



## Holy Trinity Catholic Church

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Holy Trinity is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham Trust

**Sunday 9 March 2025 – First Sunday of Lent**

**Readings: Year C**

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### Dear Parishioners

Ash Wednesday was very well attended with the delightful participation of the children from our Primary school at Holy Trinity, and a full evening church in St Teresa's. Over the years I have noticed that Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, the two days of Fasting and Abstinence, are usually the best supported after Christmas and Easter. They are not "easy" services but people respond to the clear message of repentance and a fresh start. Our Faith is not for the self-satisfied or self-made, but for men and women who look to the Lord God as the Source of Healing and Renewal.

The focus of today's Gospel is the assertion that the Lord is God, not any tinpot ruler or worldly power. The Son of God is confronted in the arena of the wilderness by the Devil, the Tempter. Three times the Father of lies tries to twist and corrupt the Sinless One but each time he is faced down with Scripture. "Man shall not live on bread alone". "Worship the Lord God alone, and Him only serve." "Do not put the Lord your God to the test." The Devil departs...for the time being but we shall see him again in Holy Week.

Please pray for poor Pope Francis who seems to be very seriously ill. It is not wrong to pray for his painless death if that is God's will. He has served his Master faithfully for all these years. He is struggling to overcome the pneumonia which is such a common issue for the elderly. Every night since the beginning of the war between Hamas and Israel, Pope Francis has telephoned the Catholic parish of The Holy Family in Gaza and he has even managed to make contact in this period when he is so ill. This underlines his great compassion for the suffering. May he receive his eternal reward!

**God bless everyone. Remember: a good Lent makes for a better Easter!**

**Fr Clive**

## Parish Notices

**Masses next week Holy Trinity: 9:15am Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Rosary for Peace on Friday**

**Masses at St Teresa's, 9:15am Wednesday, Friday and Sunday**

**The period of Confirmations is over...**for the time being! **Our First Communions** are working well and on 22nd June (Corpus Christi) we shall see a bumper crop at Holy Trinity, with the St Teresas group slightly earlier on 4 May.

**Film club: 7 pm Wednesday 19th March.** This time it is "Karol" the inspiring film about St John Paul II, the Polish Pope.

**In March we pray with Pope Francis Let us pray for migrants, refugees and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.**

**Please note next Friday 14 March is a Fast Day for CAFOD. Our second collection next Sunday will be for CAFOD. Envelopes are at the back of Church.**

**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](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) if you have any concerns.

