



Holy Trinity Catholic Church

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Holy Trinity is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham Trust

Sunday 7 July 2024 – Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Year B

Dear Parishioners

In our Gospel today Jesus returns to His home town of Nazareth a bit of a "nowheresville" in Galilee, a backwater of the Roman Empire. As the apostle Nathanael exclaimed: "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Probably a village of approximately 4-500 souls, they were excited to receive back a local boy who was doing so many astonishing things: "They said, 'Where did the man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been granted him, and these miracles that are worked through him?'" Jesus' reception seems initially warm and positive...but not for long as their original comments turn to sarcasm and negativity: "This is the carpenter, surely, the son of Mary..."

St Mark does not mention what Jesus had been saying but clearly it had annoyed the locals and got under their skin. Now they were casting aspersions on Him, his humble work and inconsequential family background. "And they would not accept Him."

Why would they, who knew Him so well, not accept Him? Because they saw the Humanity but could not or would not see the Divinity. Why not? Because they were spiritually complacent and assumed that as the descendants of Abraham they had a free ride into the Kingdom of God...and Jesus was very clear that this was not the case, as He explained through parables like the Sower. "He was amazed at their lack of Faith."

Where are we in this episode? Like the locals who see but do not see, or hear but do not hear? Or are we like so many of those healed and restored by the Lord who know that He is the Saviour? He is the same Lord and God today if we accept Him into our lives and ask Him to draw us ever closer. In this turbulent life, only with Him is true peace.

God Bless Everyone

Father Clive

Parish Notices Masses 09:15 Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Rosary for Peace 09:15 Friday. Confessions after Mass daily or at 5.30 pm on Saturday evening.

Last call for any First Communions/Confirmations/Receptions – Father Clive is drawing up the post Summer schedules. If you know of anyone in these categories please tell them to contact me as soon as possible!

In July we pray with Pope Francis that the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick confer to those who receive it and their loved ones the power of the Lord and become ever more a visible sign of compassion and hope for all

Proposed Joint Pilgrimage to Rome for Holy Year 2025 - Holy Trinity and St Teresa's - 2025 has been declared a Holy Year or Jubilee. These Holy Year's happen every 25 years and the theme for next year is to be Pilgrims of Hope. The Holy Father has asked us to pray for 1) the resolution of wars 2) the post COVID situation 3) the climate. To celebrate this Holy Year, we are seeking **EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST ONLY at this time** DETAILS Spiritual leaders - Fr Clive and Fr Tony (dv) 4-5 days in September 2025 - to be confirmed. Cost - as economically as possible. To gain the benefits of a Holy Year we will visit the 4 major basilicas in Rome - St Peter's, St Mary Major, St John Lateran and St Paul outside the walls and enter through the Holy Doors. Please contact Johnny Hulme 07770 433290 Johnnyhulme@me.com or Paul Branch 07771624578 pnmebranch@btinternet.com at Holy Trinity or Elizabeth Canning 07785 9714344 - emcanning1@btinternet.com at St Teresa's. For more information on the Holy Year and what it means please click on the following link; www.iubilaeum2025.va. Please also let Elizabeth Canning know if you would be interested in becoming involved in spiritual preparation for the Pilgrimage especially if you cannot travel.

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, Catherine, Joanna and Gerard.

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.