



The Parishes of Our Lady of the Assumption, Maryvale and Christ the King, Kingstanding

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Responsorial Psalm – Psalm 125(126)

R: *What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.*

MASSES THIS WEEK

| | | | |
|--------------|--|---|--|
| Sat 04/12/21 | 12:30 CTK† 18:00 OLAM | 2nd Sunday of Advent | Mary Hall (RIP) |
| Sun 05/12/21 | 10:00 CTK 11:30 OLAM | | John Roche (RIP) |
| Mon 06/12/21 | 08:00 Con. 09:30 Mon. 12:00 CTK† | | Tom Murphy & family Martin de Klerk (RIP) |
| Tue 07/12/21 | 09:30 Mon† | Advent Feria – Wk 2 | Jackie Conway (RIP) |
| Wed 08/12/21 | 08:00 Con† 09:30 Mon 12:00 CTK | | Janina Mikula Pauline Biffin (RIP) |
| Thu 09/12/21 | 09:30 Mon 10:30 OLAM 12:00 CTK | | Eileen Gilsenan (Anni.) |
| Fri 10/12/21 | 09:00 CTK 09:30 Mon† | St Ambrose, Mem | Morrison family (RIP) |
| Sat 11/12/21 | 10:00 Mon 12:30 CTK 18:00 OLAM† | | Bernie Conway (RIP) |
| Sun 12/12/21 | 10:00 CTK 11:30 OLAM | | Kathleen & Jack Foxall |
| | | Immaculate Conception, Solemnity | John & Frances Murray (RIP) |
| | | | PEOPLE OF THE PARISHES |
| | | | Margaret & Charles Butcher (RIP) |
| | | Advent Feria – Wk 2 | Clare Cooper |
| | | | Paddy McGrath (RIP) |
| | | | Mark & Tom Mikula |
| | | Advent Feria – Wk 2 | Mary Chambers (Anni.) |
| | | | Veronica Finnerty (RIP) |
| | | | Henry Byrne & Tommny Judge (RIP) |
| | | 3rd Sunday of Advent | Eva Green (RIP) |

RIP: Please pray for Kathleen Vincent & Patrick Farrell who died recently. May they rest in peace.

Bible Study with Deacon Dominic Fahey in the church of Our Lady of the Assumption every Tuesday at 7:00pm.

Rosary Group: meeting every Wednesday in Christ the King Church at 3:30pm.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Ron & Monique Hunt, Jean McCabe, Luke Byrne, Muriel Cowan, Paul Cowan, John & Sandra Mageean, Gerald, Sarah McCallion, Audrey Vickers, John, Sadie Pulido, Sheila Ferns, Mary McGee, Margaret Gasson, Claire & Mark, Mary Ann Gniadkowski, Niamh O' Reilly, Carole Smith, Alan Rowan, Doreen Lakin, Kyle Billing, Jo Teece, Nicola Jones, Deacon Jack, Daniel Kelly, Sean Butler, Sr Marie, Patricia Nash, Vanda Strlikovska-Czeczko, Alberto Bolongaro, Mandy Hawkes, Arjun Paul, Teresa Webb, Mary Hickey, Sean Mulkeen, Chenai & Stephanie Svinurai.

Altar Servers who started serving before the pandemic and would like to serve again please contact Andrew Leadbetter on ctkliturg@outlook.com

Dates for your diary: Parish Visit to Oscott College: on Sunday 13th February afternoon, from 3:00pm – 7:15pm.

Prayer of Spiritual Communion

Lord God, our light and our salvation, we praise you for your gifts of life and faith. We thank you for the desire you have planted in our hearts, our yearning to see your face. Help us to meet you in prayer, to walk in your ways, and to speak to others of our joy and consolation in your presence. Give us the wisdom to appreciate your Son's self-gift in the Eucharist, so that although we cannot now be at mass to receive this gift sacramentally we may still be able to receive him spiritually. Give us faithfulness in this present life so that we may come into full communion with you and with all that belong to you. We make this prayer through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gospel Reflection (<https://goodnews.ie/calendar.shtml>)

"From shadows and symbols to the truth," (*ex umbris et imaginibus in veritatem*): This was the personal motto of John Henry Newman (1801-1890). Since ancient times Christian writers have used this expression, and others like it, to place Jesus in relation to the prophets who went before him. In him there is a coming out into the light after the long night of darkness and half-light; he is "the loving-kindness of the heart of our God who visits us like the dawn from on high" (Lk 1:78).

But the coming of this Light is a more precise event than dawn. The birth of Jesus, though we may not know its precise hour or date or even its year, is an historical event, and so it is precise in principle. Luke seems insistent on pinning it down, in the cumbersome way that people dated events in the ancient world: "In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, etc."

This insistence on real history sets our faith in contrast with some other profound faiths. In the Rig-Veda, for example, you read:

Like a youthful maiden,

Dawn shines brightly forth,

Stirring to motion every living creature.

Divine Fire was kindled for human use;

Dawn created light, driving away the dark.

The Prologue to John's gospel sounds equally elevated – until it comes to the words "the Word was made flesh and lived among us" (1:14). But Luke's gospel in particular paints in the humble details of Christ's birth. And it is Luke's gospel that we are reading on the Sundays of Advent this year.

Light can be contemplated for itself, but its practical purpose is to illuminate a path. Ultimately it is "to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace." (Lk 1:79). As members of Christ's body, the Church, we are living through a time of great crisis. The road ahead often looks dark and frightening. We don't know what it will be like in another generation, or even in another decade. We need light, which gives us courage to move in dark times. Many are frightened and discouraged, and even plunged into despair. But that light is guaranteed. Christ promised to be always with us. "I will not leave you orphaned" (Jn 14:18). He did not promise that everything would be clear and easy. Fr Timothy Radcliffe OP often notes that the Church was born in crisis (the death of Jesus was a shocking crisis for the disciples); from the earliest times it has known one crisis after another; so in living with crisis, he says, "we are being faithful to tradition!"

We use the expression "losing one's faith". It would be good if we realised that losing one's hope is just as serious a matter as losing one's faith and losing one's love, for these three – faith, hope, and love – are one; and to lose one is to lose the others as well.

Last Week's Collection CTK

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|--------------|-----------------|
| Envelopes | £ 107.00 |
| Loose | £ 285.24 |
| St. Orders | £ 206.69 |
| Total | £ 598.93 |

Last Week's Collection OLAM

| | |
|--------------|-----------------|
| Envelopes | £ 166.50 |
| Loose | £ 138.02 |
| St. Orders | £ 33.46 |
| Total | £ 337.98 |

Second Collection this week for Poor Parishes

Thank you for your generosity

Christmas Cards and Calendars are available in Piety Stall of both churches. Please do take a look.

Voluntary Activities: The brief notes from the recent open parish meeting highlighted 10 activities in the parish which do good work but need more volunteers. If you would like to find out about any of these please sign up on the lists at the back of the Church and someone will contact you.

Monthly Community Meal (Funded by Aylesbury Surgery) in St John's Centre on Sunday 28th Nov 21. Please book in with Sandra on 07985607091.

Free Community Christmas Eve Meal in place of Christmas Day Meal, offered by New Heights to Kingstanding residents. Spaces are limited and meals must be booked in advance. All bookings must be made by Fri 10th Dec 2021 by phoning 07555 496 614 or emailing enquiries@new-heights.org.uk

Quarterly days for re-sourcing and refreshing ministers of the Word and Holy Communion:

- 5th March (Saturday after Ash Wednesday)
- 4th June (Saturday before Pentecost)
- 10th September (Saturday, one week into the new school year)
- 3rd November (Saturday before the 1st Sunday of Advent)

The day would begin at 10am and finish by 3pm.

All of the resources used at the recent ministers' days have been put online and can be freely shared.

- Ministers of Holy Communion resources at <https://catholicprayersblog.wordpress.com/2021/11/03/resources-for-ministers-of-holy-communion/>
- Ministers of the word resources at : <https://catholicprayersblog.wordpress.com/2021/10/09/resources-for-readers/>