



Holy Trinity Catholic Church

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NEXT WEEK in

Holy Trinity:

Monday 5 February

Saint Agatha

Mass at 9:15am

Tuesday 6 February

Saint Paul Miki and

Companions

Mass at 9:15am

Wednesday 7 February

Thursday 8 February

Mass 9:15am

Saint Jerome Emiliani:

Saint Josephine Bakhita

Friday 9 February

Prayer for Peace 9:15am

Saturday 10 February

Saint Scholastica

6pm Vigil Mass

Sunday 11 February

Mass 11am

Sixth Sunday In Ordinary

Time

ALL WELCOME

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

Website <http://holytrinityrc-chippingnorton.com>

Holy Trinity is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham Trust

Sunday 4 February 2024 Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Year B

Dear Parishioners

The opening lines of today's First Reading from the Book of Job in the Old Testament are striking: "Is not man's life on earth nothing more than pressed service, His time no better than hired drudgery". Job, the good, upright, wealthy man, has had his life completely shattered, losing all his children, possessions and his health. He sits in the dust, criticised by friends and scorned by his wife. He has lost everything and, covered in ulcers, he is reduced to a broken outcast. Job rails against God but eventually he accepts that suffering is his lot which he must accept as one of God's mysteries.

Why we suffer, particularly why the innocent do, is a perennial question, one that priests are asked all the time. The truth is that there is no satisfactory "pat" answer. When tragedy hits, the only response to help is silence and support. Glib answers are useless.

In today's Gospel, Jesus is besieged by the suffering crowds. He heals, he cures many. Soon he will enter on that road of suffering Himself, the Via Dolorosa, on His way to Jerusalem and the gruesome pain of Crucifixion.

God the Father allows suffering in the world. God the Son shares in this pain and God the Holy Spirit continues in the Church and the world the work of healing and reconciliation which that Calvary Sacrifice brought for us all.

Many suffer on different levels: physically, emotionally, spiritually. Christ the Suffering Servant offers us healing at the altar, in the Confessional, in the warmth of human sympathy and care. Bring your pain to Him and ask the Lord of Life to help you to carry your Cross. He will not abandon you because He has promised to be with us always...to the end of Time.

God Bless Everyone Fr 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!

To parents: St Teresa's and Holy Trinity need servers! If you would like your children to serve on the altar please see Father Clive. Generally 7 years old is the right age to start but exceptions can be made. No pay, but servers' treats and an annual trip out on offer.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for February 2024: For the terminally ill. We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.

Please Note – Week Commencing 12 February – On Monday 12th there will be no Mass at Holy Trinity as Father Clive will be with the Carmelite sisters in Wolverhampton on a pre-Lent retreat.

On Friday (16th) there will be no Mass at St Teresa's as Father Clive will be with Fr Tony at Fr Sandy Brown's Requiem (celebrated by the Archbishop).

Ash Wednesday is on February 14th and there will be Stations of the Cross after Mass every Wednesday (St Teresa's) and Thursday (Holy Trinity).

There is the possibility of an on-line " Lectio Divina "for anyone interested through Lent. If you would like to share in this with Fr Martin, a retired priest who worships with the St Teresa congregation, please let Fr Martin or Father Clive know after Mass.

We all need to start thinking about Lent. How can we draw closer to the Lord? Is there something getting in the way? What can I do about that? The Archdiocese website has a wealth of information about things you can do to deepen your Lenten reflections:

<https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/Blog/daily-prayers-throughout-lent>

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.

