Chris Mitchell	Chesshire Family
<b>Flowers:</b>	Anisha Mathias	None during Lent
<b>Counting:</b>	Nuala Fulham & Mary Sharpe	Stefan Hunka & Ken Higgins
<b>Music:</b>	Instrumental Group	Linda Chesshire
<b>Church Cleaning:</b>	Louise Perry & Monica Green	Chris Lynn & Helen Woods
<b>Alter Linen:</b>	Nuala Fulham	Nuala Fulham
<b>Children's Liturgy:</b>	None this week (school holidays)	None this week (school holidays)

**Priest: Revd. Father Frank Smith. Tel: 07512 100908**

**Email: [fr.frank.smith@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:fr.frank.smith@rcaob.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)**

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