



Holy Trinity Catholic Church

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Holy Trinity is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham Trust

Sunday 9 February 2025 – Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Year C

Dear Parishioners

Have you ever felt yourself called to do something? Or be someone different? Today's Old Testament, New Testament and Gospel readings centre on a calling, a vocation (which means literally "calling"). In the first it is the great prophet Isaiah who sees Almighty God in a vision, terrifyingly holy and powerful. This reduces Isaiah to fear and despair. In the presence of such otherness he exclaims: "Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips."

In his letter to the young Christian community in Corinth, St Paul declares of himself: "For I am the least of the Apostles, unworthy to be called an Apostle...".

In our Gospel, St Peter, realising that he has just experienced an inexplicable, miraculous event, throws himself down before Jesus and begs to be left alone: "Depart from me for I am a sinful man, O Lord."

All three men come to self-realisation of who they are as sinners, and who the Lord is...and that is the starting point for their being called to do His work. And what work that is! Isaiah lays the prophetic foundations for the Messiah, St Peter and Paul take up the baton in their lives and cement the apostolic building blocks of the Church. Their work did not come without hardship and suffering but we and millions of others across the world are the beneficiaries of their self-giving generosity.

Is the Lord calling you to do something, or be somebody different? It is so tempting to read our Scriptures as history books...but they are "alive and active, keener than a double-edged sword"! What is He saying? Can I hear Him amidst the noise of my life?

God bless everyone Fr Clive

Parish Notices

Masses next week Holy Trinity: 915am Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Rosary for Peace on Friday

Masses at St Teresa's next week: 915am Wednesday, (No Mass Friday) and Sunday

Tuesday 11 February Finance Meeting 7pm Holy Trinity

Wednesday 12 February Film Club 730pm Holy Trinity Parish Room

This week: all classes are up and running. Mary Prior and Nareen Bowers are doing a wonderful job with a parish room full of First Communion children and Mums. Soon we will be celebrating with them and their families in both churches as they receive the Lord sacramentally in Holy Eucharist for the very first time. What a joy for all!

Please take a Jubilee booklet home with you. There are plenty in both churches!

Looking ahead...in February we will be receiving and confirming in both parishes. This is the end of a long process of discernment and instruction and I hope that everyone will support our new members and congratulate them.

In February we pray with Pope Francis for Vocations to the Priesthood or Religious Life. Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.

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.

