



Blessed Robert Grissold Catholic Church, Balsall Common

18th May 2025, Fifth Sunday of Easter

"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another."

A Message from Archbishop Bernard Longley: *I welcome the wonderful news of the election of Cardinal Robert Prevost as our new Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV. As he prepared to give us his first blessing as Pope in St Peter's Square he also gave us a message of joyful encouragement, calling us to be bridge-builders who are the light of Christ in the world. As the first Pope from the United States of America he also remembered the people of Chiclayo in Peru where he had served as bishop until 2023. I have just spent the last few days at Buckfast Abbey with all the Bishops of England and Wales as we prayed for the Cardinals in Conclave and as we waited to hear whom the Holy Spirit would identify as the Successor of Peter. It will be a great joy to serve the Church's mission inspired by the guidance of Pope Leo. All the lay faithful, the Religious and clergy of our Archdiocese are praying for our new Holy Father that he may serve the Church for many years and be richly blessed in his apostolate.*

Fr Frank: *Praying the Rosary in May, the Month of Our Blessed Lady - The Holy Rosary is both Trinitarian and Christ-centred but it is also a Marian prayer. In the Rosary, we are happy to praise the mother of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the words of the Archangel Gabriel and her cousin Elizabeth: "Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women." And in the Rosary, we meditate and reflect on the important events in Our Lord's life through the eyes of Mary. Another prayer that makes the Rosary Marian is the concluding prayer - the "Hail Holy Queen." But the two most important prayers of the Rosary are the Lord's Prayer and the Hail Mary. As St. Louis de Montfort said: "How could there possibly be any more pleasing prayers to Almighty God and the Blessed Virgin, or any that are easier, more precious or more helpful than these two prayers?"*

Last week's Collections: Loose plate/Envelopes £80.40xx, Standing Orders £374, Total £454.40. Second collection for Clergy Training £65.45

Today's Readings and responses: Today's readings and responses are on Pages 265-267 of the Parish Mass Book.

Weekday Masses and Devotions:

- **Midweek mass** will be held at 7pm Tuesday evening in Blessed Robert Grissold Church
- **Prayer Group:** 4pm to 5pm Thursdays - Everyone is most welcome.
- **Devotions in the Month of May:** May is the month of Our Blessed Lady. We can honour her, pray for the Church and for the world by saying the Rosary every day - especially in her month of May.
- **Confession:** 5.15-5.45pm Saturday at St Francis church or by arrangement

Funeral Mass for June McArdle (RIP): Thursday 22nd May 2025, 11am in Blessed Robert Grissold Church; and 1pm at Woodlands Crematorium, Coleshill, B46 1DP; followed by a gathering at the Cameo Suite, The Coleshill Hotel, B46 3AY. As per June's request, wearing bright colours preferred. Flowers or donations to Walsgrave Hospital, special care baby unit or NSPCC.

Parish Coffee Morning: Please note there will be no coffee morning this month (regards Madeleine & Fran)

Line dancing evening on Saturday 24th May 2025 at Lapworth Village Hall, Old Warwick Road, Kingswood, B94 6LD. 7.00-10.30pm. Learn to line dance! Set to be a great evening and fundraiser for St Francis Church. Bring your own drinks and snacks. Tickets: Adults £10, children £5 and available from Pat Holliday 0777 941 9994 Email: pat.holliday@outlook.com and Sandra Smith 0772 531 2831 Email: sundial26uk@aol.com

Churches together coffee morning: First Saturday of each month (7th June) – 10:30-12:00 at the Jubilee Centre, all welcome

Quiet Morning at Temple Balsall 7th June: *"Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest" Mark 6 v 31.* Meet at the Old Hall, Temple Balsall (adjacent to the church). Coffee will be available at 9.30am as you arrive for a prompt 10am start, finishing at 12 noon. Revd Jenny Dyer, Methodist Minister, will help direct our thoughts before we find our 'own individual space' within the beautiful grounds and buildings. 30 places only, please submit your name to Doug Timmis (01676 534346) as soon as possible.

Day for Life, 15 June 2025: This year's Day for Life will take place on 15 June. In preparation for this, we are inviting the faithful to *pray the Novena for Life from 23 May to the Feast of the Visitation on 31 May.* Information will be available on the Bishops' Conference website as well as at: <https://prayforlife.ie/> The Bishops' Conference Secretariat has also

prepared a wide range of resources to mark Day for Life, which will be soon be uploaded to the website:
<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/day-for-life/>.

Father Hudson's Caritas altar talk: Following mass on Sunday June 29th Father Hudson's Caritas will give an informative talk on their extensive work in the community

Jubilee 2025 - Pilgrims of Hope: To find out more about how your parish, family or school can celebrate the Jubilee Year in our Archdiocese, and how you can participate in events nationally and internationally, visit our Diocesan website: www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/jubilee-year

Kenelm Youth Trust are seeking a Bookings Coordinator for their retreat centres based in Alton, ST10 4TT. Please visit their website to apply: www.kenelmyouthtrust.org.uk/kenelmvacancies.html.

Anniversaries this week: Doris Newson, Richard Townsend, Fred Chesshire, Anne Storey, Rose Doyle, Linda Ruane, Mona Cambridge and Terry Brookes.

Your prayers are asked for those who are sick and their carers: Maggie Ellis, Maureen Carroll and Joan McLean.

If you would like someone to be named on our list of those who are sick, please contact David Green (david.monica@btopenworld.com) or complete the online form (under Parish Life) on our web site.

Notices for the Bulletin: Please **email** all notices for the bulletin to **Gráinne Breen** by **7.00 pm on Thursday** at grainneabreen@yahoo.com

This Week's Sunday Mass and Rota Arrangements at Blessed Robert Grissold

Date & Time: Day: Celebrant: Intention:	18 th May 9.30am Fifth Sunday of Easter Fr. Frank	25 th May 9.30am Sixth Sunday of Easter Fr. Frank
Wardens:	Eileen Selby & Elizabeth Power	Pat & Dave Thomas
Reader:	Mary Sharp	Cheris Mattias
Tea & Coffee:	Christina Plater & Helen Woods	Anne Stewart & Carol Ann Grewcock / Lynda Leigh
Flowers:	Chris Mitchell	Chris Mitchell
Counting:	Bob & Cathy Jones	Chris Mitchell & Anne Stewart
Music:	Instrumental Group	Linda Chesshire
Church Cleaning:	Chris Lynn & Helen Woods	Chris Mitchell & Eileen Selby
Altar Linen:	Jean Henser	Jean Henser
Children's Liturgy:	Gráinne Breen & Anthony Scallan	No Liturgy - School Holidays

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese's policies and procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Monica Green. She can be contacted at: or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concerns.

Priest: Revd. Father Frank Smith. Tel: 07512 100908 Email: 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

Banbury & Warwick Catholic Deanery website: www.banburyandwarwick-catholicdeanery.org.uk