



Holy Trinity Catholic Church

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Holy Trinity is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham Trust

Sunday 6 October 2024 – Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Year B

Dear Parishioners

This Sunday's theme is relationships, in particular the union of man and woman. Starting with the assertion: "It is not good that the man should be alone" we watch as the Lord God builds a relationship between Adam and Eve, one designed to be permanent and indissoluble, in Paradise. This is the Plan but the serpent (the devil) has other ideas and he manages to sabotage the situation resulting in the happy couple being "shown the door". Cast out of the Garden, they face trials and tribulations, toil and labour for the rest of their days, and for their descendants the infection of Original Sin.

The Book of Genesis is not of course a scientific account of Creation but tells a story of why the world, and our lives, are not running as they should at all times. God has a Plan but we have other ideas as we or those whose decisions affect us, often take different paths. In our Gospel, Jesus reiterates the Plan: "But from the beginning of Creation God made them male and female...So then, what God has united, man must not divide." The Church's teaching on Marriage builds on this scriptural basis, and presents a noble and beautiful understanding, expressed in the Introduction to the Marriage service: "The matrimonial covenant, by which a man and a woman establish a lifelong partnership between themselves, derives its force and strength from Creation, but for the Christian faithful it is raised up to a higher dignity, since it is numbered among the Sacraments of the New Covenant."

Christian marriage, one of the seven sacraments of the Church, is likened by St Paul to the relationship between Christ the Bridegroom and His Church the Bride from Heaven. Sadly, we as flawed creatures are not always able to maintain this ideal but Christ does not cast us away or turn His back on us. Through the sacraments of Reconciliation and Healing it is possible to find closure although this can be a long and painful journey.

God bless Fr Clive

If you wish to know more about the annulment process with the Marriage Tribunal then contact me and we can go through things quietly and discretely. I appreciate that this is a very sensitive and delicate area but please be assured that all discussions/correspondence between us and the Tribunal is completely confidential.

Parish Notices

Masses this week: Holy Trinity - 9:15am Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Friday: Rosary for Peace at 09:15 with grateful thanks to Mary Prior. **St Teresa's** – 9:15am Wednesday, Friday and Sunday.

Second Collection: CAFOD

The Holy Father has asked us to mark next Monday...Our Lady of the Rosary...as a special day of prayer and fasting for Peace in the Holy Land.

Please also include in your prayers our Ukrainian family. Hanna and baby Marc travelled back to the Ukraine last week and will be there for one month in order to apply for a passport for the baby. We pray for a safe journey and stay in the Ukraine. Also for Serhii, Nelli, Yanna and Emma as they await Hanna and Marc's return.

In October we pray with Pope Francis for a Shared Mission: That the Church continues to support a synodal way of life, under the sign of co-responsibility, promoting participation, communion and a shared mission among priests, religious and laypeople.

St. Marie's in Rugby will be welcoming The National Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima, and Relics of Ss Jacinta & Francisco Marto on Sunday 6th and Monday 7th October, the Feast of our Lady of the Rosary. Everyone is invited to join in this privileged visitation, to pray the Rosary and hear the story of Fatima including the messages of Our Lady of Fatima. There is a poster at the back of Church with timings.

Parish Pilgrimage 2025: For various reasons (mainly cost) the planned pilgrimage to Rome next year has been changed to a visit to Fatima and Lisbon. The date has also changed, from September to May around 11-16th. We're looking at convent accommodation in Fatima conveniently located near the Basilica and the opportunity to join the nightly torchlight procession, plus in Lisbon itself we can visit the Cathedral as well as the birthplace church of St Anthony, again with appropriate lodgings. Costs have yet to be determined precisely but we hope around £850 per person. If interested (no commitment, until we can arrive at a firm price) or for more details please contact: Johnny Hulme on 07770 433290, johnnyhulme@me.com or Paul Branch on 07771 624578, pnmebranch@btinternet.com

Please continue to pray for our sick, housebound and frail parishioners of both our Parishes.

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.

