

# *Blessed Robert Grissold Catholic Church, Balsall Common*

**28<sup>th</sup> April 2024, Fifth Sunday of Easter**

*“Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty”*

**The Pope’s Prayer Intention:** We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognized in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience in different parts of the world.

**Fr Frank:** *Through the Eucharist we make our home in Christ who describes Himself in today’s Gospel as “the true vine.” He is the “vine” and we are the “branches” which feed on His life in and through the miracle of the Mass. The Mass is vital to the Church’s mission and evangelization, indeed, as St John Fisher once stated “When someone observes with attention the periods of spiritual flourishing of the Church and the times of degeneration as well he must realise this: the cause of degeneration in the Church is almost always the negligence and abuse of this most holy Sacrament of the Altar. On the opposite side however he will notice this: the times of genuine reform and the flourishing of the life of the Church were always preceded by a tender devotion to this most holy Sacrament.”*

**Response to the Psalm:** You, Lord, are my praise in the great assembly.

**Confession:** 5.15-5.45pm Saturday at St Francis Church, Baddesley Clinton, or by arrangement.

**Tuesday Mass:** Please note that midweek mass at BRG this week is on Tuesday **evening at 7.00pm.**

**Feast of Ss Philip & James, Apostles - Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> May:** There will be a Mass at Saint Francis at 9am. All welcome.

**Baptism of Roman James Martin on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May at 1pm.** Please keep Stephen, his Parents and Godparents in your prayers.

**Study of John’s Gospel from Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May.** Fr Frank intends to lead a study of John’s Gospel at Saint Francis after the 9.00am Mass and the Holy Rosary each Wednesday from 8<sup>th</sup> May. All welcome.

**URGENT APPEAL FOR VOLUNTEERS** – There remains an **urgent** need for more volunteers to help with a variety of Church rota’s and other roles in the Parish. The response to date has been disappointing. The support needed is wide ranging but the most urgent are:

- Church cleaning rota (Co-ordinator Louise Perry)
- Finance support - Co-ordination of weekly collection rota and counting team, and other cash receipts, reporting and banking receipts (Current co-ordinator Mike Fairbrother)
- Managing Hall Hire Bookings (Current temporary co-ordinator David Green)

No previous experience required for any of these roles, support & guidance provided. We would be so grateful to anyone who can offer their time or skills to lighten the load on current teams/volunteers. Please email Fr Frank at [fr.frank.smith@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:fr.frank.smith@rcaob.org.uk) if you are able to help or contact the current co-ordinator.

**Adults seeking to be received into full communion with the Catholic Church:** Please email Fr Frank.

**Altar Servers:** If you would like to serve at the altar please contact Fr Frank.

**Thanksgiving Mass for Marriage:** An invitation is extended to married couples, those celebrating a milestone anniversary and those preparing to marry this year, to an annual Mass for Marriage at St Chad's Cathedral at Midday on Sat 4<sup>th</sup> May, followed by refreshments. Visit [www.vocations.org.uk/marriage-mass](http://www.vocations.org.uk/marriage-mass)

**A Year of Encounter:** 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](http://cafod.org.uk/encounter) for more information, including an online sessions on Saturday 4th May to learn more.

**Job vacancy Friends of the Holy Land** are looking for an energetic, dedicated individual to join our fast-moving, growing charity making a difference to Christians in the Holy Land. The successful candidate must have office experience, excellent oral and written communication skills and be a 'people person'; social media experience is also desirable. Full details are available at <https://www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk/jobs>. Closing date is 29<sup>th</sup> April. Send your CV and covering letter to Jen Hill at [office@friendsoftheholylan.org.uk](mailto:office@friendsoftheholylan.org.uk)

**Anniversaries this week:** Sheila Buckland, John Scott, Patrick Flynn, Richard Townsend, Doris Newson and Tim Clifford.

**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.

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

**This Weeks Rota Arrangements for Mass at BRG**

<b>Date &amp; Time:</b> <b>Day:</b> <b>Celebrant:</b> <b>Intention:</b>	28 <sup>th</sup> April 9.30am <b>Fifth Sunday of Easter</b> Father Frank	5 <sup>th</sup> May 9.30am <b>Sixth Fifth Sunday of Easter</b> Father Frank
<b>Wardens:</b>	Monica Green & Madeline Peat	Nuala Fulham & Anne Stewart
<b>Readers:</b>	Mary Sharp	Chris Blewitt
<b>Tea &amp; Coffee:</b>	Anne Stewart & Carol Ann Grewcock / Lynda Leigh	Bridget Harrison & Ann Ostler
<b>Flowers:</b>	Pam Martin	Pam Martin
<b>Counting:</b>	Stefan Hunka & Ken Higgins	Chris Lynn & Mike Fairbrother
<b>Music:</b>	Linda Chesshire	Bjorn Stinner
<b>Church Cleaning:</b>	Chris Lynn & Helen Woods	Chris Mitchell & Eileen Selby
<b>Alter Linen:</b>	Madeline Peat	Madeline Peat
<b>Children's Liturgy:</b>	Grainne and Anthony	None this week

**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)